**Specialist Children’s Services**

**SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY REFERRAL GUIDANCE FORM**

Normal Speech Sound Development

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| Sound | Age sounds are usually achieved by (90%) | Examples of sound in child’s speech | Sound substitutions in developing speech |
| p, b, m, w | 3yrs 5mths | Pop, baby, more, where | p may sound like b to begin with eg pee🡪bee |
| t, d, n | 3yrs 5mths | Two, daddy, no | t may sound like d to begin with eg to 🡪 do |
| ng | 3yrs 5mths | sing | Child may use /n/ eg  sing 🡪 sin up to the age of 5 |
| k/c, g | 3yrs 5mths | Car, walk, go, bag | Child may use /t/ /d/ instead until 3;11  Eg car🡪tar bag 🡪bad |
| h | 3yrs 5mths | home | /h/ may be left off initially eg home 🡪 ome |
| f ,v | 3yrs 5mths | fork, coffee, off  van, river, move | child may use p,b,t or,d until 3;06 eg fork🡪bork |
| s, z | 3yrs 5mths | Seesaw, bus, zebra  nose | Child may use /t/or /d/ until 3;06+ |
| y | 3yrs 5mths | Yogurt, buying |  |
| l | 3yrs 11mths | Light, balloon | child may use ‘w’ or ‘y’ until 4yrs eg like🡪wike |
| Consonant blends eg sp, fl, st | 3yrs 11 months | Spider, flower, nest  basket | Child will reduce the consonant blend of 2 sounds to 1 eg spider – pider or sider |
| sh, zh | 4 yrs 11 mths | Sheep, wash  measure | May use as /t/ or /d/ until 3;0  May use /s/ /z/after this until 5 yrs  eg sheep🡪 seep |
| ch, j/dg | 4yrs 11 mths | chip, watch  jump, badge | May use as /t/ or /d/ until 4;0  May use as /ts//dz/ until 5 yrs  eg watch🡪wats |
| Consonant blends of 3 consonants eg spl--- | 5yrs 11 months | split | Consonant blends of 2 or 3 sounds including r eg , bread, spring may not develop till age 6;5+ |
| r | 6 yrs 5 mths | rabbit, carry | Gliding: may present as /w/ or /y/ until 6;06  Eg rabbit🡪wabbit |
| th (θ)  th (ð) | 7yrs+ | thumb  there | May use b then f/v until 7yrs eg thumb🡪fum  May use d until 4+ then v |

Based on normative data from B. Dodd et al (2003)