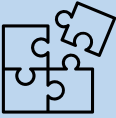









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|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Families | <input type="checkbox"/> Universal           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Targeted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Workforce           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Identification      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Intervention        |  |

## Early Language and Communication Improvement Story Board from Dumfries & Galloway

 <b>The issue</b>	 <b>The team</b>	 <b>Our idea</b>
<p>SLT department receiving a high number of referrals who were having to wait a long time for intervention.</p> <p>Families were looking for ways to support their child's communication development and therapists often found they were sharing the same strategies with numerous families across different settings.</p>	<p>Early Years Speech and Language Therapy Team, Dumfries and Galloway.</p>	<p>To be able to share information across a wider number of families in a more timely and effective manner.</p> <p>To offer an opportunity for families to network and share ideas.</p> <p>To enable families to support their child's development without the need for specialist intervention.</p>
 <b>Tools &amp; resources we used.</b>	 <b>What we did</b>	 <b>The impact</b>
<p>Elklan Let's Talk Under 5s</p> <p>Elklan Let's Talk Special Children</p> <p>Two Speech and Language Therapists for each programme</p> <p>Elklan Programme books for families attending course</p>	<p>Established potential session dates and locations across the region.</p> <p>Allocated two therapists per course.</p> <p>Invited families on the Early Years waiting list to attend face to face triage appointment to allocate to the appropriate parent sessions.</p> <p>Confirmed families attending</p> <p>Group completed, followed by 1-3 follow up sessions with family (either at home or in nursery setting) to personalise strategies</p> <p>End of course report shared with families and other professional as appropriate</p>	<p>Families felt more confident in understanding and supporting their child's communication.</p> <p>Families felt more aware of where and how to access support from Speech and Language Therapy and other services.</p> <p>Families waiting a shorter time for first intervention.</p> <p>Future interventions started from a place of shared understanding</p>

 <b>Our learning &amp; next steps</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Face to face appointments are useful for ensuring families are accessing the course best suited to their child's communication needs. This also helps engage families with the course as therapists are able to explain in more detail and become known faces.</li> <li>• Large numbers of families do not respond to initial invites, work has been done with partnership agencies to encourage them to speak to families who are difficult to engage.</li> <li>• Courses are received well by those families who attend and feedback tends to be generally very positive.</li> <li>• We plan to continue to offer Let's Talk with special children (known locally as Let's Communicate) as part of our specialist offer to families We plan to eventually offer Let's Talk under 5s as part of our targeted offer to families but at present is still part of the specialist service.</li> <li>• We are exploring the role of our Support Workers in follow up support for the families and for the families that are unable to engage</li> </ul>
 <b>Find out more</b>	<p>Claire Brown &amp; Lynn Adams Clinical Leads for SLT Early Years</p> <p><a href="mailto:dg.sltkids@nhs.scot">dg.sltkids@nhs.scot</a></p>