

Home Talk Factsheet

A guide for parents, carers and practitioners

What is Home Talk?

Home Talk is a service for children who need some help with spoken language development. It is delivered by the Early Intervention Speech and Language Team.

Where is Home Talk available?

We are excited to announce that, for the remainder of the Small Steps Big Changes Project, Home Talk is now available for ALL children who live in Nottingham City if they meet the criteria listed in table below.

What does Home Talk involve?

Home Talk involves up to 6 home visits from a worker, with a review appointment 3 months later. We work with parents/carers to try new ways to help the child's language development.

Home Talk is delivered by an early years worker with enhanced training in supporting early language development. The worker is guided and supervised by a specialist early years Speech and Language Therapist.

Who is it for?

Children aged between **2 years** and **2 year 6 months** who have delayed spoken language skills.

At 2 years old	Closer to 2 ½ years old
Children who - Say up to 30 different single words - Understand everyday words and short sentences - Have age-appropriate social skill development	Children who - Say up to 50 different single words - Do not often say 2 words together - Understand everyday words and short sentences - Have age-appropriate social skill development

Home Talk is **NOT** for children with wider speech, language and communication needs. This includes children who stammer, children who have difficulties with social interaction, and children who have difficulties understanding spoken language.

Children with these wider needs should be referred to Speech and Language Therapy instead of Home Talk. To refer to children's SLT, see <https://www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/specialist-childrens-speech-and-language-therapy/>

What about bilingual children?

Home Talk is for all children, whether they hear and speak one language, or more. For a child who speaks more than one language, please "add up" the words they say in all languages. Learning two languages does not cause a delay in learning to talk. So if a bilingual child says fewer than 30 words at age 2 in all their languages combined, please refer them to Home Talk.

For help with making a Home Talk referral, ring us on 0300 1233387