

FERN FEDERATION

Cefn Primary School, Craig Yr Hesg Primary School.



In order to be able to monitor our children's progression within Literacy, Language and Communication, we can use the following tools across the school twice a year:

Progression Step 1 (Nursery, Reception)	Progression Step 2 (Y1, 2, 3)	Progression Step 3 (Y4,5,6)
Wellcomm Speech Link (Reception only) Language Link (Reception only) Phonics Assessment Baseline Assessment	Speech Link (if required) Language Link (if required) Phonics Assessment Salford Reading (y2+) Schonell Spelling (y2+) National Reading Tests (y2+)	Salford Reading Schonell Spelling National Reading Tests Speech Link (if required) Language Link (if required) Phonics Assessment (if required)

SPEECH LINK

SpeechLink is an online platform that we use to identify and help children improve their speech and language skills. It is used by staff to support kids who may be experiencing difficulties in areas such as pronunciation, communication, and language development.

SpeechLink is like having a virtual speech therapist or language expert right at your fingertips. It provides a range of resources and tools to help your child enhance their speaking and language abilities.

Here are some key aspects of SpeechLink:

1. **Assessment:** SpeechLink often begins with an assessment to identify your child's specific speech and language needs. This helps create a personalised plan for improvement.
2. **Online Activities:** It offers various interactive games, exercises, and activities that are both fun and educational. These activities are designed to target specific speech or language challenges your child might be facing.
3. **Progress Tracking:** SpeechLink allows us to track your child's progress over time, we can see how they're improving, and which areas might still need work.

SpeechLink is not a substitute for professional evaluation and treatment when needed.

If you have concerns about your child's speech or language development, it's always a good idea to consult with your child's class teacher or ALNCO Miss Lewis to ensure your child receives the appropriate care and support.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD AT HOME?

Supporting your child's speech and language development at home can be both fun and effective. Here are some activities that parents can do to complement the use of SpeechLink or any speech and language therapy program:

1. **Read Aloud:** Reading to your child is one of the best ways to boost their language skills. Choose age-appropriate books and read with enthusiasm, emphasising words and sounds. Encourage your child to ask questions and discuss the story.
2. **Conversations:** Engage in meaningful conversations with your child. Ask open-ended questions and encourage them to express themselves. Be patient and give them time to respond, even if it takes a while.
3. **Narration:** Encourage your child to narrate their daily activities. For example, when cooking, ask them to describe the steps they're taking. This helps them practice vocabulary and sequencing.
4. **Play with Sounds:** Play games that involve making different sounds, like animal sounds or tongue twisters. This can be a fun way to work on pronunciation and articulation.
5. **Use Flashcards:** Create or use flashcards with pictures and words to expand their vocabulary. Show the card, say the word, and encourage your child to repeat it.
6. **Singing and Rhymes:** Singing songs and reciting rhymes can be an enjoyable way to work on speech and rhythm. Encourage your child to sing along with you.
7. **Articulation Practice:** Focus on specific speech sounds that your child may have difficulty with. Practice words that contain those sounds and celebrate their progress.
8. **Picture Books and Storytelling:** Explore picture books and ask your child to tell you a story based on the pictures. This boosts creativity and language skills.
9. **Word Games:** Play word games like Scrabble, Boggle, or word search puzzles. These games help with spelling, vocabulary, and thinking about words.
10. **Language Apps:** Use language-related apps and games that are designed to support speech and language development. There are many educational apps available that can be both entertaining and educational.
11. **Labelling Objects:** Label common objects around the house with sticky notes and encourage your child to name the objects when they see them.

Remember that consistency is key, and the activities should be enjoyable rather than feel like a chore. Tailor your approach to your child's age, interests, and specific speech and language needs. Always be patient and encouraging, as building confidence is an important part of the process.

Useful websites: <https://speechandlanguage.info/parents/activities/parent-portal-speech-activities>

<https://speechandlanguage.info/parents/activities/language>

<https://speechandlanguage.info/resources/perch/pdf/speechlink-speech-language-communication-games-1.pdf>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>