

**Public Services Delivery  
Scotland**

National Early Language and  
Communication Project



National Network for Early Language  
and Communication

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# Housekeeping



Event **will not** be recorded

## **Sessions will include**

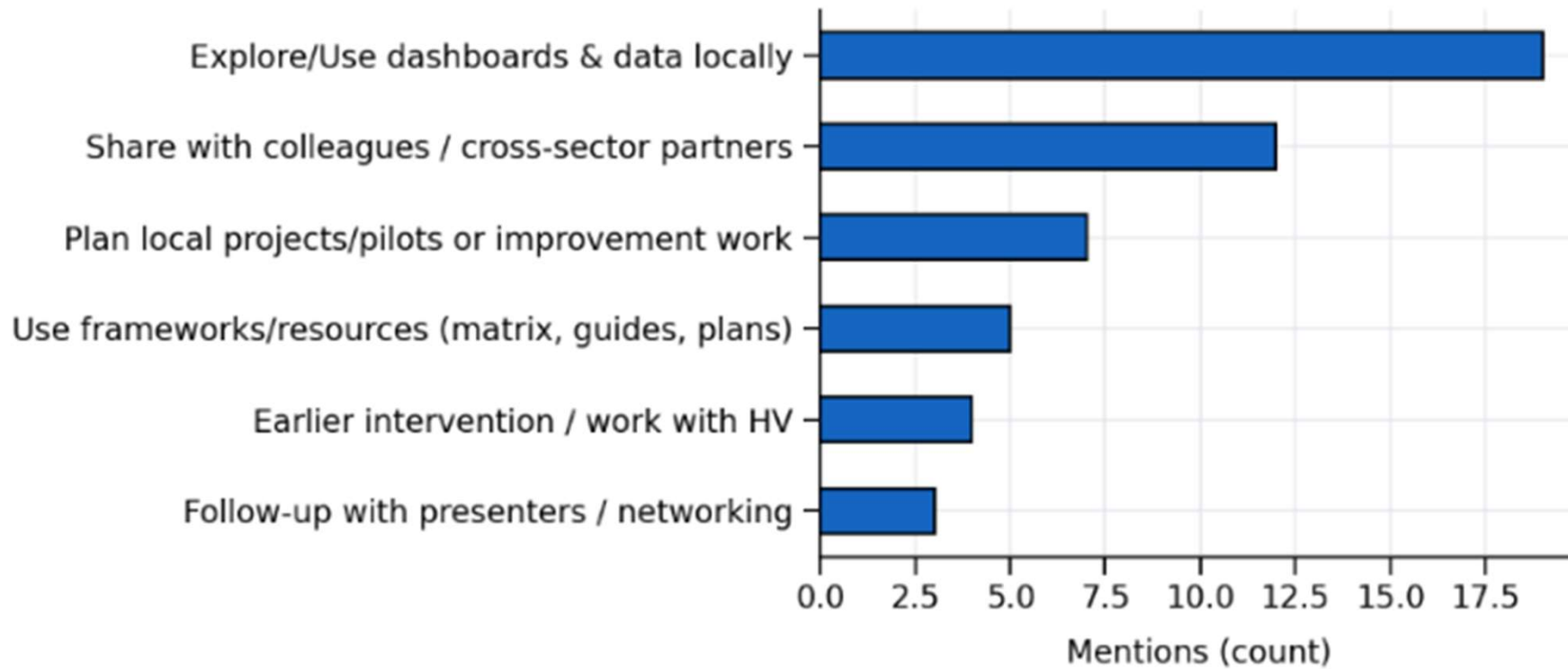
- Chat
- Breakout rooms
- Polls

**Mute mics** when not speaking

**Webcams on** if comfortable

Use **raise hand/chat** for questions

# You said...





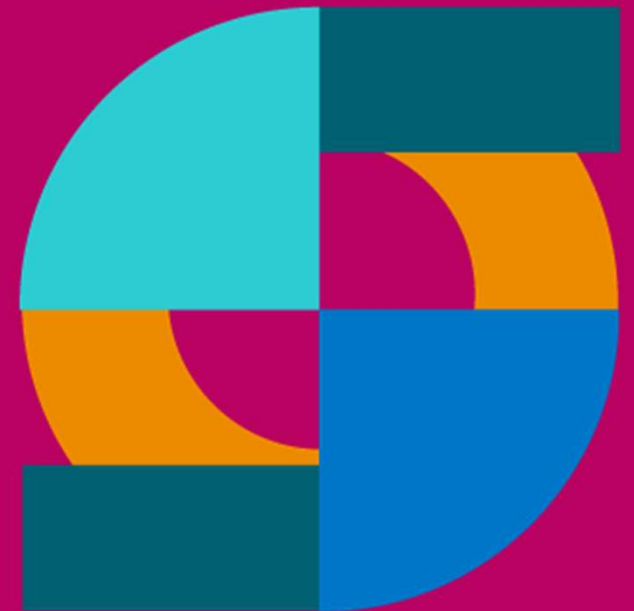
# Agenda

- Helping families understand their role in supporting SLC
- Chatting Together Practitioners Guide
- Coming together locally to make SLC a priority
- Update on PHS Child Health Data

**Public Services Delivery**  
Scotland

Chatting Together: practitioner resource

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# Chatting Together

Listen, watch and respond to me

I can't talk yet,  
but I have lots to  
tell you.

Pay attention  
to my facial  
expressions,  
sounds and  
wiggles to find out  
how I am feeling  
or what I need.

Help me settle  
with a calming  
lullaby or chat  
to me about what  
I am doing.



Scan here to see this idea in action on the  
BBC CBeebies Parenting website or visit:  
<https://tinyurl.com/zmkb5mvy>

 Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

national key messages for parents and caregivers  
to describe 'how' to support responsive  
interactions

posters and postcards in English and Gaelic

available on **Parent Club** and on our NELC site

supported by a **practitioner guide**

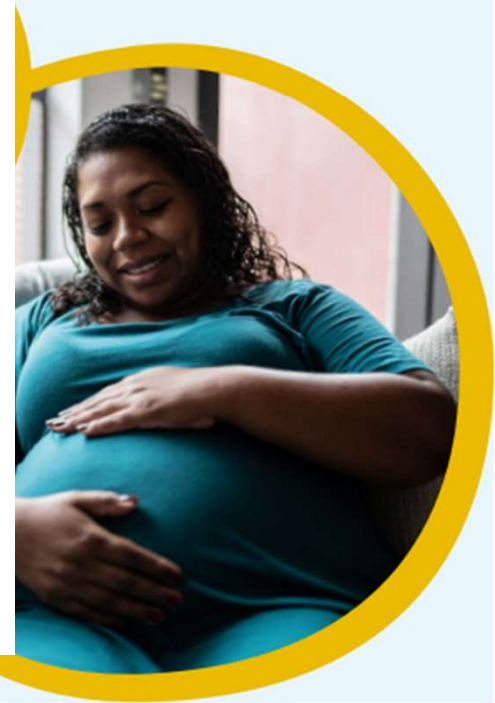



Transforming lives through learning

- **Chatting Together guide**

- What is Chatting Together?
- Why share Chatting Together?
- Practical ways to engage and support parents
- Links and 'getting ready' resources

## Chatting Together Guide for the Early Years Workforce



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- All parents can make a positive difference for their little ones when they **respond** to their needs early and often within nurturing interactions.
  - This is especially important for families affected by poverty and disadvantage.
  - **Parents may feel unsure** about how to interact with a very young baby or might not know how important it is to respond to a little one who is not talking yet.
  - When parents feel **confident** in their use of responsive interactions, this improves outcomes for their children.
  - You can **build** parents' confidence by noticing the little things they are already doing to help their little one feel safe and happy.

## Resources and links

Parent Club - Getting Ready to Chat Together messages and resources - Evidence

### Where to find Chatting Together messages, postcards and videos

The Chatting Together messages are available from Parent Club. To find them, follow the links from the 'development and growing up' tab.

To help you to share these messages, BBC CBeebies Parent videos related to each message are available using the QR codes below:

**1:** Let's chat and play every day



**Bump**

- Sharing Chatting Together messages with parents and carers



**Encourage** parents to listen and watch to tune in to their baby's early signals. Share ideas about how they might respond.



