

‘Getting Risk and/or Specialist support’ Explained

This section is for those who have not benefited from or are unable to use help, but are such a risk they are still in contact with specialist services. It is envisaged that all children accessing services at this level will have an **Early Help Assessment** completed.

Criteria for accessing specialist help from Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy:

- Diagnosis of additional or complex needs impacting on the child’s speech and language development
- Limited reported/observed progress following interventions as detailed in previous sections in the Pathway
- Transfer from EYCLDS
- Referral from other professional e.g. Paediatrician
- Professional judgement of a likely persistent speech and language delay

Targeted Screening / assessment tools:

- **WellComm Speech and Language Toolkit**; and
- Undertake or update (if already existing) a holistic assessment of the family using the Early Help Assessment Framework and complete an **Early Help Assessment/Action Plan**.
- Referral information to include WellComm scores, interventions provided, and best practice guidance followed.

In addition to a **relevant holistic assessment** for the young person, specifically for SALT, information about strengths and needs in the following areas should be provided in the **Speech, Language and Communication** section:

- 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 accessing interventions like Steps to Talking.
- **NB re Bilingual referrals** - please state ALL other languages spoken in the home regardless of need for interpreters.

Interventions:

- **Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy Service**

Specialist assessment, diagnostic and appropriate management service for disorders of communication. This includes speech, language, voice, swallowing disorders and alternative and augmentative means of communication.

How are these interventions accessed?

Send a copy of the completed and signed **Early Help Assessment Form and Action Plan** directly to the Speech and Language Therapy Service at Brightmet Health Centre, Brightmet Fold Lane, Bolton, BL2 6NT or email communitytherapyadmin@boltonft.nhs.uk

Outcome screening tools/assessment:

Specialist assessments, evidence-based outcome measures.