



Department
for Education



Education
Endowment
Foundation

Elklan

Training to Support Children's
Language and Learning

Communication Friendly Settings - Subsidised places

As part of the Department for Education's (DfE) Early Years Recovery Programme, Northern Lights SPH in the North East, and the EEF are working together to fund Early Years settings' access to Elklan's Communication Friendly Settings Programme.

What are the benefits of taking part?

- 2 practitioners from your setting ^[1], who will become Lead Communication Practitioners (LCPs), will receive in depth training (Elklan's Combined Speech and Language Support Course for 3-5s and Creating Communication Friendly Settings for Early Years) so that they have enhanced knowledge about speech, language and communication development and how to support this for all children but particularly for those who have, or are at risk of having, a speech, language or communication need. These practitioners will gain accreditation at levels 3 and 4 through an Ofqual approved and regulated national awarding organisation.
- The LCPs will be equipped and supported to deliver five x 1 hour sessions of training to all the staff in your setting and to ensure that the environment and interactions across the whole setting support children's communication and learning.
- The setting will receive a Communication Friendly Setting award (renewable after 3 years).



^[1] If your setting has less than 10 staff you can choose to have only one Lead Communication Practitioner trained.

Part 1 - Speech and Language Support for 3-5s (SLS)

- The LCPs complete 10 interactive self-study eLearning sessions, one before each webinar linked to the session. Each eLearning session takes approximately one hour but can be done at the practitioner's own pace at a time that suits them.
- The LCPs attend 12 live group webinars in groups of approximately 10, they discuss their learning with an Ekklan Tutor and with each other and have opportunities to reflect on the implementation of strategies from the course and share experiences in consistent small groups. The webinars are held at the same time and day of the week throughout the programme, excluding half terms, school holidays. An example timetable can be seen below. 7 of the webinars last 1hr, 3 are extended to support the CFS work and there are 2 webinars towards the end of the programme which focus exclusively on CFS. The total live webinar time is 15.5 hrs (please see the timeline attached).
- The LCPs complete online Learning Log tasks weekly to consolidate and demonstrate their learning. Implementing planned activities might take an hour a week and writing up the Learning Log will take up to an hour a week.



Part 2 - Communication Friendly Settings - Early Years (CFS)

- The LCPs will receive a manual and power point presentations to cascade five x one-hour Communication Counts sessions to the whole setting staff. The LCPs need approximately 30 minutes to prepare each session.
- All staff will undertake tasks ('Challenges') between each training session and the LCPs will support staff as changes are made to the setting.
- All staff complete five x 10-minute questionnaires about the impact of the changes made. The LCPs will use the completed questionnaires as part of their level 4 learning log.
- The final stage is when the LCPs visit another setting (for approximately 2 hours) to share ideas, experiences and best practice in creating a more Communication Friendly Setting.
- Changes in the setting will be demonstrated by completing pre and post programme checklists and these will be shared during the LCP visits.

What is the cost to the setting?

The training, resources and external accreditation are all fully funded by your Stronger Practice Hub.

A summary of the time commitment

- SLS elearning = 10hrs
- SLS webinars = 10hrs
- SLS practical tasks* = 10hrs
- SLS log = 10hrs
- CFS webinar preparation = 2.5hrs
- CFS webinar delivery to staff team = 5hrs
- CFS Llog = 7hrs
- CFS visit preparation = 0.5hrs
- CFS visit = 2hrs
- **Total = 57hrs over the twenty week period**

Notes

SLS = Speech and Language Support for 3-5s course for LCPs

CFS = Communication Friendly Setting – Early Years

*Practical tasks should be part of everyday activities with the children so not 'extra' time



Who can take part?

Settings

- Settings in the Northern Lights SPH (September 2024 or January 2025 start)
 - These are settings within the following local authority areas: Darlington, Gateshead, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, North and South Tyneside, Redcar and Cleveland, Stockton-on-Tees, Sunderland.
- State maintained, private, voluntary and independent settings.
- Settings who have not previously gained a CFS award through Elklan or participated in EYPDP 1.

Early years practitioners

- EYPs who apply must have an existing level 3 qualification, A levels or equivalent standard of academic achievement.
- EYPs who have not gained an Elklan SLS 0-3s or 3-5s award.
- EYPs who did not take part in EYPDP 1.

Next Steps

If you want to express an interest and gain more information, go to

www.elklan.co.uk/CFSSubsidisedPlaces/

Timeline

On the next page, please see an example timetable for the January 2024 courses.

SLS 3-5s and CFS Early Years (January Start)

Activity & Practitioner	Speech and Language Support for 3-5s			CFS			
	e-learning modules (LCP)	Webinars (LCP & Tutor)	Learning Log L3 (LCP)	Virtual seminars (LCP & Tutor)	CC Session delivery (LCP & All staff)	Challenge questionnaires completed after strategies applied (All Staff)	LLog L4 & Audit (LCP)
8th - 14th Jan 2024	1. What is communication?	Meet and greet					
15th - 21st Jan 2024	2. CFS, ACI and working with families	1		1. 1.5hrs CFS and CC1&2 prep	CC1: What is communication?		
22nd - 28th Jan 2024	3. Listening/attention, NVC and using visuals	2	1			Challenge 1 What is communication?	
29th Jan - 4th Feb 2024	4. Vocabulary	3	2		CC2: CFS and ACI		
5th - 11th Feb 2024	5. ICWs	4	3				
Half-term							
19th - 25th Feb 2024	6. Blank	5	4			Challenge 2 CFS and ACI	
26th Feb - 3rd Mar 2024	7. EL and narrative	6	5	2. 1hr Feedback CC1&2 CC3 prep			
4th - 10th Mar 2024	8. Play and links with language development	7	6		CC3: Word journey		
11th - 17th Mar 2024	9. Unclear speech and Phonological awareness	8	7				
18th - 24th Mar 2024	10. Stammering and course reflection	9	8			Challenge 3 Word journey	LLog L4 Sessions 1-2 deadline
25th - 31st Mar 2024		10	9	3. 0.5hr CC4 prep	CC4: Language journey		
Easter Holidays							
15th - 21st April 2024			10				
22nd - 28th April 2024						Challenge 4 Language journey	
29th Apr - 5th May 2024				4. 1.5hrs F/back CC3&4. Prep CC5&6 & audit			
6th - 12th May 2024			LLog deadline (including amendments)		CC5: Families and linking tog		
13th - 19th May 2024							LLog L4 Sessions 3-4 deadline
20th - 26th May 2024			LLog deadline (amendments completed)			Challenge 5 Work with families	Audit visit
27th May - 2nd Jun 2024						Challenge 6 Evaluation and Wow	Audit visit
3rd - 9th Jun 2024				5. 1hr Feedback CC5&6 and celebration!			
10th - 16th Jun 2024							Audit & LLog L4 LLog L4 Sessions 5-7 deadline
Speech and Language Support for 3-5s Certificate				CFS Certificate			