



## WMSLT Speech, Language and Communication Graduated Response

# Step 1

Universal - In the classroom

### Trial Classroom Strategies

- Do children understand and follow classroom rules
- Check background noise, seating plans
- Use names to gain attention and give choices
- Get down to their level when talking 1:1/group
- Make Asking-friendly environments - encourage children to say when they don't understand and when they need help
- Build thinking time into lessons
- Use waiting and turn taking systems enabling children processing time
- Use visual support for
  - Routines and activities (Visual timetables, now/next boards etc.)
  - Expected behaviour and rules
  - New words/concepts (Widgit)
- Focus on vocabulary
  - Specifically teach new words, explain new words, encourage children to use them, display new words
- Modify your language to the level of the children
- Model language by repeating and extending

### Training Available

- Speech and Language UK Primary Talk
- Communication Friendly Classrooms
- Widgit/Using visuals
- SLCF- online staff evaluations (free)
- An Introduction to speech, language and communication- Speech and Language UK (free online CPD course)
- Word Aware
- Communication Champion training
- Identifying SLCN/Developmental Language Disorder
- Bespoke WMSLT training



# Step 2

Targeted - TA Focused

### School to assess using screens

- WellComm assessments
- Talkboost
- Speech screening tool

### School review screen results

- 3 or below expected = **Red** → move to **step 3**
- 1 -2 below expected range = **Amber** → carry out targeted intervention groups
- within expected range = **Green** → no extra intervention needed
- If concerns are raised from speech screening tool, move to **step 3**

### School Run Intervention

- Reception – WellComm Groups
- Year 1 – 2 KS1 Talkboost Intervention
- Year 3 – 6 KS2 Talkboost Intervention

### Re-screen after intervention

- **Red** → If still Red (3 or below expected) move to **step 3**
- **Amber** → Discuss results with SaLT team
- **Green** → No further intervention needed

Children can also access other language-based interventions such as Lego therapy, Language for Thinking, pre-teaching support, Narrative interventions, Teaching Children to Listen etc.

### Training Available

- WellComm training
- TalkBoost training
- Speech screening tool training
- Makaton
- Specific intervention training
- Parent workshops/information sessions
- Bespoke WMSLT training



# Step 3

Specialist – SaLT

### Refer to WMSLT service within school

Complete referral form complete with:

- Full name
- DOB
- Concerns
- Parental consent

Referral will be returned if information is missing.

A Speech and Language Therapist will then complete an assessment. This may include:

- Formal assessment
- Informal assessment
- Classroom observations
- Discussions with members of staff
- Discussions with parents (where possible)

Following assessment the individual may be:

- Discharged
- Given classroom targets/SALT programme
- Given group intervention
- Given 1:1 support
- Or a combination of support

Some Speech, Language and Communication Needs can be referred to the specialist level of support straight away, including:

- Stammering
- Selective Mutism
- Children who require AAC (Augmentative and Alternative Communication)

**If you are unsure which level of support a child should be accessing, please speak to your school SENCO or WMSLT Speech and Language Therapist.**