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Press Release

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AWARDS 'SHINE A LIGHT' ON GOOD COMMUNICATORS

The Communication Trust, a coalition of nearly 50 voluntary groups specialising in speech, language and communication, in partnership with Pearson Assessment, has named the winners of the *Shine a Light Awards 2012*.

The awards, hosted by TV and radio presenter Paul Ross and held at Pearson's London headquarters in Strand, were first developed as part of 2011's *Hello* campaign – the national year of communication – to honour individuals, teams, projects and communities which have demonstrated excellence in supporting the needs of all children and young people's communication, particularly those with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).

The winners of the awards include The Haven 2000 Nursery Ltd as Early Years' Setting of the Year, community-wide Every Sheffield Child Articulate and Literate (ESCAL) for the Communication Strategy Award and 18-year-old Jack Fradgley as Young Person of the Year.

Several new categories were added to the awards this year to allow a broader range of organisations and individuals a chance to showcase their work. Therapy Ideas Live, from London, won the new Innovation Award and North Lincolnshire RESPECT Programme won the new Youth Justice Award. Mum-of-four Debra McNeil was named Communication Champion, for establishing a language enrichment group for children in her Northern Ireland community.

Anne Fox, Director of The Communication Trust, said: "Congratulations to all the winners and those highly commended at the *Shine a Light Awards 2012*. The judges had tough decisions to make because there were so many excellent examples of people showing immense dedication to supporting children and young people in developing good communication skills. We launched the *Shine a Light Awards* last year as part of the *Hello* campaign and we're delighted to see its legacy live on through this year's winners. Communication is a vital skill for everyone to learn and the quality and range of applications we received this year show how much this is valued across society."

Chris Hall, Managing Director of Pearson Assessment, said: "Being involved in the *Shine a Light Awards* for a second year running has been a fantastic experience. Each and every application has shown us the commitment that teams, organisations and individuals make on a daily basis to supporting children and young people with speech, language and communication needs. Pearson

Assessment is delighted have again partnered The Communication Trust and support a campaign that recognises these efforts. The creation of new applications for the *Shine a Light Awards 2012* illustrates how the awards are continuing to grow, and we hope this continues into 2013. Congratulations to all of this year’s winners and highly commended finalists, and thank you to all those that took the time to share their best practice with us.”

The winners of the *Shine a Light Awards 2012* are:

- Early Years Setting of the Year – The Haven 2000 Nursery Ltd
- Primary School of the Year – Wallands Community Primary School
- Secondary School / College of the Year – Peacehaven Community School, Peacehaven
- Team of the Year – Every Sheffield Child Articulate and Literate
- Innovation Award – Therapy Ideas Live, based in London
- Youth Justice Award – North Lincolnshire RESPECT Programme
- Communication Strategy Award – Every Sheffield Child Articulate and Literate
- Commissioning Award – Children’s Commissioning Team, Reading Borough Council
- Young Person of the Year Award – Jack Fradgley, from Carterton, near Brize Norton
- Communication Champion Award – Debra McNeil, from Londonderry, Northern Ireland
- Outstanding Achievement Award – Justin Fletcher aka Mr Tumble, from Cbeebies *Something Special*
- Outstanding Achievement Award – Jack Fradgley
- Outstanding Achievement Award – Jean Gross, former Communication Champion for children.

Paul Ross, celebrity host of the award ceremony, said: “The ability to communicate well is vital, as anyone in my line of work will tell you. Presenting these awards has been a great experience for me, seeing how passionate people are about making sure children and young people are supported as they develop their speech, language and communication skills. The winners of the *Shine a Light Awards 2012* all do a great job and they should be very proud of their achievements.”

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For more information contact Press and PR Officer Lynne Milford on 0207 843 2564 or email lmilford@thecommunicationtrust.org.uk

Notes to editors

Highly commended Shine a Light Award winners

Category title	Highly commended 1	Highly commended 2	Highly Commended 3	Highly commended 4
Early Years Setting of the Year	Wentworth Nursery School and Children’s			

	Centre			
Primary School of the Year	Millfields Community Primary School	Wyndham Primary Academy		
Secondary School/ College of the Year	Dawn House School	Ashton Park School		
Team of the Year Award	The Children's Integrated SLT Service for Hackney and the City (CISLTS)	The Birth to Five Service		
Innovation Award	Words 2 Pictures			
Youth Justice Award	Wrexham Youth Justice Service			
Communication Strategy Award	Wirral Borough Council and Wirral Community NHS Trust			
Commissioning Award	Leeds Community Healthcare NHS Trust Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service			
Communication Champion Award	Diz Minnitt, Milton Keynes Youth Offending Team	Justin Fletcher aka Mr Tumble		
Young Person of the Year Award	Nadeem Islam	Thomas Grattoni-May	Christopher Pike	Harry Davies

About The Communication Trust

- The Communication Trust is a coalition of nearly 50 leading voluntary sector organisations, which raises awareness, influences policy, promotes best practice among the children's workforce and commissions work from its members.
- The Trust ran *Hello* the national year of communication – in conjunction with Jean Gross, the Government's Communication Champion for Children to make children's communication a priority in homes and schools across the UK.
- For more information about the Trust visit www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk

About Pearson Assessment

- Pearson Assessment is the world's largest commercial developer and distributor of educational assessments and psychological testing materials with a 90 year history of commitment to researching and developing products to a reliable high standard.
- Pearson Assessment is dedicated to the pursuit of professional excellence, leadership, and growth through acquisition, development, publication, and the maintenance of quality assessment tools in order to anticipate and meet the needs of its customers.
- Pearson Assessment sponsored the 2011 *Hello* campaign for the national year of communication.
www.pearsonclinical.co.uk

About the Shine a Light Awards

- The *Shine a Light Awards* were launched as part of the *Hello* campaign, the national year of communication in 2011 and they have become a key event in the speech, language and communication community's calendar.
- They are designed to promote and celebrate good practice in speech, language and communication for individuals, groups and settings which work with children and young people, particularly those with SLCN.
- The awards are sponsored by Pearson Assessment, the world's largest commercial developer and distributor of educational assessments and psychological testing materials.
- In 2011, more than 300 applications were received with 12 winners and 23 highly commended finalists, picking up coveted awards at a glittering ceremony hosted by Vanessa Feltz.