

**Key:**

30-50months

40-60months

ELG

Exceeding

I am beginning to use more complex sentences to link my thoughts (e.g. using and, because).

I can retell a simple past event in correct order (e.g. went down slide, hurt finger).

I can build up vocabulary that reflects the breadth of my experiences.

I can use talk to pretend that objects stand for something else in play.

I can develop my own narratives and explanations by connecting ideas and events.

I can use past, present and future forms accurately when talking about events that have happened or are to happen in the future.

past present future

I can use a range of tenses.

past (played) present (playing) future (will play)

I question why things happen and give explanations. Asks e.g. who, what, when, how.

I use vocabulary focused on objects and people that are of particular importance to me.

Reception -  
Communication and Language  
Speaking

I use intonation, rhythm and phrasing to making my meaning clear to others.

I can express myself effectively, showing awareness of the listeners' needs.

I can use talk to:  
- connect ideas  
- explain what is happening  
- anticipate what might happen next  
- recall and relive past experiences.

I can link statements and stick to a main theme or intention.

I can use talk to:  
- organise  
- sequence  
- clarify thinking  
- clarify ideas  
- clarify feelings  
- clarify events.

I show some awareness of the listener by making changes to language and non-verbal features.

I can recount experiences and imagine possibilities, often connecting ideas.

I can extend my vocabulary, especially by grouping and naming. I can explore the meaning and sounds of new words.

I can use language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences in play situations.

I can introduce a storyline or narrative into my play.

I can use a range of vocabulary in imaginative ways to:  
- add information  
- express ideas  
- explain or justify actions or events.