



SpeechWise

Understanding Speech, Language, and Communication Needs

11-14 Years

Starting secondary school is a big milestone for you and your child. Demands on their communication and talking increase massively and it can be hard to know how your child is doing compared to their peers. Always talk to the school about your concerns. You might also want to seek advice from one of our therapist with expertise in working with teenagers.



What to expect	Signs to watch for	How you can help
• Speaks in longer sentences with a range of joining words, like 'however' and 'except' • Can use and detect sarcasm • Can understand non-literal language, like 'piece of cake' • Able to adjust how they speak to an adult or peer • Understand and use slang • Have conversations about different topics	• Has difficulty sharing their ideas in the right order • Has difficulty understanding non-literal language • Has difficulty understand long / multi-step instructions • Needs a lot of time to organise their thoughts for writing • Has a very literal understanding of language and struggles to 'read between the lines'	• Allow extra time for the child to process language and respond • Support the child to check for and monitor their understand by repeating back instructions, using checklists and visual reminders • Be patient and encouraging to help the child identify the most effective strategies for them • Support social communication skills through groups

Find out more at: www.speechandlanguage.org.uk

www.speechwisetherapy.co.uk



SpeechWise Therapy

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