
End of Session Parent, Teacher and SNA Review Quotes¹

1. "I found the overall content and presentation to be very good and beneficial. My child responded reasonably well in class but I found that when I tried techniques and homework at home she responded far better as she responds generally better...Overall, I thought it was good."
2. "Very good, helpful. Learned a lot. Would really need this class in the new year. Jennie is an excellent teacher."
3. "Thanks for the excellent speech and language support provided. The weekly sessions have been very beneficial to *** and ME. I'm over the moon that Release has been conducted in the school and would love to see it continue."
4. "I found the Release sessions very enjoyable and beneficial to the children.

I noticed in group time that when we did the 'ooh', 'ahh' etc exercises, each child was very involved simultaneously which is rare.

I think it is lovely that the parents are involved and that we all do group activities together."

5. "*** enjoyed and looked forward to the speech class. She worked well with *** & related well to her. She loved the face exercises and responded well to group activities. The thing I like was the games which she didn't do much of at home. Thanks a million. Hope it goes on next year, and I can come more regularly."
6. "To be honest, I had mixed feelings about the Release classes...his original assessment did not go well, his behaviour was such that it was an hour long and wasn't completed at that time.

The classes themselves did not start great due to behaviour related problems with the children. However, things did settle down...it was hard on the children, they never do an hour long session in class.

I did feel the deviation of the class was a factor but they seemed to get used to it. I talked to the therapist (Jenny) about my concerns and my concerns were very much taken account of and I've been happy with the classes since.

I found the techniques helpful but find it hard to spent the time at home...*** knows what I'm up to and won't comply! The social stories were really good.

I am VERY MUCH in favour of Release continuing in September. The kids were only getting used to it when the course was up so I feel another session would be even more beneficial. A bigger room would be better!

I feel ***'s use of inappropriate 'silly' language has greatly improved recently..."

¹ End of Session original documents available upon request for viewing. Copies will not be furnished for data protection.

Jennifer Wetter, MS, CCC-SLP, Director of Speech and Language Therapy, also known as Jen or Jenny below.

Jessica Nemser, MS, Intern, also known as Jessie below.

7. "Excellent programme. I would highly recommend that it continue next year."
8. "I found the whole Release experience so informative and exciting for the children in my class. Each staff member of Class 4, both teachers, and in our case job sharing teachers, and SNAs attended sessions. Jenny and her staff were wonderful with the children and adults and guided us brilliantly ever step of the way. The sessions were interactive and fun. We've all learnt such a lot and I do hope Release will continue in Ballyowen Meadows School."
9. "We are really very pleased with ***'s progress and would like Release to continue until and beyond the return of the SLT Beechpark – Jackie – next November."
10. "I have learned insight into ***'s strengths and learned different teaching approaches. Great to join in and see him with his peers. I really enjoyed being part of the school day. As much as you talk to teachers and SNAs you get more out of being there."
11. "I learned new and motivating ways to teach prepositions / opposites etc. Great advice given by Jenny on a variety of areas that have arisen during the sessions. I've learned a lot from other mothers and their kids too.

Keep up the good work. Really finding the sessions of huge benefit because the page of homework ideas is a real motivator to do work at home."

12. "I learned how to follow a schedule, reinforcement, folder work, the benefits of sensory work, and initiation of sounds."
13. "I learned new and fund ways of presenting material; strategies for preparing child for Release session eg proactive table schedule; strategies for dealing with challenging behaviour; the importance of repetition, homework; and using situations as they arise to teach important concepts eg. Danger, clubbing is dangerous.
14. "...***'s behaviour has improved since Class 1. He related very well to Jennifer and was pleased to see her every week. Jennifer had *** pick things up after himself, which is great improvement in his behaviour.

I feel ***'s speech has improved since he started Release. I have learned a lot of little tricks to bring on his speech further. I will continue to use these techniques and I feel *** will progress even further. I feel the techniques we have learned in the past nine weeks is enough to be going on with for a while and then maybe at a later date do another block of sessions.

Thanks a lot! I've enjoyed it!!!!"

15. "Overall I enjoyed all the sessions and feel well equipped and confident in helping *** over the coming weeks. The course material etc. is very sufficient in helping me to help ***."
16. "I found this programme excellent. From the initial assessment of ***, this was an extremely accurate description of where she was, right through the full sessions. The Therapist worked really well with ***, and was extremely capable in dealing with ***'s behavioural difficulties. *** was always treated with respect and as an individual. She bonded very well with Jenny, which is something she finds difficult.

The nine sessions covered a great range of work, including sensory, speech sounds, introduction to pictures, etc. and I found this holistic approach very beneficial to ***. I am totally thrilled with ***'s progress which is so great I am overwhelmed."

17. "I found the actual written report a bit technical at times, but overall good. One very positive thing was that all personnel had a wonderful understanding of our children and an ability to get their cooperation and interest. (I learned much myself in this regard).

The learning techniques were fun and kept ***'s interest and materials also brilliant. The handouts were very useful.

