



# WELLCOMM AT BARKISLAND



## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S SPEECH, LANGUAGE and COMMUNICATION

We are excited to introduce WellComm as a new toolkit to our setting. We are using WellComm to assess and monitor children's speech, language and communication development. WellComm is an evidence-based speech and language toolkit that helps us identify how children are developing and plan the right support as early as possible.

### Why Early Support Matters

Strong communication skills help children to build friendships, express feelings and needs, develop confidence, access learning and prepare for reading and writing. WellComm is used across Calderdale to help children get the right support as early as possible.

## WHAT IS WELLCOMM?

WellComm is designed for children aged 3–6 years, or from age 2 if a speech, language and communication need (SLCN) has been identified.

The screening is:

- Quick and simple to carry out
- Play-based and interactive
- Completed by a familiar adult
- Enjoyable for children

We use it to check your child's current communication skills, identify strengths and any areas of need, plan appropriate support and monitor progress over time.

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Your child will take part in short, play-based activities. They are then scored using a traffic light system:

**Green** – Communication skills are developing as expected. Continue with usual support.

**Amber** – Some additional targeted support is needed in the setting and at home.

**Red** – More targeted support is needed. After approximately 6 weeks of intervention, a referral to Speech and Language Therapy (SaLT) may be considered.

We will always share and explain your child's results with you. **We will share the screening outcome with you at the parent consultation evening on Wednesday 25th March.**

Information will be recorded and used to plan appropriate support. Where necessary, information may be shared with relevant professionals (e.g. Health Visitor or Speech and Language Therapy) in line with existing information-sharing procedures.



## Supporting Communication at Home

You can support your child by:

- Singing nursery rhymes regularly
- Reading together daily
- Giving choices to encourage talking
- Playing turn-taking games
- Reducing background noise (e.g. turning off the TV)
- Using repetition to reinforce new words
- Asking simple questions
- Modelling and extending your child's sentences

For additional ideas, visit BBC CBeebies Tiny Happy People: [bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people](http://bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people) or scan the QR code.

