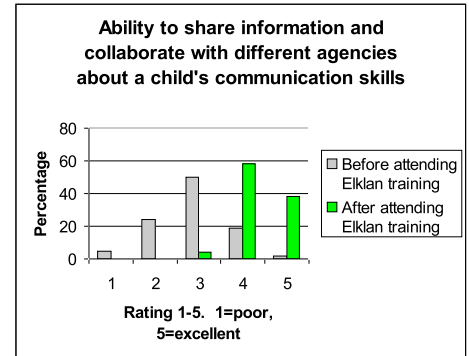
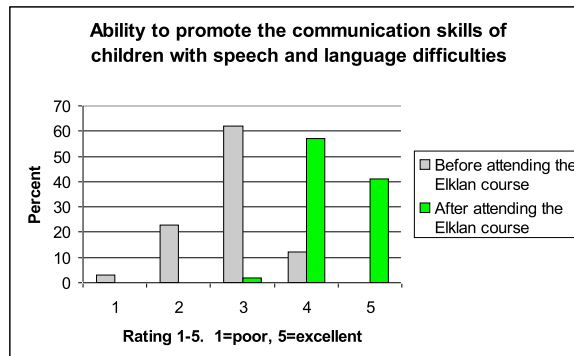
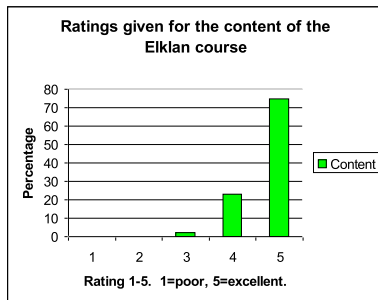


Evaluating the effectiveness of Elklan courses Autumn 2009 – Summer 2010: 'Speech and Language Support for Under 5s'

During Autumn 2009 – Summer 2010 an Elklan course called 'Speech and Language Support for Under 5s' was delivered in 75 venues throughout the UK. All Elklan courses are accredited through Open College Network and each participant gains accreditation by completing a portfolio. So far, portfolios from 541 early years practitioners across 43 different courses have been moderated. Part of the portfolio includes a task to evaluate the course using parameters from the Common Core Skills framework. Data from the 541 evaluation sheets has been used here.



The data suggests:

1. There is a significant difference in the participants' ability to support children with their speech and language needs. Before the training 26% felt that their ability to support children was unsatisfactory, 62% felt their skills were good and only 12% felt their skills were very good with none suggesting that it was excellent. After the training **100%** felt their ability to support children with speech and language difficulties was either excellent (41%) or very good (57%).
2. There is a significant difference in the participants' ability to collaborate with different services e.g. education and speech & language therapy. Before the training 29% felt their ability to collaborate was less than satisfactory and 69% felt their ability to collaborate was either good or very good. After the training **100%** felt their ability to collaborate was good (4%), very good (58%) and excellent (38%).

General comments that were given include:

'Excellent. I experienced a lot of 'wow' moments. I have found it to be one of the best courses I have attended. This course has and will continue to help me reflect on my practice' D.W Dec 09

'A very useful course. Something that I will really benefit from and so will my setting.' J.D. Nov 09.

'Very informative and enjoyable. Having gained a remarkable amount of knowledge which I am able to put into present and ongoing practice and pass onto my colleagues.' S.C. Nov 09

'An excellent course with a great balance of theory and practical activities to use in settings' L.W. Nov 09

'Excellent. I feel I have learnt a lot. I'm stopping myself from asking too many questions and making sure I give the child time to answer' A.F. Sept 09

'Absolutely excellent. I think it should be a pre-requisite for all teaching courses!' H.M. Sept 09

'Would definitely recommend other to do. Wish I had the opportunity to do this years ago!' J.W. June 10

'Fantastic, I feel that I have gained so much from this course' L.S. July 10

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