

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

- 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

Examples of things you can do at home:

- Set time aside to talk
- Speak in a silly voice, have fun and be relaxed
- Share stories together, don't always read the textlook at the pictures together commenting on what you can see
- Use comments, not questions
- Talk about things your child/you are interested in
- Let your child hear the correct word if they mispronounce or don't know it, but don't put

pressure on them to repeat it back to you

- Get down to your child's level when you are talking with them
- Give thinking time, sometimes it takes a little longer for them to process what they are wanting to say

For further information please contact:

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EAST AYRSHIRE SUPPORT TEAM

Information Leaflet

Talk Boost Early (ECC + P1) Language and Communication Support

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