

# About Language Link

Your child's school is using a package called Language Link to help identify and support children with difficulty understanding spoken language. Here are some frequently-asked questions about this approach.



## What is Language Link?

Language Link is a tool that gives Teachers and Teaching Assistants the ability to test for difficulties understanding spoken language and put in place support where necessary. The assessment will also identify children with more complex difficulties who require input from a Speech and Language Therapist.

## What does my child have to do?

Language Link is a computer-based evaluation for children aged between 4 and 8 years old. It takes about 15 minutes to complete. The evaluation consists of about 60 items which target 8 key areas of understanding. Your child will be asked to point to a picture from a choice of 3 or 4 and their responses will be coded into the computer by the adult working with them. At the end of the evaluation recommendations will be generated for any child with difficulties. If your child has a more complex difficulty, Language Link will recommend that the school discuss your child with the local Speech and Language Therapy service.

## What happens next?

Your child's school will use the recommendations to put strategies and activities in place for your child. Your child may be included in a language group. The school will provide you with some easy activities you can do with your child at home.

## What if my child needs speech and language therapy?

If the evaluation has recommended discussion with your local Speech and Language Therapy service the school will contact them to receive more advice. This may result in a referral to the local clinic or the therapist coming into school to see your child. You will be asked to give written permission for this to take place.

## How can I help at home?

Research has shown that parents can make a great difference to how quickly a child can learn to understand and use spoken language. Use the Language Link homework activities to support your child at home. The school will give you copies of these.