**Empower** parents by pointing out all the ways they are already connecting with and responding to their little one, even if they don't realise they are doing it.



**Model** how parents might respond to their little one to keep the interaction going. Try labelling or commenting in a sing song voice.



**Highlight** links between Chatting Together and other aspects of development, such as attachment, wellbeing, play, learning and social development.



**Explore** with parents what works for them within their everyday activities. Some parents may find reading tricky or they might not know many nursery rhymes. They might try chatting about the pictures in a book or making up songs within routines.

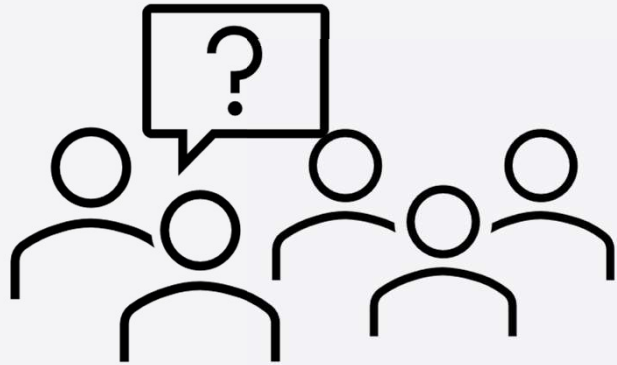


**Choose** a BBC CBeebies Parenting video and watch it together. Ask parents what they like about the video and if there is anything they would try at home.



**Share** one of the Chatting Together postcards with parents, helping them to understand why it matters and how to do it.





- What are you doing already?
- What does the guide add?
- What is your key take away to put into practice this week?



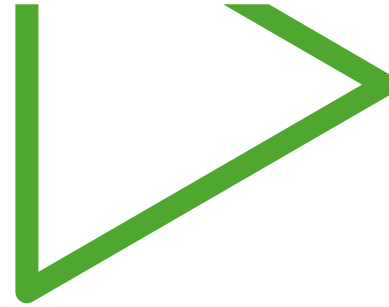


## Collaboration to Support Children's Language & Communication in South Ayrshire

Holly McBlane & Caroline Turtle

# Situation

- South Ayrshire Children's Services Planning Partnership
- Workstreams
  - Healthy
  - Families
  - Voice
  - The Promise
  - People
  - ***Included Workstream***
- Collaboration & Accountability



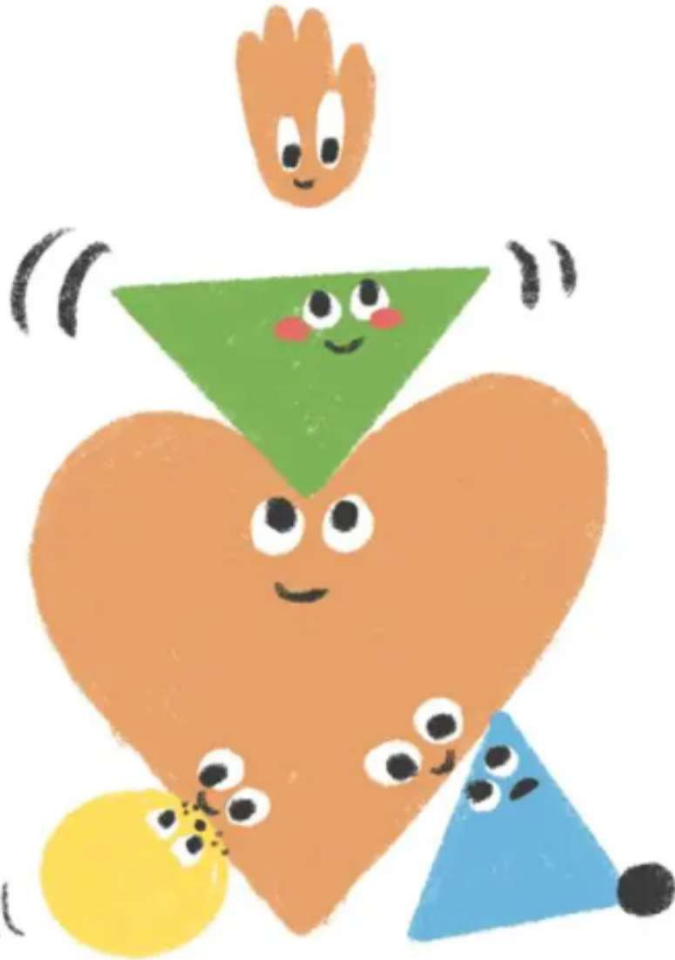
# Background

- 2023
- New SLT Service Manager, new education funding pot for SLC/Communication Friendly & New Children's Plan
- The right mix for an ***explosion in collaboration around SLC*** in South Ayrshire



