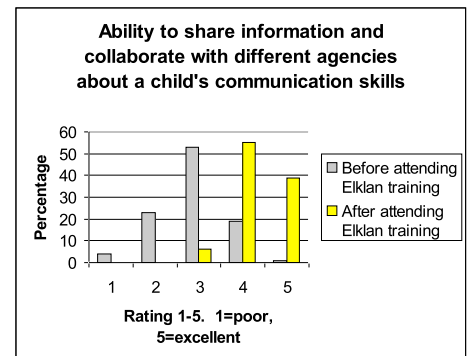
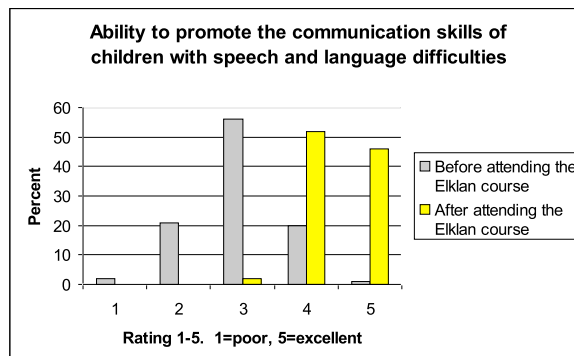
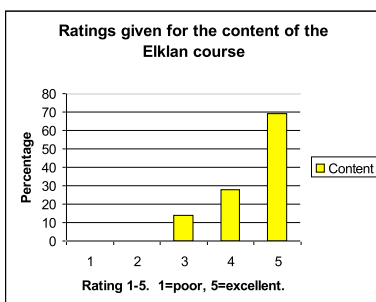


Evaluating the effectiveness of Elklan courses in Autumn 2009 – Summer 2010: 'Speech and Language Support in the Classroom'

During Autumn 2009 – Summer 2010 an Elklan course called 'Speech and Language Support in the Classroom' was delivered at 102 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 526 education practitioners (the majority are teaching assistants) across 49 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 526 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 23% felt that their ability to support children was unsatisfactory, 56% felt their skills were good and only 20% felt their skills were very good. After the training **100%** felt their ability to support children with speech and language difficulties was good to excellent with 46% stating that their skills were excellent.
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 27% felt their ability to collaborate was less than satisfactory and 53% felt their ability to collaborate was good and 19% felt it was very good. After the training **100%** felt their ability to collaborate was good to excellent with 39% stating that their skills were excellent.

General comments that were given include:

'Absolutely fantastic. I have learnt so much already and I can't wait to try out strategies I have not used yet!' J.R Nov 09

'Fantastic and extremely thought provoking' A.J Nov 09.

'Very informative, interesting and most of all extremely useful. Thoroughly enjoyable. ' S.H. Nov 09

'I would recommend this course to all teaching staff in the classroom setting who would come across speech and language issues.' L.K Feb 10

'I have enjoyed this course. It has made me much more aware of how I communicate with children' A.G Nov 09

'Really good. It explains things in a simple way and opens up a new way of looking at things from a child with difficulties point of view' Nov 09

'Fantastic! Great professional advice considering the complexity.' C.S Nov 09.

'Hugely informative and thoroughly enjoyable...I want to do more!' N.R Dec 09

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