Education Scotland
Foghlam Alba

Early Language and Communication Project:

Modelling and Coaching: Scottish Attainment Challenge

An Early Language and Communication Improvement Story Board from Highland

| The issue	The team	Our idea
• SAC schools wanted to improve attainment for all the children in their setting. • SLT had previously provided training on quality interaction but knew from research reviews & learning that coaching was needed to effect change in practice.	• SLT • SLTSP • EYPs • SMT in Settings • Early Years Education Support Officer	Reducing the attainment gap created by reduced language skills through embedding high-quality adult- child interactions into everyday practice and planning in the early stage in three identified Scottish Attainment Challenge (SAC) schools.
Tools & resources we used.	**What we did**	**The impact**
• Support Practitioners working in the settings • Training • Modelling • Coaching • Self-Rating Evaluation (Monitoring Tool)	• Training to the whole Team • SLTSP ongoing modelling and coaching on the floor • Joined planning to focus on interaction and communication in planning • SLT/ SLTSP worked with Setting manager to develop team reflection on interaction	• 39% of children improved their expressive language skills beyond that expected from maturation alone (vocab & grammar) • 16% more children had expressive language within the average range for their age • Children who remained in the nursery setting had more improvement in their language skills than children who moved to the Primary 1 setting. • All staff report increased use of strategies to support children develop language and communication skills

Our learning & next steps	➢ Delivering training alone can impact negatively on practitioners' confidence and is unlikely to impact on change in practice on the Nursery floor ➢ Modelling and coaching impacts not just on quality interaction and children's outcomes, but also impacts on practitioner's observations of children's language and learning. ➢ How can we collaborate with our partner agencies to build quality assurance around interaction (the key messages) into their system to ensure sustainability of quality adult-child interaction
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