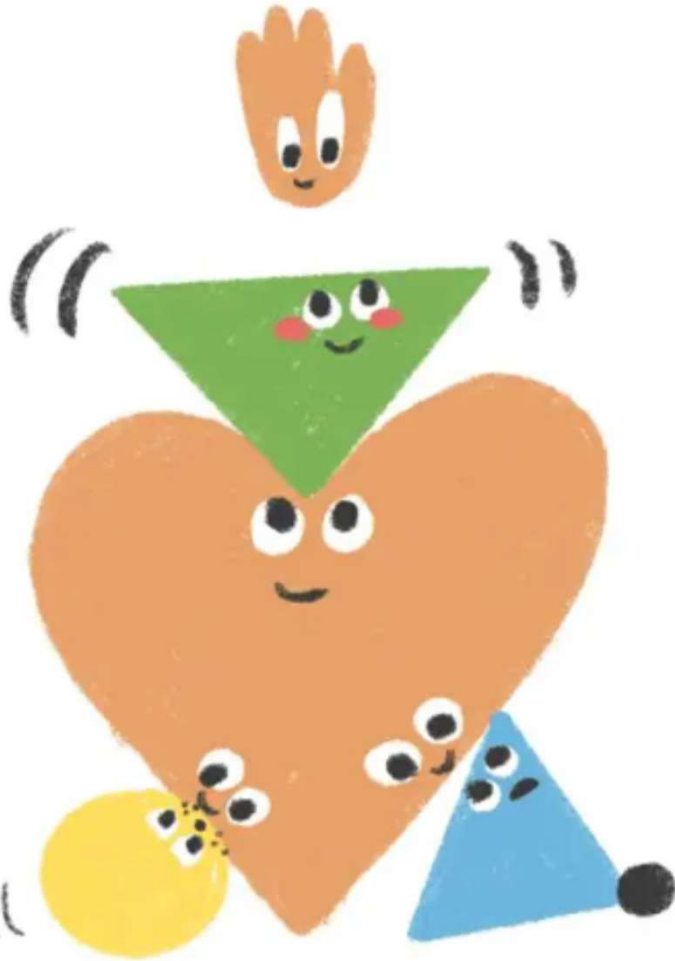
# Assessment - **Wins**

- South Ayrshire now *have a shared understanding of the role language plays in literacy* and lifelong outcomes
- **Cross-sector visibility, recognition, and identifying overlaps**
- *Reducing delays and duplication*
- *Real collaboration on the ground*
- *Right care* for children & their families at the *right time*



# Assessment – Challenges

- Coordinating **time** and **availability**
- Consistent **Communication & Collaboration**
- Continuing the **shared vision** & **accountability** across agencies



