



aiming high with communication

# Speech & Language Support for 0-3s

Elklan courses are externally quality assured and accredited  
by an OfQual regulated national Awarding Organisation

A practical training course for staff  
working in Early Years settings to enable  
them to develop the communication skills  
of babies and very young children.



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This course is written for staff working in pre-school provisions. It links research on early language development with best practice to give practitioners up to date theoretical knowledge and practical tools to promote and extend communication. Although designed to support the revised EYFS framework, the 2 year review and Development Matters statements in England the strategies covered underpin all curricula wherever taught. Designed to be delivered over 10 weekly sessions, it may also be taught as an intensive three day programme.

## What does the course teach?

### 1. WHAT IS COMMUNICATION?

- Identify the processes involved in communication and learn how interaction, play and communication are essential to development.

### 2. ADULT-CHILD INTERACTION & NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION

- Examine the effect of adult-child interaction on the development of communication skills.
- Explore the importance of non-verbal communication behaviours.

### 3. PLAY FOR LANGUAGE

- Explore the link between play & language development and the development of social play.
- Develop skills to promote play & support language development at key developmental stages.

### 4. LISTENING, ATTENTION & UNDERSTANDING SPOKEN LANGUAGE

- Develop strategies to promote listening and attention and link these to EYFS Development Matters statements and other monitoring frameworks.
- Develop strategies to encourage the understanding of language including additional languages.

### 5. THE LANGUAGE JOURNEY

- Explore typical development of language learning.
- Learn strategies to help children develop a wide and varied vocabulary.
- Consider how to meet the needs of the different EYFS age groups.

### 6. THE BLANK LANGUAGE SCHEME

- Facilitate development of verbal reasoning.
- Practise modifying the adult's language according to individual needs.

### 7. ENCOURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPOKEN LANGUAGE & CLEAR SPEECH

- Develop strategies to encourage the use of early phrases and sentences.
- Explore how we articulate sounds and their typical development.
- Discuss strategies to support young children with unclear speech.

### 8. SHARING BOOKS, USING RHYMES & EXPLORING THE LINK TO EARLY LITERACY

- Consider the link between speech, language and early literacy development.
- Explore how to use songs, rhymes and books to support communication.

### 9. WORKING WITH PARENTS & CARERS TO SUPPORT COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT

- Discuss effective ways of supporting parents to develop their child's early communication skills.
- Discuss how knowledge gained from the course links with the two year review process.

### 10. LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

- Present evidence of applying knowledge gained across the course during everyday activities.

*OFSTED notice the difference in Whippersnappers, Essex,*

“Staff are skilled at introducing vocabulary. They pronounce words clearly, use lots of descriptive language and demonstrate consistently high-quality communication skills.”

“I just wanted you to know how valuable it's been for me to do this course. I would champion this course to anyone. It has given me a new level of understanding for the children I work with and how difficult it must be for children who really have a developmental delay.”

