Education Scotland
Foghlam Alba

Early Language and Communication Project

Storyboard at a Glance…

- ☐ Families
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Workforce
- ☒ Identification
- ☐ Intervention
- ☒ Universal
- ☐ Targeted

An Early Language and Communication Improvement Story Board from

Local Authority: Clackmannanshire

The issue

Our Big Aim:

For all two-year-old children to reach their developmental milestones by the time they start school.

Clackmannanshire has one of the highest uptakes for two year olds nationally. The issue to be explored was how we could gather and analyse data around developmental milestones to reduce inconsistencies and improve outcomes for two year old learners.

The team

- Scottish Government QIA
- Local Authority Lead
- Lead Head of Establishment
- Educational Psychologist
- Lead Education Officer Early Years
- Health Visitor

Our idea

Our Big Ideas

To develop and implement a systematic approach to gathering developmental milestone data for 2 yr olds. This robust local data will supplement NHS 27-30 month review data providing more detailed local information.

To make effective use of developmental milestone data to ensure experiences provided in ELCs meet children's needs.

To provide professional learning to support observational assessment of developmental milestones.

Tools & resources we used.

A system has been developed to monitor children's progress towards developmental milestones.

The system has been supported by an improvement advisor and group of senior leaders who ensure timeframes are achieved.

We designed an observation tool which has been used in all ELCs at three data points. The tool includes

What we did

Established processes, systems and tools.

Ensured buy in from settings via producing guidance, visiting each establishment in a road show and problem solving collaboratively.

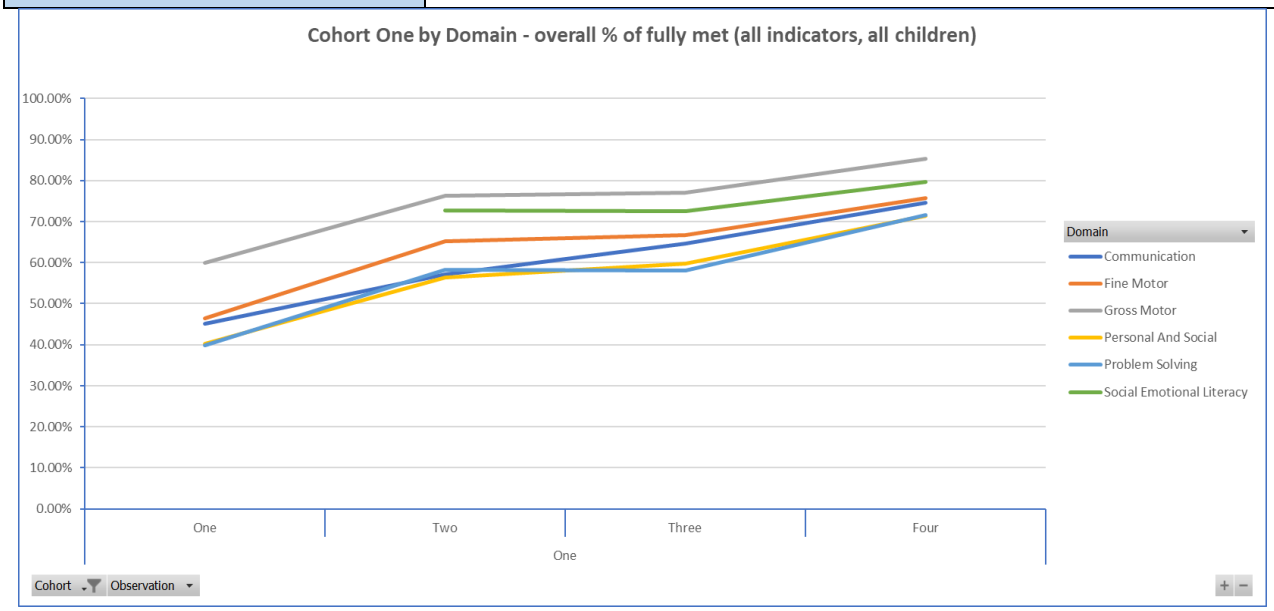
Analysed at all data points for three cohorts using PDSA model.

Committed to sharing findings with all settings at each

The impact

To ensure there was an understanding and confidence in using the system, four professional learning sessions were delivered.

ELC quality assurance visits have evidenced a wider range of developmentally appropriate resources.

Senior educators have reported the tool to be helpful for planning learning experiences

communication skills, fine motor skills, gross motor skills, personal and social development, problem solving and social and emotional literacy. The information is collected and analysed. As a result of the first data collection the tool was adapted in partnership with educational psychology. PDSA model is being supported by Improvement Advisor	collection point.	for two year olds. See graph below for increase in the percentage of children being observed to meet milestones across the six domains.
Our learning &	We have learned to adapt the tool to reflect the needs of our children and settings. Our data is becoming more robust and we are able to evidence an increase in children meeting milestones. As the project is ongoing, we are continuing to learn more.	
Find out more	*:Julie Wild* *Scottish Government Improvement Advisor* *Lorna Willows* *Lead and Head of Establishment cllwillows@glow.sch.uk*