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Dear Parents,

RE: J Bloggs DOB: XXX Assessment date: XYZ

J attended an initial appointment at our Little Braxted clinic, aged two years and three months. He lives with his parents and older brother and attends nursery full time. J recently had a hearing test, which indicated normal hearing. He is known to the local Community Paediatrician and is awaiting an appointment with the NHS speech therapy team.

Assessment

The following information was gathered through discussion with J's mum, observation of him in the clinic environment, and some informal assessment.

Findings

Attention and listening: J's attention is felt to be good for his own choice of activity, but poorer for an adult-directed activity, which is not unusual for his age. He is reported to be happy to sit for circle time at nursery.

Play: J likes puzzles, stacking cups, and physical activities like going on the slide or trampoline. He enjoyed playing with the toys available in clinic.

Understanding: This is difficult to reliably assess at the moment due to J's reluctance to follow an adult agenda. However, he did appear to follow some one key word instructions with Mr Potato Head parts, for example if I asked him to 'find the feet' from a choice of two body parts. This will need further exploration.

Use of language: J is not currently using any recognisable words or consistent attempts at words. However, J is quite vocal and I heard him use lots of babble within our session. He occasionally appeared to imitate words that I had modelled to him. I observed some frustration from J when he was having difficulty communicating what he wanted to play with.

Non-verbal communication: J has recently started to wave. He also reaches for items, brings items to adults and does the actions for nursery rhymes. He has picked up a couple of Makaton signs from nursery.

Speech sounds: This is not a main area of concern at present, but we can keep an eye on this as his use of language develops.

Social interaction: Good eye contact was observed within the session and J interacted well with his family. It is difficult to confidently comment on his social interaction skills until I have seen him with his peers at nursery.

Recommendations

J is currently non-verbal and experiences some frustration when he is unable to make his wants and needs known. Mum and I discussed the following recommendations to implement at home and nursery:

- Advice X
- Advice Y
- Advice Z
- Activity ideas

J does not currently have many ways of communicating so I would like to introduce XYZ in therapy sessions initially. Please see attached information about this. Further activity ideas to try are also attached.

Please do not hesitate to contact us on the number above if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely

Speech & Language Therapist