

Wellcomm Project



Girlington Primary
School

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The Wellcomm Screening Toolkit

Wellcomm is a Speech and Language toolkit available to practitioners working with children from 6 months to 6 years to screen language skills. Children are screened using a combination of techniques – observation, discussion and screening by asking the child to complete a variety of tasks. The screening tool is split into 9 sections, each containing ten items which are scored by answering either ‘yes’ or ‘no’. The ‘yes’ answers are then added up to produce an overall score for that age band.

| Section | Age in Months | Age in Years |
|---------|---------------|--------------|
| 1 | 6-11 | 0.5 - 0.11 |
| 2 | 12-17 | 1 - 1.5 |
| 3 | 18-23 | 1.6 – 1.11 |
| 4 | 24-29 | 2.0 – 2.5 |
| 5 | 30-35 | 2.6 – 2.11 |
| 6 | 36-41 | 3.0 – 3.5 |
| 7 | 42-47 | 3.6 – 3.11 |
| 8 | 48-59 | 4.0 – 4.11 |
| 9 | 60-72 | 5.0 – 6.0 |

Wellcomm provides an easy-to-use traffic light system to help identify children who need additional input and support. Once the children are screened, they are given a colour-code according to their overall score – Red, Amber or Green. Children who attain a score in the red and amber bands are those most likely to need regular intervention and extra support. Children who attain a score within the green band are not considered in need of any support. The toolkit highlights which targets each child needs additional support with in order to achieve a score within the green band at their age appropriate section.

The Project

This Wellcomm Project has been carried out over a period of nine months in a reception setting. The initial screening took place during October 2016 and was carried out by a reception staff member.

The children who achieved a score lower than their age appropriate level received a general intervention within classroom provision and weekly intervention groups carried out by a reception member of staff. Two children who had received scores significantly lower than their age appropriate level attended a weekly intervention group run by the Speech and Language Therapy Assistant.

All interventions ran from the beginning of January 2017 to the beginning of June 2017. The children in Reception all received around 6 months of intervention, taking into account absences, half terms and school trips.

The re-screen took place at the end of June 2017.

Nursery

September 2016 – June 2017

Percentages for Initial Screen

Nursery AM
24 children in total

| |
|--|
| 8% of children are age appropriate |
| 21% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 21% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 29% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 17% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 4% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |

Nursery PM
28 children in total

| |
|--|
| 14% of children are age appropriate |
| 25% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 21% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 4% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 29% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 7% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |

Nursery Overall
52 children in total

| |
|--|
| 12% of children are age appropriate |
| 23% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 21% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 15% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 23% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 6% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |

Percentages for Nursery

Nursery AM
21 children in total

| |
|--|
| 33% of children are age appropriate |
| 33% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 24% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 10% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |

Nursery PM
20 children in total

| |
|--|
| 40% of children are age appropriate |
| 20% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 30% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 10% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |

Nursery Overall
41 children in total

| |
|--|
| 37% of children are age appropriate |
| 27% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 27% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 9% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |

Findings from Wellcomm Project

- 100% of children have made progress, even children who did not move up a whole section made progress within the section they were working on
- 45% of children are now at their age appropriate section compared to 12% of children at the initial screening.
- 13% of children have not moved up a level but have met new targets within that level.
- 34% of children have moved up 1 level
- 26% of children have moved up 2 levels
- 11% of children have moved up 3 levels
- 4% of children have moved up 4 levels

Comparisons:

| |
|--|
| 45% of children are age appropriate compared to 12% |
| 27% of children are 1 level below age appropriate compared to 23% |
| 27% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate compared to 21% |
| 9% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate compared to 15% |
| 0% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate compared to 23% |
| 0% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate compared to 6% |

The re-screen has shown that there is now a higher percentage of children who scored green at their age appropriate level or are one or two levels below their age appropriate level, compared to before the intervention.

Next Steps –

- Children who have made low levels of progress have been highlighted and may need a referral to Speech and Language therapy. Further intervention may also be required.

- Children who have scored green at their age appropriate level do not need any further intervention.

- Due to the high levels of progress that the children have made during the Wellcomm projects, future nursery starters will be screened and the intervention will be carried out again to ensure early intervention.

Reception

September 2016 – June 2017

Percentages for Initial Screen

Reception RNM
28 children in total

| |
|--|
| 7% of children are age appropriate |
| 21% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 33% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 14% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 14% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 7% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |
| 4% of children are 6 levels below age appropriate |

Reception RWH
26 children in total

| |
|--|
| 8% of children are age appropriate |
| 8% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 31% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 31% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 14% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 8% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |

Reception Overall
54 children in total

| |
|--|
| 7% of children are age appropriate |
| 15% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 31% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 22% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 15% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 7% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |
| 3% of children are 6 levels below age appropriate |

Percentages for re-screen

Reception RNM
20 children in total

| |
|--|
| 20% of children are age appropriate |
| 40% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 35% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 5% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 0% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |

Reception RWH
21 children in total

| |
|--|
| 19% of children are age appropriate |
| 24% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 14% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 33% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 5% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 5% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |

Reception Overall
41 children in total

| |
|--|
| 20% of children are age appropriate |
| 32% of children are 1 level below age appropriate |
| 24% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate |
| 20% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate |
| 2% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate |
| 2% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate |

Findings from the Wellcomm Project

- 27% of children are now age appropriate compared to 7% before the intervention.
- 60% of children have moved up 1 level
- 18% of children have moved up 2 levels
- 7% of children have moved up 3 levels
- 4% of children have moved up 4 levels
- 2% of children have not moved up a level*

**This child has significant speech and language needs. He works 1:1 with a speech and language therapist on his speech sounds and tailored language work. His progress is not just captured by Wellcomm but by his achievement of specific targets in place on his intervention programme.

Comparisons:

| |
|--|
| 27% of children are age appropriate compared to 7% before intervention |
| 32% of children are 1 level below age appropriate compared to 15% before intervention |
| 24% of children are 2 levels below age appropriate compared to 31% before intervention |
| 20% of children are 3 levels below age appropriate compared to 22% before intervention |
| 2% of children are 4 levels below age appropriate compared to 15% before intervention |
| 2% of children are 5 levels below age appropriate compared to 7% before intervention |
| 0% of children are 6 levels below age appropriate compared to 3% before intervention |