

0-5 Pathway for Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)

- Information for parents/carers
- Information for professionals

Have a look at the information on the next page for online web pages and local groups that you can look at for ideas to support the child's SLCN across all stages of development. You can also attend [Rhymetime](#) at your local library to introduce your child to language & rhymes in a fun way.

Your health visitor is your child's main point of contact and can support your family in the birth to five year old age range.

Your health visitor can help you with requests for your child's development.

Your health visitor may ask for help from:

- Portage
- Berkshire Sensory Consortium
- Audiology
- Speech and language
- Physiotherapist
- Paediatrician

Needs identified before or at birth

Needs identified by parent, health visitor or other early years professional

If, after putting support in for your child there are still concerns, the early years setting or professional can ask other external agencies for additional support.

- Early Years Advisory Service
- Portage service
- Early help services
- Educational Psychology
- Speech & Language services

Visit our [Local Offer website](#) for more information

The term after your child turns two they may be eligible for two year old funding to attend an early years setting.

The [Family Information Service \(FIS\) and outreach team](#) can support you to find childcare.

Parents and professionals can use the [Speech and Language UK online progress checker](#) to review where the child is and what are the next steps for help.

Access your local [children's centre for support](#). They run regular groups called 'Tiny Talkers' co-produced with our speech and language service to provide advice, strategies and ideas on how to support your child's speech and language.

You can look at the online toolkit at [Children & young People's Integrated Therapy \(CYPIT\)](#) which provides information about how parents/carers and practitioners can support the child in the earliest stages.

REQUEST FOR HELP

Refer to our [Local Offer](#) and community groups including Dingley's Promise, Parenting Special Children and Autism Berkshire for their local workshops and support groups.

- Dingley's family worker / stay & plays
- Pre and post assessment workshops
- Supporting behaviour
- Understanding Autism

You may be referred to our [Portage home visiting service](#)

TARGETED SUPPORT

Early years setting support

The setting can refer to SEND Strategies Toolkit and the Speech & Language Toolkit for ideas to support children in the setting.

There is a range of training available via early.years@brighterfuturesforchildren.org or via [BFFC website](#).

Early years settings can claim [Disability Access Fund \(DAF\)](#) if your child is in receipt of Disability Allowance to enable the setting to purchase resources. Early years settings can apply for [early years inclusion funding](#) if they feel they need more support & cannot meet your child's needs through their Ordinarily Available Provision (OAP) and have followed the graduated response approach.

Your child's early years setting and/or other professionals may discuss the different kinds of support available for school start. They may discuss making an [Education Health and Care Plan \(EHCP\) assessment](#) request with you.

Access appropriate [NHS services](#):

- CYPIT team - includes speech & language, physiotherapy & occupational therapy
- Dingley team - includes physiotherapy and occupational therapy
- Autism & Assessment team
- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)

Transition to school

Transition to post 5 pathway

Where can I find more help for my child's speech & language development?

Pre-birth/Maternity	<p>Chat – Play – Read</p> <p>This can start while your baby is growing inside of you. Talk and sing to your baby so they become familiar with your voice.</p> <p>Visit Hungry Little Minds & Tiny Happy People for more simple tips and activities that you can do at home.</p> <p>Speak to your midwife about information available locally and nationally to support your child's development.</p>
0-2 Years	<p>Chat – Play – Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talk to your child about what has happened so far in the day e.g. <i>"We went to the shops this morning, didn't we? We bought some bananas."</i> • When playing with your child – comment on what they are doing e.g. <i>"Oh you've got the red car; I've got the blue car."</i> • Look at picture books together. With each new page, give your child time to point out things to you and talk about what they can see. <p>Visit Hungry Little Minds & Tiny Happy People for more simple tips and activities that you can do at home.</p>
3-5 Years	<p>Chat – Play – Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a special time to talk about the day. Talking about what has happened that day will help their memory skills. • Join a child in pretend play. Let them take the lead. This will help their language and creativity. Talk about what they are saying and doing rather than asking lots of questions. • Read longer stories with your child and talk about what happened in the story, applying it to real life e.g. <i>"Do you remember when we went to the zoo?"</i> <p>Visit Hungry Little Minds & Tiny Happy People for more simple tips and activities that you can do at home.</p>
	<p>Visit your local library and join their Rhymetime sessions to introduce your child to language & rhymes in a fun way.</p>
	<p>Come along to your local children's centre which will have groups for your child to socially interact with other children, and for you to have conversations with professionals available about your concerns. You can also access the 'Tiny Talkers' group which is a specific group aimed at support children's speech, language and development.</p>
	<p>You can access the online progress tracker via Speech and Language UK to find out more specific information about your child's language development.</p>
	<p>We also have local community groups who are valuable support for families where they have concerns about their child's development, you can find out more on the Local Offer website:</p> <p>Some key starting points include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dingley's Promise Family Support • Parenting Special Children • Autism Berkshire