

Talking Walk-in Next Steps Information

Talking Walk-ins provide advice and ideas that families can try at home. Staff at the Talking Walk-in may signpost families to other support within the local area or invite them to a follow-up with the speech and language therapy service.

Every attending family will leave with a Talking Walk-in takeaway leaflet that they will be encouraged to share with their childcare provider and other professionals supporting the child and family.

Here's more information about each of the next steps in the takeaway leaflet.

5 Golden Rules for Communication

Bolton's Five Golden Rules for Communication are designed to support high-quality adult-child interactions. All adults interacting with all children are encouraged to use these principles to support children's speech, language and communication.

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- [Bolton's 5 Golden Rules for Communication – Bolton Start Well](#)

Dummy and screen time advice

- [Bolton dummy: fact sheet](#)
- [Bolton parent top tip card: Ditch the dummy](#)
- [Take it out so I'll speak out | Stokespeaks.org](#)
- [Young people and screen time | Bolton Family Hubs](#)

Baby Babble and Bond

A fun and interactive drop-in group for families with babies 0-12 months run by Family Hub Practitioners. It focuses on parent-child interactions and key messages on child development, as well as sharing wider messages around oral health and weaning. Groups are available in all Best Start Family Hubs where parents and their babies can enjoy songs, rhymes, sensory play and topic chats linking to the key messages.

- [Find out where and when 'Baby Babble and Bond' takes place.](#)

Chat, Play, Read

An interactive group for families with children 12 months+. Run by Family Hub Practitioners, with a focus on communication, language, and literacy skills, families can enjoy songs, stories, sensory play and craft activities. The group focuses on parent-child interactions and sharing key messages.

- [Find out where and when 'Chat, Play, Read' takes place.](#)

CBeebies Parenting activities

CBeebies Parenting is a free website offering expert parenting advice. It provides child development information, as well as fun activity ideas and guidance on topics such as speech and language development, behaviour, sleep, potty training, school readiness and family wellbeing.

- [Find out more about CBeebies Parenting: Speech and language.](#)

Best Start in Life Wider Family Hub Offer

Best Start Family Hubs are welcoming spaces for families with children and young people from birth to 19 (and up to 25 with SEND). They offer free activities, expert advice, and practical help, from pregnancy through to school and beyond.

Funded by the UK Government's Best Start in Life programme, hubs bring together professionals who can support children and families. Some of the wider services available include infant feeding support, health and wellbeing

services, parenting programmes and support, stay, play and learn groups and SEND advice and activities.

Families can drop-in or call their local Family Hub for help and guidance. If the person you need isn't available, you'll be supported to connect to the right support.

- [Family Hub Guide to Free Services and Activities for Families in Bolton](#)

WellComm Activities

WellComm activities are fun, play-based activities that are simple to use at home. They are designed to help children develop their speech, language, and communication skills. Taken from the 'Big Book of Ideas' the activities focus on important areas such as listening, understanding, talking, attention, vocabulary and confidence in communicating with others.

If your child attends an early education setting, school, or childminder they will be able to share WellComm activities with you. If your child is due a development check, speak to the Health Visitor or practitioner and they will be able to share WellComm activities too.

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Stories, Sounds and Sensory Play

An online workshop for parents, carers or guardians of children 0-5 with SEND or emerging needs. This Special Approach to Making it REAL workshop explores how fun, simple, low cost and no cost activities can support children's early language.

REAL home visits

Raising Early Achievement in Literacy (REAL) is an evidence-based intervention which:

- Boosts children's communication, language, and early literacy development.
- Supports parents and the home learning environment.
- Takes a low cost/no-cost approach.
- Is fun, engaging and accessible to all.
- Is built around the four strands of literacy and the ORIM framework.

- Builds practitioners and parents' knowledge, skills and confidence to support children's early literacy.

During home visits, practitioners share resources with families to demonstrate and model the four strands of literacy and the 'ORIM Framework'.

First Words Together

An evidence-based National Literacy Trust Programme. It is a fun and interactive group designed for parents and carers with children 0-2 years. Delivered over 5 face-to-face sessions, with a free book each week, it provides simple tips and activities to help support early communication and language development through play, stories and everyday interactions. Places can be booked via your child's 18-month Development Check or families may attend following attendance at the Talking Walk-in.

