

Do you have concerns about your child's communication?

Why is communication in the early years so important?

A child's vocabulary and language skills at age 3 predict their later academic, mental health, socio-emotional well-being, and employment outcomes.

One in five children in South West Sydney are at risk of poor language outcomes.

Why is getting support early important?

Early intervention is key to enhancing children's outcomes in later life. Children who receive the right treatment, at the right time, in the right way will have better outcomes.

Regardless of your child's age it is important to seek support if you have any concerns about their communication.

What are the first steps if I have concerns?

Your local Child and Family Health Nurse can be a helpful first step if you have concerns about your child's communication.

Your child's Blue Book contains communication screening checklists that Nurses and GP's can assist you in completing.



Where can I get further support?

There are several options available if you require further support:

- Your local General Practitioner (GP)
- **Your local Community Health Centre. These services are free.**
- Private speech and language services. These are fee based.

! Important points to remember

- **You know your child best, if you think something is wrong, seek help**
- **Seeking help early is best but it is never too late to ask for help**
- **Take this handout to your Doctor to help discuss your concerns**
- **Remember you can get a second opinion if you feel your concerns are not being addressed**

This resource has been developed by the 'Stronger Seeds Taller Trees' project.

General Practitioners can access further information about this initiative by visiting the South Western Sydney Primary Health Network (PHN) online GP Newsletter.

[South Western Sydney Primary Health Network](http://SouthWesternSydneyPrimaryHealthNetwork.swsphn.com.au)
swsphn.com.au



Increasing early supports to improve child outcomes

Insert your contact details here