

'Extra help from those already involved' Explained

Extra help is offered to children where there is a concern around their communication and language development and / or the language environment at home. This extra support is offered from those already working with the child and their family and in addition to that offered to every child.

Criteria for accessing extra help from those already involved:

- Children who score 'grey or black' using the ASQ-3 screening tool; and/or
- Children score 'white' but there is a concern around the home learning environment
- Green or Amber at chronological age on WellComm screen
- Child below age-related expectation within the EYFS; and/or
- Parental or professional concern.

Within Pathway Screening/ Assessment Tools:

Practitioners should use the WellComm Speech and Language Toolkit to further assess children's communication and language development. For those scoring Green or Amber at chronological age – continue on the 'Extra Help' section of the Pathway. For those scoring Red at chronological age transfer to the 'Getting More Help' section of the Pathway i.e. Assessment for additional agency support.

Communication between professionals involved and the family is crucial to ensuring the effectiveness of the support offered.

A telephone or email consultation between a practitioner and an SLT within EYCLDS, for specific advice and guidance, can be provided.

Consider use of the Early Help processes, agreeing goals and actions for your organisation with parents and reviewing progress on a regular basis.

Please see WellComm Protocol, (section 4 and appendix 7) for more guidance on using the screen and intervention effectively.

Interventions:

- **WellComm Activities**

Following a WellComm assessment, practitioners will work with families to implement communication and language activities from the WellComm Big Book of Ideas, which are selected, provided and modelled to parents. Practitioners will provide a follow up contact to support families within the three-month period. These will be undertaken by Public Health Nursing, Early Years Practitioners or Start Well Service staff. The child will be reassessed after a three-month period.

- **2-Year-Old Early Education and Childcare**

Funded early education and childcare places for 2-year-old children who meet the Government's eligibility/discretionary criteria. All Early Years settings follow the EYFS curriculum & are inspected by Ofsted.

- **Speech and Language Therapy designed Stay, Play and Learn Sessions**

These sessions have a focus on communication and language development of children namely: **Busy Babies**; **Book Sharing** and **5 Golden Rules** sessions and **Let's Get Talking**. These have been designed by Speech and Language Therapists and educational professionals and delivered by Start Well Children and Family Workers in Start Well Centres and Early Professionals in education settings. These sessions include key messages for parents and involve pre and post assessment of parental knowledge and confidence. Families can access this offer directly via their local Start Well Centre or Early Education provider.

- **Additional Learning Interventions in Early Years Settings and Schools**

Early education and childcare settings and schools will deliver a range of interventions to support children's communication and language development including WellComm, Language through Listening programme, Early Years Based Information Carrying Word Pack (EYBIC) and Nursery Narrative programme, some of which may be funded through Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP), Pupil Premium Grant (PPG) and Early Years Inclusion Fund (see glossary).