
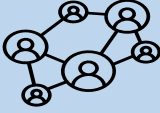






Early Language and Communication Improvement using CIRCLE

An Early Language and Communication Improvement Story Board from Aberdeen City

 The issue(s!)	 The team	 Our idea
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fulfilling government guidance (AHPs – Ready to Act, Education – GIRFEC) Quality and consistency of Universal and Targeted Supports across the city Rising number of requests for assistance being submitted - Increased pressure on services and reduced capacity Identified need for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> greater knowledge of ASN and supporting young people with ASN a consistent approach for the implementation and adaptation of supports Learning through previous experience. 2019 UUA pilot with 3 nurseries led by SaLT and Autism Outreach: <p>The challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> impact of limited SLT involvement nonattendance at training events limited engagement with support offered by SaLT need for greater partnership working to ensure investment from settings pandemic (postponed) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Central Team (Education Support Officer) NHS Grampian - Speech and Language Therapy Team CIRCLE Partnership (Education – Central Team, Educational Psychology, School staff and NHS – SaLT, OT) - Quality Assurance 	<p>Try again!</p> <p>Learn from 'The issue(s)'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect on the issues - what worked well, what worked okay, what did not work at all – Keep it > Tweak it > Sweep it! Keep or adapt what worked and develop a new approach to what did not work but we knew we required for success Embrace the opportunities – right place, right time – Helen’s experience with NAIT and Anna’s experience in Lothian. Gemma fresh to ACC in 2022 with ASN background Deliver. Give it a go and back to the top – (Reflect > Adapt and Develop > Embrace and create opportunity > Deliver etc etc.) continual evolution of 'Our idea'.

 Tools & resources we used.	 What we did	 The impact
<p>Links to following on arrows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most recent UJA presentation (February 2024 inset) • Toolkits – Early Years • Padlet – Early Years • Universal CICS materials - Word and Excel versions • Targeted CPS materials – Word and Excel versions <p>(Primary and Secondary versions of all of the above available to share – email Gemma: gegraham@aberdeencity.gov.uk)</p>	<p>*Stage One: 2022/2023</p> <p><i>*Primary involvement was most significant</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACC Toolkits developed (EY, Primary and Secondary) • Presentation to Quality Improvement Team (all) and Educational Psychology Team (all) • CIRCLE launched at face to face Head Teachers event • All settings requested to identify a CIRCLE contact (lead) – CIRCLE Directory • Microsoft Teams created using CIRCLE contacts for EY, Primary/Secondary – CIRCLE Network formation • Teams members invited to ‘virtual’ tours of toolkits • Offers for all stages <p>**Stage Two: 2023/2024</p> <p><i>**CIRCLE Partnership actioned - focus required for Early Years</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central ELC Team (ELC Managers and Locality Leads) – UJA training • November 2023 (Face to face) inset sessions • EY Virtual Sharing event – Universal provision, Targeted Provision • Invitation for CIRCLE Support Group (CSGs) mentors and specialists including ELC Locality Leads, Educational Psychology, SaLT, OT, Autism Outreach. (Multiagency Locality model – Dee, Don, West) • Electronic/ editable resources developed (Word, Excel) • February 2024 (Face to face) inset session – updated based on Nov feedback (identified needs/wants) and new resources (introduced use of CIRCLE for transition N5 to P1) <p>Stage Three: Feb 2024 to present</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24/25 planning – delivery model ‘CIRCLE: Inclusion Award Programme’ • Development of CSGs – online information event regarding what CSG mentorship involves • Discussions have been held with agenda to formalise levels of involvement from other partners • Meetings with specialists to identify who will assist in the development of targeted+ level of adapted staged intervention model 	<p>Training Data:</p> <p>Participants:</p> <p>Nov (1) 72 + Nov (2) 74 = 146 Feb = 91 Total = 237</p> <p>Comparison 2019/2021: Total = 15</p> <p>Settings represented (as %):</p> <p>Teams = 100% Nov (1+2) = 66 Feb = 62</p> <p>Comparison 2019/2021(%): Total = 6</p> <p>Leadership present (/53):</p> <p>Teams = 26 Nov (1+2) = 15 Feb = 15</p> <p>Comparison 2019/2021: Total = 0</p> <p>Partners and Other Orgs:</p> <p>Teams = 5 Nov (1+2) = 5 Feb = 9</p> <p>Comparison 2019/2021: Total = 2</p> <p>Knowledge of CIRCLE (5 point scale):</p> <p>November:</p> <p>Pre = 1.76 Post = 3.37 Increase = 1.61</p> <p>February:</p> <p>Pre = 2.27 Post = 4.14 Increase = 1.87</p>

Confidence to implement (5 point scale):

November:



February:

Pre = 2.40
 Post = 4.00
 Increase = 1.60



Our learning & next steps

What is needed:

- Commitment and long-term investment from all (e.g. Education and NHS)
- Well placed leads (experience and roles)
- Partnership working (Education and NHS) as priority
- Involvement from Leadership from onset (Central team and schools)
- Knowledge of the resource irrespective of role
- Protected time (e.g. inset days, school meetings)
- Identified lead/ contact in each setting – CIRCLE Network/Directory

What works:

- Face to face training offers (the more the better)
- Opportunities to share practice and experiences
- Central point for support, sharing resources/ updates and promoting training events (Teams)
- Accessible resources
- Multi agency use of CIRCLE - shared language, vision and joined up thinking
- Explicit expectations of CIRCLE implementation (e.g. inclusion in SIPs)

What we want to do:

- a) Maximise quality universal supports to impact levels of targeted provision and requests for specialist support
- b) Measure implementation across the city
- c) Impact request for assistance submissions
- d) Build capacity to sustain support city wide
- e) Impact workload through CIRCLE data – one source, many uses

How we are going to do it:

- a) Restructure delivery format – ‘CIRCLE: Inclusion Award Programme’
- b) Data from ‘CIRCLE: Inclusion Award Programme’ - Recognition at 3 levels
- c) Adapt Staged intervention model – Targeted+
- d) CIRCLE support groups and additional partner involvement/commitment
- e) Part 3: ‘CIRCLE Inclusion Award Programme – Beyond Support’ opt in (open to all) -designed for current and aspiring leaders

Early Language and Communication Project



Find out more

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