

Which Pupils do I Assess?

Infant Language Link is designed to be used as a whole class screen with children in Year R. It was designed specifically to identify, as early as possible, children who may have difficulty understanding language. These children are often able to mask their difficulty.



In following years, these are the children aged 5-8 who have been identified from their measured outcomes and provision mapping as needing further support this year.



Junior Language Link is used to identify and support children with mild to moderate SLCN and those new to English in Key Stage 2.

The assessment will also identify any children who may have more severe language needs, such as Developmental Language Disorder (DLD).

Suitable for children aged 7 to 11 years, it focuses on vital higher level language skills such as making inferences, complex grammar and figurative language.

Speech Link - Only screen a child if you have a concern about their speech.

Has the child been identified with a speech difficulty? If not, you don't need to screen the child.

Which Year Group should I Assess First?

For schools that have screened pupils in previous years, we recommend that you screen first your pupils in Year 1 and above.

It is best to allow Reception time to settle before screening them. The aim of the assessment is to allow early identification. However, it is important to make sure a child has settled first. If the assessment is carried out too soon results are likely to reflect levels of anxiety and fatigue associated with starting school and not be a true reflection of the child's understanding of language.

Assessments for Reception pupils should start at October half term

Language Link new user training webinars

These 2 free twilight sessions will be hosted by Heather Stevens, speech and language therapist, on:

- 10th November from 3.30 to 5.00
- 17th November from 3.30 to 5.00

If you wish to register to attend, please contact the Help Desk on 0333 577 0784.

Registration is limited to one booking per school, although there is no limit on the number of school staff watching this session.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any help or advice

- Email: rachel.williams3@rctcbc.gov.uk
- Telephone: 01443 744333