

Inclusive Practice

SLC 5 – Speech – Engaging Parents



Please note: the SLC cards have been designed to be worked through in order from cards 1 - 6

Speech sounds are the sounds we use in words. If we use the right sounds in the right order, then people can understand what we are saying. It can take a long time to learn how to make the right sounds. We think of speech sounds being different from the alphabet, they are the “pure” sounds we hear rather than the letter name e.g., sound “b” rather than the letter name “Bee”. Young children may not be able to make all the speech sounds correctly as this is a developmental skill, so parents should not worry too much about the clarity of their speech. This can be a difficult subject for parents to understand and support from the setting can be valuable.

Task 1

Complete the training module below with your staff team and have a discussion around some of the key points.

How could you use this information to share with parents?

Perhaps think of displays, leaflets, conversations, and any other information sharing methods you use.

[SL Speech Workshop final 1 | Review 360 \(articulate.com\)](#)

Some of the key messages from the training may include -

- Phase out dummies and bottles as soon as possible
- Be face to face when you talk
- Encourage the child to look at you
- Slow down your own speech
- Focus on **what** your child says rather than how it's said
- Model back the correct sounds but don't expect your child to repeat it, e.g. If your child says "tat" you could say "that's right, it's a **cat**"
- Confirm what you DO understand
- Acknowledge your child's feeling e.g., if they are frustrated
- Avoid overcorrecting
- Ensure your child is face watching when an adult says a word as this will ensure they can see how the sound and words are formed
- Ensure your child is face watching when an adult says a word as this will ensure he can see how the **sound** and words are formed.

Task 2

Explore the following information from Speech and Language UK and think about how it could be shared with parents.

[Speech sounds - Speech and Language UK: Changing young lives](#)

Further reading:

Leicestershire partnership trust (NHS) provides the following information

[Speech and language therapy services - speech sound development. Information for parents and carers.](#)