

School Interventions with Selectively Mute Children

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- Use a cognitive behavioral approach.
- Do not put the child 'on the spot'.
- Work with a team: the treating clinician, parents, school administrator, classroom teacher, and KEY WORKER to have a united consistent approach.
- Provide individual sessions using STIMULUS FADING & BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION.
- Determine the SM STAGE and start from where the child is functioning.
- Make it FUN and MOTIVATIONAL with diverse activities & materials.
- Develop GOALS or a list of feared situations. Make the child an active partner to find success in responsibilities and achievement.
- MOVE SLOWLY and slowly expand the group and speaking situations.
- REWARD accomplished goals.
- Communicate with all involved.