

## What is Talk Boost 1?

Talk Boost 1 (Key stage 1) is a targeted and evidenced based intervention developed by the ICAN charity organisation, which supports children with delayed language in Primary 1 and 2 (1) to make significant progress with their language and communication skills.



## Why Talk Boost 1?

Delayed language can significantly impact on children's attainment. Many children with delayed language have the potential to catch up, especially if they receive timely intervention.

Talk Boost 1 is a structured and robustly evidenced programme for 4-7 year olds that can boost a child's communication by an average of 9 to 18 months after 10 weeks of intervention.

## How can Talk Boost 1 help schools raise achievement at Early/ First level?

- Identifies vulnerable learners
- Provides a structured evidence based programme

that accelerates children's progress in language and communication

- Supports the foundation language skills that lead to phonics
- Increases classroom participation by improving confidence and skills in listening, vocabulary, narrative, sentence building and conversation

## What does the intervention look like?

- Teachers identify children with delayed language using the Progression Tool
- Selected children attend Talk Boost sessions in groups of around 4
- The 30-40 minute sessions are run 3 times per week for 10 weeks plus one mandatory class activity each week in the classroom for the whole class
- All the activities within the 3 previous sessions are part of the whole class session giving the children an added boost of confidence

## What happens in a typical Talk Boost 1 session?

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

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

***Talk Boost 1 breaks language and communication into five component parts:***

- **Attention and listening**
- **Vocabulary**
- **Building sentences**
- **Telling stories**
- **Conversations**

- The 10-week programme incorporates all 5 components into each session, providing the children with a variety of tasks and activities centred around communication
- EAST teachers and school Classroom Assistants lead the sessions and model the appropriate word choice and sentence construction followed by the children attempting to copy and imitate this structure
- Rewards such as stickers and certificates are given to the children motivate and demonstrate progress and achievement

## What are the other positive outcomes of Talk Boost 1?

- **builds the quality of teaching** by providing teachers and classroom assistants with practical activities that children enjoy
- can **improve behaviour** for learning by developing children's attention and listening skills and confidence in communicating

- aids **leadership and management** with its online Tracker. This helps schools identify and measure children who need additional support and informs target setting



#### Resources available on the EAST GLOW Tile:

- Early Level Literacy PowerPoint 'Conversation Starters'
- First Level Literacy PowerPoint 'Conversation Starters'
- Listening and Talking Activity Pack (class)
- Listening and Talking Activity Pack (home)
- Listening and Talking homework ideas grid

#### Getting started:

- Raise your 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 10 week period

#### For further information please contact:

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**EAST AYRSHIRE SUPPORT TEAM**

**Intervention Leaflet**

# Talk Boost 1 (P1-3) Language and Communication Support

Talk Boost 1 narrows the gap for pupils at Early/First Level with delayed language and their peers.

**Information for  
Staff**