The exercises were great—I hadn't realised the importance of stimulating muscles facial and body.

I was very impressed by the thoroughness of all things connected with our children."

18. "Very few therapists have the techniques you use, which are good when at the right level."

19. "Learnt lots of new skills to practice with ***.

- The handouts were extremely beneficial, constantly refer to them at home
- The Programme was well organised with tools at hand, during each session, ie the bouncing ball, music, sensory toys, making play dough etc.
- 9 weeks was right amount of time. Would like a break for a while then do another session later on in the year (have lots to be working on...thanks to you guys.
- Noticed *** is a lot more vocal and has started to sign words too.
- Thought the small numbers in the class were ideal
- Jenny and Jessie were wonderful, very patient and kind."

20. "I think that the initial sessions were quite difficult as we were given a lot of massage techniques without time to develop them. The pictures sent out later were very useful—it would be more beneficial to have such sessions without the young children present.

The team worked well and quickly rectified this later and I feel the more play oriented sessions were much more beneficial and the ideas for toys were great. The ideas that using everyday objects in different ways was extremely good.

I found the organisation of the classes good and that the therapist was well prepared.

I would like to thank Jenny for her friendly, positive and enthusiastic participation in the programme."

21. "I thought the course was extremely useful and got loads of ideas from Jenny. *** did enjoy coming along and was sad when the session was over each week.

He loves to sing the goodbye song at home.

I think it's a very good course for *** and learning to socialise with the other kids is great.

Jenny's fuel of ideas and enthusiasm was great with the kids. We loved the course."

22. "I am only starting out and I don't know what she needs, but found the class with Jenny excellent for ideas and information. Just now need times to put them in practice. No point in having all the knowledge and not using it!"

23. "We found the nine week experience in Release both informative and educational both for our child and us the parents. It was great to learn new skills to work with them to bring him to the best of his ability. Augmentative communication is working for him, and not taught in his special school to the extent that it is in Release. He is only receiving 1

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session for 20-30 minutes per month in school which is no where near enough for him to learn it, this way he sees the symbols every day for every task and it gives him more control over his needs.

We are amazed at how much our child has progressed in just nine weeks.”

24. “The Release Programme has been the best programme *** has attended. His speech has improved a lot more than any other course. He seems to be a lot happier with this course. Than any other and I think this has helped him with his speech.

The Release therapist was very good at explaining the various methods. I feel it is very important to keep these sessions going to help ***’s speech for when he gets older, especially as he will be shortly attending secondary school.”

25. “*** made great progress in such a short time and had a great relationship with Jessie.”
26. “I found the Release Speech Therapy Programme extremely helpful. The one hour session each week was both enjoyable and beneficial for *** who is quite a demanding and energetic two year old. In addition to this, the ideas, advice and encouragement given to me as ***’s parent ensured that ***’s sessions continued into her daily life and the impact of each class multiplied out. The nine week session gained momentum as we went along and *** made very significant progress. I found the therapists had an excellent way with the children, kind, gentle and understanding, good humoured and fun. They were full of ideas and very well prepared. *** loved the classes and so did I.”
27. “Given the difficulties encountered in obtaining assessments and appropriate therapy, the services provided by Release represent a comprehensive approach to enhancing ***’s communication skills and our ability to reinforce that process. Have regard to the shortcomings of both the state and private sector in this area, the Programme represents a wonderful approach which we hope will continue to enjoy the support of the agencies in this area. We are thrilled with the progress made and look forward to continuing the process.”
28. “***’s therapy was of the highest possible. The therapist anticipated correctly all the problem areas for him and succeeded to enable him to speak the different sounds.

He has thoroughly enjoyed his sessions with his therapist and was captivated by her and her games.

No more support could be given as I say before, both my husband and I got 100% support from Jessie.”

29. “We have had a very good experience with the Release Speech Therapy Programme. It is very supportive as a parent, to have such a skilled and experienced person, as Jennifer Wetter SLT, to guide and support your work with your child on a weekly basis.

My son has progressed extremely well during this first nine-week session. This has been noted by his teachers and therapists at the school he attends.”

30. “Overall we found the sessions excellent – *** certainly enjoyed coming every week and really enjoyed the classes. The homework was great and *** enjoyed doing it—it was great to have a constant and consistent homework plan to work with.

*** and I have both learned a lot over the past nine weeks—I would very much like to continue with further sessions.”

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31. “*** has come on in leaps since starting Release Speech Therapy. *** loves his friends in class and Jenny. I find Jenny has a great way with the kids. *** is talking a lot more since starting Release Speech Therapy. *** calls it his school on Saturday.”
32. “Thank you very much—thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and found them very beneficial. Saturday suited us perfectly—the other children in the group were great. Jenny was fantastic with the children and the information to parents delivered in a very easy to understand and implement format.

I would recommend the course to anyone. It has been very valuable to *** and I and we look forward to continuing it in Ballyowen.”