



# Let's Talk with Special Children

A practical course for parents and carers to enable them to maximise the communication of children with profound and multiple learning needs.



## Let's Talk with Special Children

This practical course is designed for parents and carers but is also suitable for teaching assistants, support workers, social workers, and residential staff. Written by speech and language therapists these five two-hour sessions will enable you to maximise the communication skills of the adults and young people with profound and multiple learning difficulties with whom you live and work.

The course workbook is full of strategies and activities that can be used in all environments, at home, and at school.

### The aims are

- To share information about communication particularly in relation to children with severe and complex needs.
- To learn about the challenges children and young people with multiple learning needs have with communication.
- To explore ideas to help you communicate with your child or young person.
- To meet other parents and carers and share ideas.

### Topics covered

- Understanding what's happening when we talk to each other.
- Developing thinking and play skills.
- Maximising interaction.
- Using objects, pictures, signs and symbols to communicate.
- Encouraging children to communicate with us.

### What the experts say

'Communication with people with the most complex needs is most successful with familiar, responsive partners who care about the person they are communicating with.'

('Communication and people with the most complex needs: What works and why this is essential (July 2010) J Goldbart, S Caton

Trained and responsive communication partners were seen by both parents and researchers as significant in promoting community engagement. ('Communication and people with the most complex needs: What works and why this is essential (July 2010) J Goldbart, S Caton

### What the participants say

I think this course is one of the most beneficial pieces of training I have ever done. It has changed my life and had a huge impact on my son.

This course should be available to all parents of children with language difficulties. I just wish I'd had the chance to do this when my daughter was much younger to help her more.

### More information

This course is delivered weekly but can be run over three separate days. It aims to be practical, interactive and fun! Completion of this course can lead to exploring the issues in more depth by attending, 'Communication Support for Complex Needs 0-25 years' - whole course details available at: [www.elklan.co.uk](http://www.elklan.co.uk)

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