If you have any concerns about this service or suggestions for improvements, contact our Patient Advice and Liaison Service on Freephone 0800 013 2511 or email: ccs-tr.pals@nhs.net

For free, confidential health advice and information 24 hours a day, 365 days a year contact NHS Direct on 0845 46 47 or via www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

If you need this information in a different format such as in large print or on audio tape, or in a different language please contact Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust Communications Team on 01480 308216 or via email at: ccscommunications@ccs.nhs.uk

Polish: Jeżeli potrzebujesz tych informacji w innym formacie, jak na przykład w dużej czcionce, w formacie audio lub w innym języku, prosimy o kontakt z Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (Publiczny Zespół Opieki Zdrowotnej i Środowiskowej) pod numerem telefonu: 01480 308216 lub email na adres: ccscommunications@ccs.nhs.uk

Portuguese: Se precisar desta informação em formato diferente, tal como impressão em letra grande, cassette áudio ou noutra língua, por favor contacte o Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (Trust NHS dos Serviços Comunitários de Cambridgeshire), através do telefone 01480 308216, ou envie um e-mail para: ccscommunications@ccs.nhs.uk

Russian: Если данная информация требуется в другом формате, например крупным шрифтом, аудиозаписи или на другом языке – просим обращаться в Социальные Службы Общественного Фонда Здравоохранения Графства Кембриджшир, по телефону 01480 308216 или отправлять электронное сообщение по адресу ccscommunications@ccs.nhs.uk

Cantonese: 本資料亦以特大字體、錄音形式或其它語文提供，如有需要，請聯絡劍橋郡社區服務國家健康信託（Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust），電話01480 308216；電郵地址ccscommunications@ccs.nhs.uk

Bengali:

আপনি যদি এ তথ্য অন্য ভাষায় প্রকাশ করার জন্য চাই বা এটি এন্টিয়েটি বা শুধু টেকটাইল এর একটি ছোটাী অধীনের হিসেবে প্রতিপন্ন হতে চাই তবে Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust) 01480 308216 নম্বর দিয়ে যেন করা বা ccscommunications@ccs.nhs.uk ই-মেইল করে আমাদের যেবাঘাত করে।

Turkish: Eğer bu bilginin kendi dilinizde çevirisini (ya da daha büyük harflerle baskısı veya kasete kayıtlı halini) istererseniz, lütfen Cambridge Bölgesi Kamu Hizmetleri Ulusal Sağlık Hizmeti Birimleri (Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust) 01480 308216 no’lu telefon numarasından arayın veya ccscommunications@ccs.nhs.uk adresine e-mail gönderin.
Language develops unconsciously and automatically, triggered by parents talking and communicating with their baby.

Babies are “pre-programmed” to develop the necessary skills in a predictable order. Similarly, parents are “programmed” to communicate with their baby in a particular way, e.g., “baby-talk”.

Parents believe from birth that their baby is capable of communicating with them, so interpret their baby’s behaviour as meaningful and communicative. As a consequence, the infant quickly learns that they can affect the way the parent responds towards them.

Example:
- Baby feels uncomfortable and cries.
- Parent interprets crying as “I’m hungry”.
- Parent feeds baby.
- Baby learns to cry for what they need.

This sets in motion a cycle of behaviours and responses between the parent and child. These change and develop as your child grows. This enables the parent to encourage, model and guide their child towards successful communication.

For further information about this service contact:
Clinical Support Office
Community Paediatric Audiology Service
Community Child Health
Ida Darwin
Cambridge, CB21 5EE
Tel: 01223 884174 or 884178
3 years
• large vocabulary, intelligible speech
• simple conversation
• many questions
• repeats nursery rhymes
• some pronunciation and sentence errors

4 years
• speech intelligible and grammatically correct
• conversation about recent events
• many questions
• repeats rhymes and songs correctly
• starting to count

5 years
• fluent speech
• asks meanings of words
• enjoys rhymes and jingles
• enjoys stories
• enjoys jokes and riddles
• some confusions common
  ⇒ th-f-s

The following is intended as a general guide only. Remember, individual children acquire language skills at different rates, some variation is normal.

0-1 month
• hears all sounds
• cries when hungry or uncomfortable
• some vowel-like sounds produced
• NOT speech-like or intentionally communicative

2 months
• vocal behaviour paired with social interaction
• prefers and responds to parent’s voice

3 months
• vocalises with pleasure or when active – squeals, yells, blows raspberries
• long strings of vowel or consonant sounds associated with activity
• cries when uncomfortable or annoyed
• quietens to parent’s voice

6 months
• vocalises to self and others – vowel-sounds, sing-song quality
• begins to recognise emotional tones
• looks to parent’s voice
• prefers to listen to “baby-talk”
• begins to self-monitor own vocalisation
9 months
- vocalises to communicate
- shouts for attention
- produces strings of tuneful babble, imitates sounds
- attends to others talking
- understands “no” and “bye-bye”
- learning communication signals
- gesture e.g., waving goodbye, shaking head for “no”, reaching up to be picked up
- eye contact
- facial expressions

12 months
- jargon and intonation with speech-like quality
- enjoys imitating and turn-taking
- knows own name
- understands several words and simple instructions used in context
- producing consonant-vowel sounds, which will develop into words e.g., mama, dada

15 months
- very vocal
- 2 – 6 recognisable words, understands many more
- communicates wishes and needs with vocalisations and gestures

18 months
- very vocal
- uses 6 – 20+ words
- copies words and sentences
- attends when spoken to
- enjoys nursery rhymes

24 months
- uses 50+ words
- 2+ word sentences
- refers to self by name
- produces long monologues (variable intelligibility)
- joins in nursery rhymes and songs

30 months
- uses 200+ words
- talks intelligibly, stuttering common
- constant questions
- enjoys story books
- some pronunciation and sentence errors