# Recommendations

## SLT

- Get yourself into the space
- Meet people
- Relationships
- ***Be advocates***

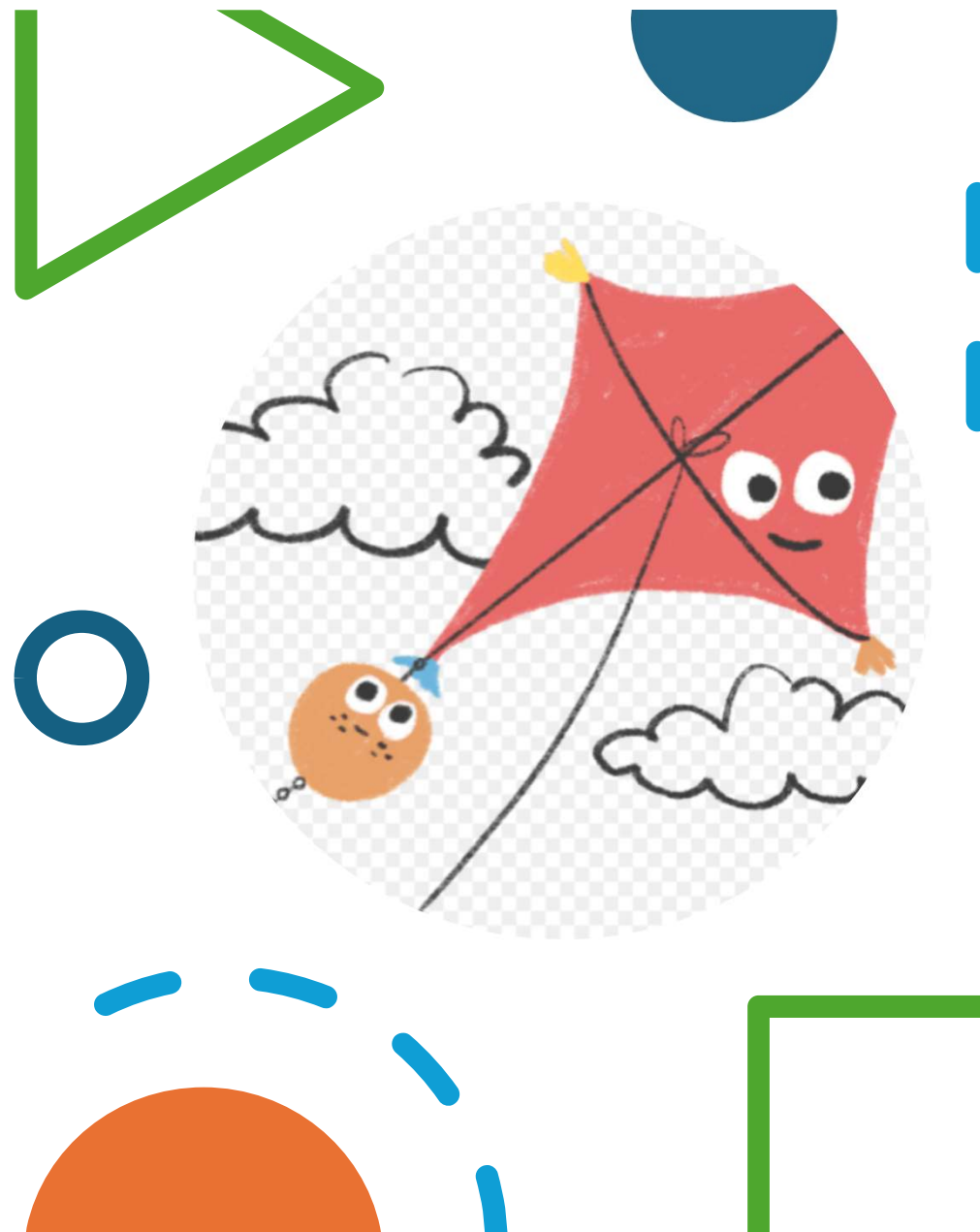
## Partners

- ***Relationships*** with SLT are key. Seek them out!
- ***Mutual valuing*** of each other's role within the child's journey
- Find the ***experts & change makers***



# Small Group Discussion

- How are you advocating for the work that you are doing for children and their families, and the importance of your work?
- How do you ensure that you have time to communicate with the right people involved in the child's journey?
- How can you get yourself into the right spaces – both on the ground and at a strategic level – to have these conversations?
- If you're in education, how can you involve SLT to support literacy and attainment outcomes?



