

The Development of Speech Sounds in Children:

This chart shows at what age 90% of boys and girls can articulate the English consonants correctly (in all positions of words: initial, medial and final). Vowels are typically produced by the age of three. All children do not develop at the same time and in the same way, so we cannot expect correct speech patterns from every child in the primary grades.

Speech Sounds should generally be mastered by the ages listed below:

3 years: **D, B, P, M, N, H, W**

4 years: **K, G, F, T**

5 years: **NG, Y**

6 years: **V, L**

7 years: **sh, ch, "j"**

8 years: **R, S, Z, Th**

*These are general guidelines; there are exceptions. If a child is unintelligible, please refer for a screening. When in doubt, refer for a screening!

