

This leaflet is for parents and practitioners to quickly check if a child's speech and language is on track.

Talking to children is the best thing you can do to support your child. Tell them about every day items, talk about what you can see when out walking, and sing songs and nursery rhymes.

Contacts:

Birkenhead Children's Centre
2 Brassey Street
Birkenhead, CH41 8DA
0151 666 3323

Wallasey Children's Centre
St Paul's Road
Seacombe, CH44 7AN
0151 666 3506

South & West Children's Centre
Gratrix Road
Bromborough, CH62 7BW
0151 666 3246

0-19 Health & Wellbeing Team
0151 514 0219



Speech and
Language Check

17-19 months

I CAN:

YES / NO

IF NO, HOW CAN I HELP?

IF YES, WHAT NEXT?

- Turn my head to the caller when my name is spoken.

- Say my name in a singy songy voice to make it sound more interesting and then give me a big smile when I look at you.

- Look in morrors and ask child's name.

- Show pleasure when my parent / carer returns, e.g. smiles, eye contact.

- When you return and your child looks at you, smile at them and say 'hi' to engourage them to do it again.

- Child says 'hi' when parent returns.

- Understands gestures and routines e.g. when an adult holds out a cup, I will put my hands up to take the cup.

- Give enough time for child to respond. If not, tell them or guide them, e.g. put your hand out, guide hand to cup.

- Child looks at an object an adult is pointing to.

- Engage in a simple turn taking activity with my parent / carer - such as 'roll a ball to them'.

- When your child is playing, copy what they are doing, wait to see if they take a turn, copy again, wait and continue. Show them simple routines such as peekaboo.

- Sing lots of nursery rhymes and encourage child to join in.

- Understand and respond to simple questions such as 'where's teddy?'.

- Show your child what you meant, e.g. you find the teddy.

- Ask where objects are in a book to encourage child to point at them. Give simple instructions for child to follow, e.g. 'get mummy's shoes'.

- Copy sounds / words I can hear when they are used as I play and chat to you.

- Pause when you are talking for them to try and take a turn, and use simple words/sounds, e.g. 'woof woof'.

- Use lots of different words around child, ask them to repeat, e.g. 'lets have a bath. Can you say bath?'

- Use pointing and gestures such as taking the adult by the hand to something of interest.

- You point to as many things as possible when talking about them.

- Ask them to tell you about what they can see; tell them what you can see.

- Uses a combination of words, babble and gesture. Words may only be recognised by familiar adults.

- Name the things you think they are trying to tell you/point at and repeat.

- Name objects they look at, ask them what they are and tell you about them.

*If you have any concerns about the above points, contact your health and wellbeing team or local children's centre.
Details can be found overleaf.*