

# Additional Bilingual Information

## Children 4-5 years old

Here are some good questions to ask parents/carers about their child's speech and language development in their home language. Use these questions to have a conversation about the child's home language and exposure to English.

1. How worried are you about your child's home language skills?



**1   2   3   4   5   6   7**



**Very worried**





**Not worried at all**

2. What age did your child say their first word (in any language)?






Under a year	About 12 months	12-18 months	18months-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years
					

3. How long have you lived in the United Kingdom?



Less than three months	3-6 months	6 -12 months	1-2 years 20??	2-3 years 20??	All his/her life
					

4. How does your child tell you what he/she wants? (please circle)

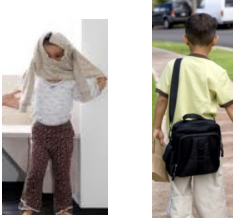

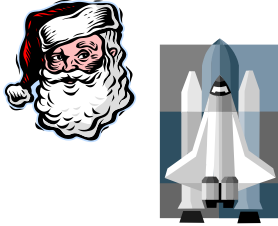

Cries	Points/reaches	Makes a noise	Says a word	Says 2-3 word	Says a long sentence
		 Uh	 cat	 More paper	 I want the big one

5. Does your child find it difficult to learn or remember words in your *home* language?

Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	X	Sometimes

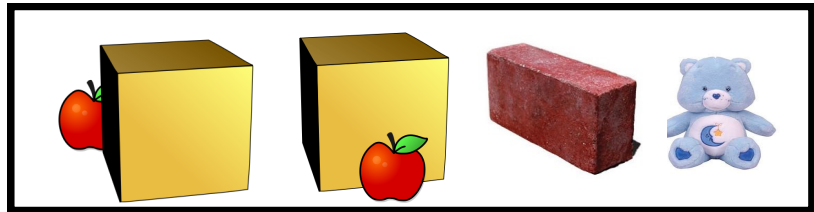


6. What is your child able to understand and use in their *home* language? Do they:

Understand a sentence with 3 instructions? (e.g. put on your jumper and shoes and get your bag)	Tell you how another child feels e.g. happy, scared, angry?	Tell you what happened at school? Do they use words to tell you it's in the past?	Tell a story about something made up (e.g. meeting Santa or going to space)?	Sing a song?
				

7. In your *home* language, can your child understand:

- Which one is in front? Which one is behind?
- Which one is soft? Which one is hard?



8. How often do you understand what your child says when they use their *home* language (e.g. speech sounds)?

Never      Sometimes      Half of the time      Most of the time      All



9. Does your child copy what you say (like an echo)?



Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	X	Sometimes

10. Do you have any other concerns about your child? (e.g. play, listening skills, social skills?)



Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	X

## **Guidance for practitioners**

The aim of this form is to help you to identify whether a bilingual child is presenting with delayed language development in their home language.

You may find it useful to use this form if you have used the WellComm screen with a bilingual child and they have scored 'red' on their age appropriate section.

In order to identify whether a child has speech, language or communication needs **we need to think about their language skills in all the languages that they are exposed to.**

If a child has a delay or difficulties on in all the languages they are exposed to, a referral to speech and language therapy may be indicated.

### **Refer a bilingual child to speech and language therapy if:**

- ⇒ The parent/carer is concerned about the child's development of home language
- ⇒ The child was late to develop first words in home language (late = over 18 months, also see 'Guidelines for referral to speech and language therapy: Early Language and Communication' leaflet)
- ⇒ Parents report the child is using mostly gestures or 1-2 word phrases to ask for what they want.
- ⇒ The child regularly copies or echoes language in a unusual way
- ⇒ Parents are struggling to understand their child's speech in the home language half the time or more.
- ⇒ They find it difficult to learn or remember words in their home language
- ⇒ Despite exposure to English for 6 months, they are making slow progress with language development
- ⇒ There are other developmental concerns e.g. delayed play, attention and listening, social skills

### **Do not refer a bilingual child to speech and language therapy if:**

- You see evidence that their home language skills are age-appropriate
- The parents report age appropriate skills in home language and are not concerned (parents report the child can do most items in questions 6 and 7)
- The child has age appropriate attention and listening, play and social skills

If in doubt about whether to refer a bilingual child to speech and language therapy, speak to one of the Sure Start Speech and Language Therapists who will be able to give you more guidance!

**Sure Start Speech and Language Therapy Team**

Wythenshawe Offices: 0161 946 9444

Mount Rd Children's Centre: 0161 219 2580

Woodville Children's Centre: 0161 740 7873