

Parent & Carer Consultation Feedback on a Speech, Language and Communication Strategy, 0-5 years, Nottingham City

In Nottingham City, we want all 0-5 year olds to develop speech, language and communication skills to the best of their ability. We can achieve this by ensuring;

- The right support is available at the right time
- Our youngest children are prepared for, and enjoy, school
- People look after themselves, make healthy choices and have good mental health and wellbeing
- People have good employment prospects and;
- People having improved life chances.

Our vision, which we have an aspiration to extend to 25 years of age, is to ensure that no child or family misses out on the support they might need, to ensure all children reach their full potential in speech, language and communication and to ensure that anyone working with children aged 0-5 years, must also work together with parents and carers.

A draft Speech, Language and Communication Strategy, 0-5 years, for Nottingham City was written in consultation with partners and agreed by Health and Wellbeing Board. This draft strategy was consulted on with parents and carers, and also the early years workforce, in Autumn 2021.

Key Headlines from the Parents and Carers Consultation:

- 70% agree it is important for all professionals and organisations to work together so families don't miss out on the support needed, 68% agree this information should be shared with families
- Around half (51%) of families know who to contact if they have a concern about their child's speech, language and communication
- Less than half (47%) understand all the health and education assessments that their child will have before they are 5 years of age or use their child's Red Book regularly
- 65% are aware of the free funded childcare places for eligible 2, 3 and 4 year olds
- Over half (63%) don't know about the Balanced System Speech, Language and Communication Pathway
- 58% aren't concerned about their child's speech or language following COVID-19, but 59% are concerned about their child's communication and how they engage with others

Next Steps

We will combine the findings from the Parents and Carers Consultation, with the findings from the Early Years Workforce Consultation to revise and finalise the strategy before it goes back to the Health and Wellbeing Board. The finalised strategy will be published and shared, alongside a supporting, jointly-owned, implementation plan, which will outline how the key headlines will be addressed to ensure the vision for under 5's in the City is achieved.

