

Early Language and Communication Project

☐ Families ☑ Environment ☐ Workforce ☐ Targeted	Storyboard at a	Glance
☐ Intervention	⊠ Environment□ Workforce□ Identification	

Accreditation Pathway for Communication Friendly Environments

An Early Language and Communication Improvement Story Board from South

Ayrshire

The issue	The team	Our idea
 In Scotland, it is predicted that 25% of all children will have a speech, language and communication difficulty (Equity for All) South Ayrshire Speech Language & Communication Needs Prediction: 5657 Clear links between speech, language and communication difficulties and literacy – vocabulary difficulties at age 5 are associated with poor literacy in adulthood 	Cross Sector Team from Speech & Language Therapy & Education: Niamh Wylie Alison Gooding Sally Law Liz Candlish Claire Morrison Caroline Turtle Hayley Ferguson	South Ayrshire Communication Friendly Environments (SACFE) By 2026, all educational establishments in South Ayrshire will be on the journey to achieving SACFE A higher quality language & communication environment has been associated with better language and literacy outcomes at the end of primary (Public health documents, Scotland) High level outcomes for SLC are dependent on the environment being communication friendly (Equity for All)
Tools & resources we used	What we did	The impact
South Ayrshire are very thankful to the team in East Ayrshire for allowing us to adapt and reproduce the work that they created as part of the East Ayrshire Communication Friendly Environment (EACFE) accreditation programme.	 Adaptation of EACFE Tools & Accreditation Pathway for South context Creation of SACFE Launch session for education establishments Delivery of launch sessions to Year 1 Establishments Baseline Self-Evaluation Walk rounds with Year 1 Establishments Mentor Meetings with Year 1 Establishments 	Three establishments have now achieved their SACFE Learning Environment Badge, and are working towards the next foundation of SACFE Parent: "This is really useful as I often don't know what she is trying to tell me" Staff member: "This helps me to ensure children feel calm and can communicate their needs".



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SACFE has Five Foundations	6. Learning Environment	Staff member: "The home link
for education establishments to	Badge Visits	diaries help me to spark conversation
work towards: 1. Learning Environment 2. Supportive Learning Approaches	7. Planning for Year 2	between myself the child and their family. I learn about their interest through the use of picture visuals". Child: help me talk – when asked
3. Adult Interaction Styles		how the aid help – gestured this
4. Nurturing Communication5. Career Long Professional Learning		Staff member: "Visuals have helped me gain an understanding of children's wants, needs and interests of children who are unable to communicate this verbally"
Our learning & next steps	 SACFE Launch Sessions for Year 2 educational establishments; test a different method to increase engagement and decrease time required to deliver Building knowledge & capacity across SLT and Education to support educational establishments on their communication friendly journey Support for all educational establishments involved with SACFE; mentoring & training Logo Development to represent SACFE Launch & testing of SACFE for primary care and community organisations 	
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