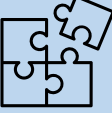









An Early Language and Communication Improvement Story Board from Fife

The Early Years HUB

 The issue	 The team	 Our idea
<p>For professionals to be able to support the health and well being needs of children & families we need to ensure that innovation and collaboration are at the heart of this. To achieve this goal whilst tackling the rising challenges in inequalities, poverty and ensure prevention & early intervention approach is embedded, we need to be bold in how we engage with our colleagues.</p> <p>Working with young children and families across different services need improved opportunities to come together to share challenges, learn from each other and seek collaborative solutions. This is essential for an effective whole system approach to tackle the magnitude of the presenting challenges.</p>	<p>The Hub was created in 2019 by a Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist and an Early Year HT. It is open to all early years professionals in the locality. Participants at present include practitioners from Early Years Education, AHPs (SLT, OT, and Physiotherapy), Health Visiting and Community Paediatrics.</p>	<p>We wished to create a safe environment to allow an 'all learning all sharing' approach to develop. The HUB provides time and space for staff to learn, problem solve and collaborate. It provides an opportunity to participate in professional dialogue in a relaxed, supportive environment.</p> <p>Ambitions: Staff will feel more skilled and confident in supporting children and families. Staff will provide evidence of application of knowledge and skills gained in the workplace. Family support will be maintained at self-help and universal and targeted levels. Staff and families will know when/ how to seek more individual support if required.</p>
 Tools & resources we used.	 What we did	 The impact
<p>We meet at a central location each term. Our most valuable resource is practitioner's time. Quality assurance tools are used for ongoing development and measurement of effectiveness / impact.</p>	<p>Since 2019 we have met 3-4 times each year (online during COVID). Each HUB session has an AM/ PM option to allow access for all staff. Sessions have a theme/ topic. Open dialogue is encouraged and facilitated.</p>	<p>Over 350 participants from 7 different services have attended. Feedback includes: 'I love the HUB, I've learnt so much', 'It really helps me to be better informed when I support parents', 'Children are more settled and participate more', 'We are getting that communication' and 'Now I know how to easily access so many other services'.</p>

 Our learning & next steps	<p>Increased attendance from a wide range of professionals informs us that the Early Years HUB is a valued space.</p> <p>Immediate feedback is overwhelmingly positive and participants report an increase in learning and positive solutions that they can put into practice.</p> <p>Data tells us that practitioners are using their new learning and skill in daily practice and this is having an impact on children and families.</p> <p>The Hub model is going to spread to another area in Fife facilitated by SLT and OT.</p>
 Find out more	<p>Enter contact details here:</p> <p>gwen.bell@nhs.scot Speech and Language Therapist</p> <p>tracey.aird@nhs.scot Occupational Therapist</p> <p>morag.steele@fife.gov.uk Head Teacher Early Years</p>