

Checklist for Speech and Language Development: 4 – 5 Years

Expressive Language

Can your child:

- Ask questions, describe events and comment using a combination of sentences.
- Use a variety of pronouns e.g. 'he', 'she', 'himself', 'herself'.
- Use joining words such as 'and', 'but' 'after'.
- Use regular and some irregular plurals and verb tenses e.g. 'my **teeth**', 'I **ate**'.
- Fluently use determiners (a, the), verbs, adjectives and nouns in conversations.
- Ask 'how' and 'why' questions.

If your child scored x on 2-3 of the areas above, he/she may be presenting with an expressive language delay. Please speak to your teacher, GP or Speech Pathologist to book in a Speech and Language Assessment.

Receptive Language

Can your child:

- Remember or talk about something that happened the day before (yesterday) or last week.
- Identify other's emotions by their facial expressions and tone of voice.
- Identify common household items, animals and sea animals.
- Recall and repeat 8-10 word sentences without repetition.
- Follow 2-3 part instructions using 'before', 'after', 'first', 'second' and 'third' concepts e.g. 'Put to the second house'.
- Respond to 'who', 'what', 'where' and 'why' questions.

If your child scored x on 2-3 of the areas above, he/she may be presenting with an expressive language delay. Please speak to your teacher, GP or Speech Pathologist to book in a Speech and Language Assessment.

Speech Sounds

Can your child clearly produce the following sounds?

- /f/
- /s/
- /l/
- /v/
- /sh/
- /ch/

If your child can't produce any of these sounds → Speak to a Speech Pathologist.

Stuttering

Repeats words e.g. "Wh...Wh... Where is it?", prolongs words e.g. "Wwherre..." or blocks words e.g. "Wh_ is it?" → Speak to a Speech Pathologist.

Voice

Voice is husky, hoarse, too low/high in volume or runs out of breath whilst talking → Speak to a Speech Pathologist.