# Public Health Scotland Annual Data 2024-2025



Early Child Development  
Statistics  
Report 2024-2025



Early Child Development  
Statistics  
Technical Report 2024-2025

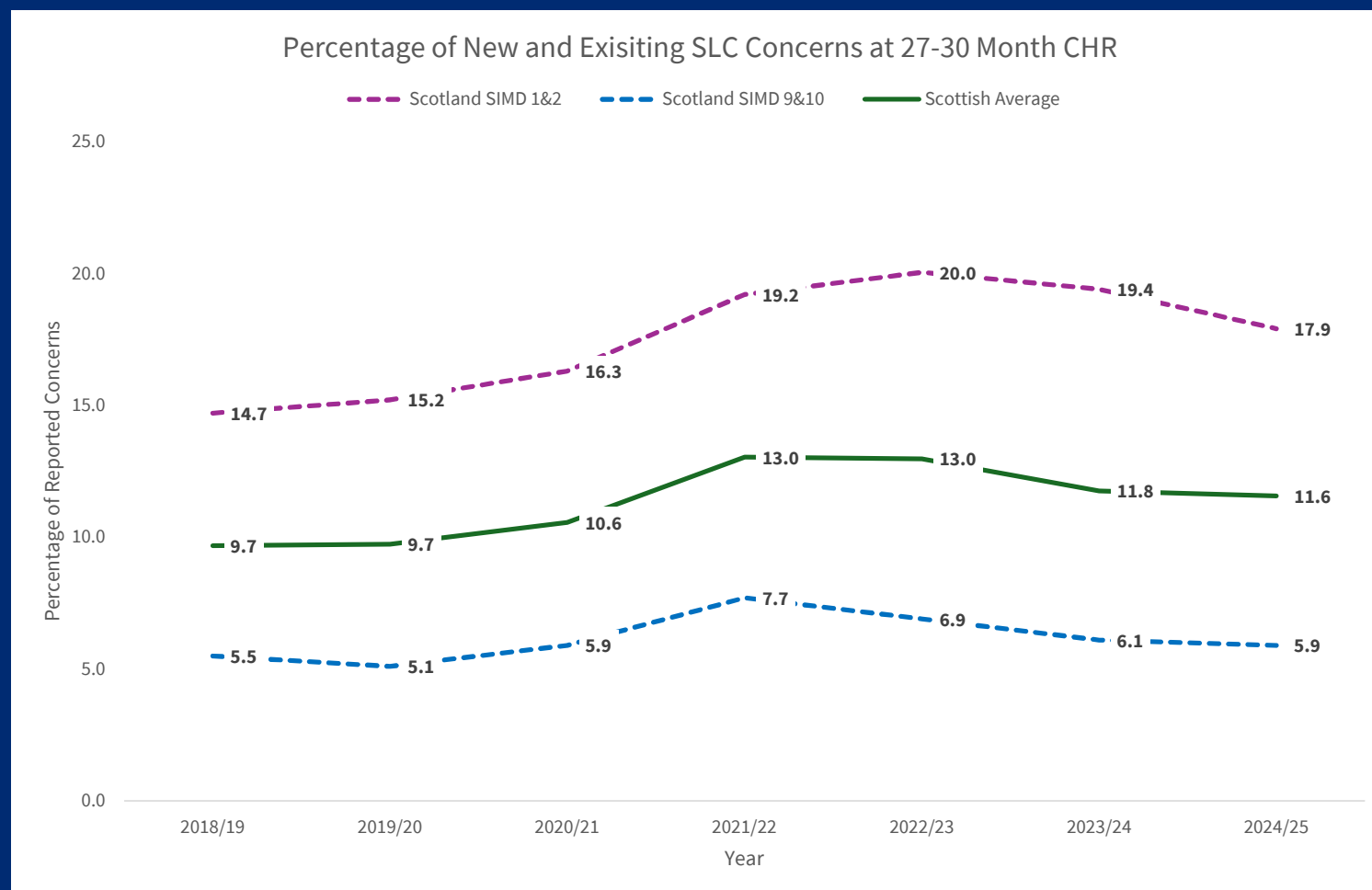


Early Child Development Dashboard  
2024-2025

Source: Public Health Scotland (PHS): Dashboard - Early child development statistics - Scotland 2022 to 2023 - Early child development - Publications - Public Health Scotland (last updated May 2026)

## Inequalities gap (SIMD)

PSD Scotland



Helping children get the best start in life - An overview of Scotland's Early Child Development and Pre-school Review Coverage Statistics - 2024/25



**Register**

🕒 Thursday, June 18, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

📍 Online

🌐 Anyone can view and join.



Thursday, June 18, 1:00 PM **Upcoming**

Helping children get the best start in life - An overview of Scotland's Early Child Development and Pre-school Review Coverage Statistics - 2024/25

**Please register [here](#)**

# Feedback