Let's Get Talking

A friendly parent and child group for children aged 2-3 years, based on the 5 Golden Rules for Communication and designed by Speech and Language Therapists. Delivered over six face-to-face sessions, it helps parents and carers learn simple ways to support their child's communication and language development through everyday routines and play. Parents can speak to a Health Visitor or childcare provider to see if this is the right group to support your child's communication skills and to book places. Let's Get Talking may also be recommended following the attendance at the Talking Walk-in.

SaLT Resources

If the Speech and Language Therapist feels that specific paper-based resources will be useful for your child, then these will be provided at the Talking Walk-in.

SaLT Videos

If the Speech and Language Therapist feels that specific video resources will be useful for your child, then links to these will be provided at the Talking Walk-in.

Building Interactions

Building Interactions is a Speech and Language Therapist led 5-session group for parents and their children, designed to help support early communication development.

Sessions 1, 3 and 5 are for parents only, while Sessions 2 and 4 are for parents and children to attend together.

During the sessions, you will be able to develop an understanding of early language development, be able to recognise the foundation skills that underpin speech and language development and the importance of non-verbal communication. You will focus on how your child is communicating now, building in what they enjoy doing and what motivates them to support them in communicating. You will build your understanding around functional language and learn how to adapt communication and interaction styles to create quality and meaningful interactions. We will also explore how we can use visuals to help support your child's understanding and expressive skills.

Learn, Explore, Ask and Play (LEAP)

LEAP is a Speech and Language Therapist led 5-session group for parents and their children, designed to provide personalised strategies to support your child's communication, language and social interaction skills. Having more opportunities for the Speech and Language Therapy team to observe your child and their interactions with you during the group will help to decide their next steps and/or identify what type of additional support or onward referrals are needed. Sessions 1 and 5 are for parents only, while sessions 2, 3 and 4 are for parents and children to attend together.

In the sessions, we will provide you with advice and strategies, which will give you the knowledge and skills to support your child's communication and language development as well as their social interactions skills. These can be implemented through your daily routines and everyday experiences. These strategies may be focussed on parent-child interactions, play and/or language

development. We will support you to implement the strategies and provide you with feedback on your interactions during each session. Each session we will discuss an individualised strategy based on our observations. These strategies have important links with different aspects of communication and language development.

Steps to Talking

Steps to Talking is a 5-session group for parents and their children, designed to support communication and language development through use of parent-child interaction strategies. Session 1 is for parents only, while sessions 2, 3, 4 and 5 are for parents and children to attend together. The group is delivered by the Speech and Language Therapy team.

At each session, we will discuss a new strategy and how you can implement this within your daily routines and everyday experiences. These strategies have important links with different aspects of communication and language development. You will have opportunity to learn about the strategy, have chance to put this into practice with your child, with support and guidance from the Speech and Language Therapy team, and build on what you have learnt in the previous sessions. The group is a friendly, supportive environment in which you and your child will have the opportunity to put communication strategies in place during play-based activities and daily routines such as snack-time and singing nursery rhymes.

Little Cues Big Connections

A webinar aimed at children who are displaying some complex communication needs and who are likely to need future assessment by the Pre-School Complex Communication team. The webinar provides information about different methods of communication that a child may be utilising as well as helping Parents and Carers to think about the different reasons why a child may communicate. Useful advice and strategies are also provided which Parents and Carers can implement with their child in their everyday lives while they await further assessment from a Speech and Language Therapist.

Paediatric Autism Communication Therapy (PACT)

PACT is an evidence-based programme for young children showing early signs of autism, that helps parents better understand and support their child's communication and interaction skills. PACT focuses on building on the strengths of both the child and their family, using short video recordings of everyday play and interactions to help parents recognise how their child communicates and learn strategies that match their child's individual style. Sessions are delivered by specially trained Speech and Language Therapists in the home, with up to six sessions over three months, alongside regular practice during daily activities. PACT can be used alongside other health, education and social support services, and aims to strengthen communication, increase opportunities for interaction, and help parents feel confident and empowered in supporting their child's development.

Further Assessment

Further assessment means the Speech and Language Therapist needs to carry out more observations of your child or specific speech and language assessments to get a better understanding of their speech, language, and communication needs. This may involve visiting your child in their childcare setting, completing a home visit or additional assessment sessions within the Family Hub. Completing more assessment with your child will ensure any advice, strategies or programmes meet your child's current communication skills.