

Referral criteria for the Early Years Communication and Language

Development Service

Please refer to the Early Years Integrated Communication and Language Pathway document.

Before making the referral children should have accessed the following from the pathway <https://indd.adobe.com/view/5b5581df-6962-4b27-8296-9746bf03ae14>

Don't forget you can contact EYCLDS at any point for advice and guidance on 01204 338349

Early Years Communication and Language Development Service (EYCLDS)

Healthy Families (0-19 Service)

Oxford Grove Start Well Centre

49-55 Shepherd Cross Street

Bolton BL1 3BY

01204 338349/ 338182

Every Child Offer

- High quality adult interaction and language rich environments wherever the child spends time
- Consistent use of the 5 Golden Rules of Early Language and Communication Development by parents and educational setting
- Assessment tools:
 - Ages & Stages Questionnaire – 3 (ASQ-3)
 - Ages & Stages Questionnaire – SE (ASQ-SE)
 - Communication & Language Journey
 - Newborn Behavioural Observations • Early Years Foundation Stage

Getting 'Extra Help' from those already involved:

- Complete a Wellcomm Assessment
 - Green = Continue with 'Every Child' offer
 - Amber = Carry out appropriate activity from the Big Book of Ideas (BBI) with family and reassess after 3 months. Consider signposting to a [Let's Get Talking group](#).
 - After reassessment, if continue to score Amber, continue with reassessment and contact EYCLDS for advice & guidance.
 - Red= Carry out appropriate activity from BBI, plus contact Early Years Communication and Language Development Service (EYCLDS) for specific Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)
 - Other interventions include- Nurse Narrative, EYBIC,

Refer to EYCLDS if the child meets the below criteria, continue to carry out the intervention (BBI activities)

Getting 'More Help' from additional agencies:

If you have reviewed the child 3 months after their initial Wellcomm assessment and they have scored **red**, then please access EYCLDS. **If there are concerns regarding the child's social communication skills, please contact EYCLDS prior to making the referral.**

Criteria summary:

- Child is between 18 months and 4 years
- Child is presenting with language and communication difficulties and has scored RED on their review Wellcomm
- It can be demonstrated that the activities and advice from the Big Book of Ideas has been implemented between Wellcomm assessments

Requests received that have not demonstrated evidence of two Wellcomm assessments and consistent use of the BBI interventions will be rejected.

How to access EYCLDS:

What information to include to access EYCLDS...

“In addition to a relevant holistic assessment” for the young person, specifically for EYCLDS, information about strengths and needs in the following areas should be provided in the **Speech, Language and Communication** section of the Early Help Assessment:

- Attention and Listening
- Play and social skills
- Understanding
- Speech sounds and talking
- Feeding/swallowing issues
- Information about what steps have been made to address these concerns/issues to date” e.g. WellComm scores and activities shared with family, family attended “Let’s get Talking”
- **NB re Bilingual requests** - please state **ALL other languages spoken in the home** regardless of need for interpreters. We need this information to assess the child in their 1st language as well as in their second language. This means that we will need to book an appropriate interpreter to help the Speech and Language Therapist complete this assessment process.
- Please specify if a child is already known to an independent or private Speech and Language Therapist and include their details in the other professionals involved section. This is so liaison between SLTs can take place with parental permission.

Other recent specialist assessments should also be attached to the Early Help Assessment or referral letter such as:

1. Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3);
2. Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social and Emotional (ASQ:SE);
3. **WellComm Score Sheet; Initial and Review**
4. Educational Psychology Report; and/or
5. Audiology Reports.

Please send completed early help forms or referrals to:

Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy
Brightmet Health Centre
Brightmet Fold Lane
Bolton
BL2 6NT
OR email
paedcommtherapyreferrals@boltonft.nhs.uk

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contact EYCLDS at any
point for advice and
guidance on 01204 338349*

Additional Important Information:

- Where children are presenting with Social Communication difficulties, please contact EYCLDS prior to making the referral.
- The Wellcomm assessment should be completed with **all children** where there are concerns with their communication skills. If due to the child's current level of ability it is not possible to complete the Wellcomm starting at their chronological age Section, then Sections 1 and 2 should be completed at a minimum. These Sections are observation based.
- Where the communication concerns are specifically around speech sounds, or in the case of re-referrals, referrals will be accepted without needing 2 WellComm assessments to be completed 12 weeks apart:
- **Speech Sounds-** if it is clear all other areas of the child's language and social communication needs are developing typically, they may be seen by EYCLDS. **One set of Wellcomm scores should be included to rule out delayed language development.**
- **Re-referrals-** these children have previously met the criteria and have previously accessed the service. For these children, if it is clear that it is a re-referral and a small update on the progress the child has/hasn't made since they last accessed the service is provided, they can access EYCLDS *without* evidence of Wellcomm scores.

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