

## What is Talk Boost Early?

Talk Boost Early is a targeted and evidenced based intervention, which supports children aged 3 to 4 with delayed language to make significant progress with their language and communication skills.



### Why Talk Boost Early?

Delayed language can significantly impact on children's attainment. Many of these children have the potential to catch up but only if they receive timely intervention.

Talk Boost Early is a structured and robustly evidenced programme for 3-4 year olds that can boost a child's communication by an average of 6 months after 9 weeks of intervention.

### Talk Boost Early can help improve language skills by:

- Identifying vulnerable learners
- Providing a structured evidence based programme that accelerates children's progress in language and communication



### What does the intervention look like?

- Teachers identify children with delayed language using the Tracker Tool
- Selected children attend Talk Boost sessions in groups of 4
- The 20 minute sessions are run 3 times per week for 9 weeks
- Parents are given the chance to find out more about Talk Boost Early at Parent Workshops
- These workshops provide parents with strategies to support their child's language and communication development at home

### What happens in a typical Talk Boost session?

At the beginning of each session, everyone reviews the **Good Listening Rules:**

- **Good sitting**
- **Good looking**
- **Good thinking**

*Talk Boost Early breaks language and communication into the following 'building blocks' of language :*

- **Attention and listening**
- **Learning and using new words**
- **Building sentences**
- **Having conversations**

**The 9 week programme focusses on building these skills in order:**

#### **Weeks 1 & 2**

Focuses on building attention and listening skills

#### **Week 3 & 4**

Focuses learning new words

#### **Weeks 5 to 8**

Focuses on helping the children to put together the words they know to build sentences

#### **Week 9**

Reviews all language concepts covered over the last 8 weeks

#### **Partnership with parents:**

- Parents play an essential part of the success of the Talk Boost Early Intervention
- Parents share the weekly stories at home with their child, which provides further consolidation

## EAST AYRSHIRE SUPPORT TEAM

### Intervention Leaflet

# Talk Boost Early (ECC + P1) Language and Communication Support Information for Staff

Updated September 2022

- Parents can attend short parent workshops to become familiar with the key strategies they can use at home to help maximise their child's language development
- A parent leaflet is provided with a reminder of 'Tizzy's Talking Tips' to support language learning at home

#### Positive outcomes of this intervention:

- Children make statistically significant progress in their early language development
- On average, children make six months' progress after the nine-week intervention, helping them to narrow the gap between them and other children their age. This is twice the rate of progress of children not having the intervention
- 95% of parents felt that Talk Boost Early had made a difference to their children's language and communication

#### Getting started:

- Raise any initial concerns with the school ASN Co-ordinator
- Complete a Request for Assistance (RfA) and send to the email address below
- EAST staff will then make contact and arrange a meeting to discuss training needs for staff and the pupils causing concerns

- Training is normally delivered within one session of approx. 3 hours with bespoke arrangements agreed for the most appropriate means of delivery
- Once training is complete, EAST staff and school staff will collaborate to assess the identified pupils and make selections based on the evidence from the assessment
- EAST staff and school staff then create a timetable of roles and responsibilities for each of the 4 sessions per week over the 9 week period

#### For further information please contact:

Dawn McMahon  
Principal Teacher  
East Ayrshire Support Team  
Crosshouse Campus  
Playingfield Road  
Crosshouse  
KA2 0JJ  
Tel: 01563 554974  
Email: [eaeast@eastayrshire.org.uk](mailto:eaeast@eastayrshire.org.uk)

