Referral criteria for understanding, talking, and communication and interaction for children aged 3;6 to 3;11

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| Age3;6-3;11 | Communication and Interaction | Understanding | Talking | Pronunciation |
| **No cause for concern** | [ ]  Enjoys imaginative and pretend play alongside and with other children[ ]  More able to pause their activity to listen to an adult, but may still need help to stop and listen if they are engaged in a motivating activity[ ]  Focuses on an activity of their own choice for up to 15 mins | [ ]  Understands longer sentences and instructions with 3 - 4 key words e.g. put the cup under the table[ ]  Understands size, colour and position words[ ]  Answers ‘who’, ‘where’, ‘what’ questions | [ ]  Uses longer sentences of 4-5 words [ ]  Ask lots of questions ‘why?’, ‘how?’, ‘when?’[ ]  Can tell a simple familiar story[ ]  Has a wide vocabulary[ ]  Starts to use pronouns (e.g. he, she, me) but may not always use these correctly | [ ]  Saying ‘s’ as ‘th’[ ]  Saying ‘ch’ and ‘j’ as ‘t’ or ‘d’  [ ]  Simplifying 2 consonants together them to 1 sound e.g. ‘nake’ for ‘snake’[ ]  Saying ‘k’ and ‘g’ as ‘t’ and ‘d’ e.g. ‘tat’ for ‘cat’[ ]  May not yet use ‘r’, ‘l’, ‘y’ and ‘th’ |
| **Monitor and follow up in 3 months if the child:** | [ ]  Shows pretend and organised and social play[ ]  Attends and listens to adult led and group activities for a short time | [ ]  Consistently follows instructions with 2 key words (e.g. ‘give the apple to teddy’) and is beginning to follow instructions with 3 key words | [ ]  Uses 3 words together |  |
| **Refer to SLT if the child:** | [ ]  Has little/no pretend play or social play [ ]  Doesn’t share interest with an adult[ ]  Has poor eye-contact[ ]  Has little interest in other children [ ]  Displays unusual or overly repetitive play/behaviours | [ ]  Does not follow simple instructions[ ]  Doesn’t understand early concepts such as big/little, hot/cold, happy/sad[ ]  Does not consistently understand sentences with 2 key words | [ ]  Has no 3 word combinations | [ ]  Has pronunciation errors other than the above[ ]  stammers and I am concerned |