**Little Talkers Checklist**

Little Talkers is a group aimed at the early targeted level of advice for children aged between 18 months and 3 years. It is appropriate for children who are showing an early delay in developing language skills.

If wider communication needs are identified, such as difficulties with understanding or social interaction, or if the child is over 3, consider alternative referral routes. You can use the document [Speech and Language Early Years Referral Guidance](https://childspeechbedfordshire.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/Speech-and-Language-Early-Years-referral-guidance-Luton.pdf) for further information on pathways available.

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| **ATTENTION AND LISTENING:** Using your observations, please identify: | | |
|  | Yes | No |
| Can the child focus on activities of their own choice? |  |  |
| Is their attention during play activities age appropriate? |  |  |
| Is the child able to use joint attention? |  |  |

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| **PLAY AND INTERACTION:** Using your observations, please identify: | | |
|  | Yes | No |
| Is the child able to access a range of play activities appropriately? |  |  |
| Does the child interact with others? |  |  |
| Does the child respond to interactions from others? |  |  |
| Does the child initiate play/interaction from others? |  |  |

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| **UNDERSTANDING LANGUAGE:** Using your observations, please identify: | | |
|  | Yes | No |
| Can the child point to familiar items when asked, without clues such as pointing or gesture? |  |  |
| Can the child follow routine instructions in context with clues, such as getting ready to go out? |  |  |

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| **USING LANGUAGE/COMMUNICATION:** Using your observations, please identify: | | |
|  | Yes | No |
| Is the child using single words? |  |  |
| Is the child using different types of words, e.g. actions, names, descriptions? |  |  |
| Is the child linking words together if age appropriate? |  |  |
| Is the child pointing and using gesture to communicate? |  |  |
| Is the child leading adults or showing them something they want? |  |  |

|  |  |  |
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| **SPEECH SOUNDS:** Using your observations, please identify: | | |
|  | Yes | No |
| Do parents/carers mostly understand what the child is trying to say? |  |  |
| Is the child confident and happy when communicating? |  |  |

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