



# Parents as agents of change:

Empowering parents to reduce impoverished language in disadvantaged communities

By Hannah Broughton and Caspian Jamie

# Introduction



# What inspired our programme?





# About Twinkleboost



## Commenting over Questioning





# Working with 'hard to reach' families



“I now pay more attention just to talk to the child or just describing my daily routines. I think talking should always be encouraged and sometimes we are not fully aware of it or just forget”

“There is a big difference in how I communicate. I gesture more, offer more choices and am more aware of how my child can communicate without using words”

“We look forward to the sessions each week. I now label objects rather than asking ‘what is it’. I offer choices more too”





“I now offer choices and pick up on cues of whether he enjoys things or not. This is a great course to teach new ways of communicating with your child and the stories are great fun”

“I use labelling, repetition and modelling. I ask fewer questions and allow more time for response”

“The info today was absolutely fantastic. I see how I can help develop his speech more by how I talk to him and how I ask questions”

“(Since Twinkleboost) we have a much better bond and understanding”



# Innovative strategies: A modern, practical and convenient approach





# Supporting engagement: Low pressure/high support environment





# Encouraging Ownership: The self assessed certificate programme





# Supportive environment: Peer to peer modelling



“The parents are responding so well to the modelling and listen to the strategies that are presented. They always take a specific interest in the research that supports the strategy.”

-Jaimi- Speech and Language Therapy Assistant



# Flexible access: Follow up emails



“I really like to receive the follow up email as it refreshes your memory after the session and you can go back to it anytime.”

“I will be away for 4 weeks soon and asked to still receive the emails during this time so I can use the strategies that we will miss.”



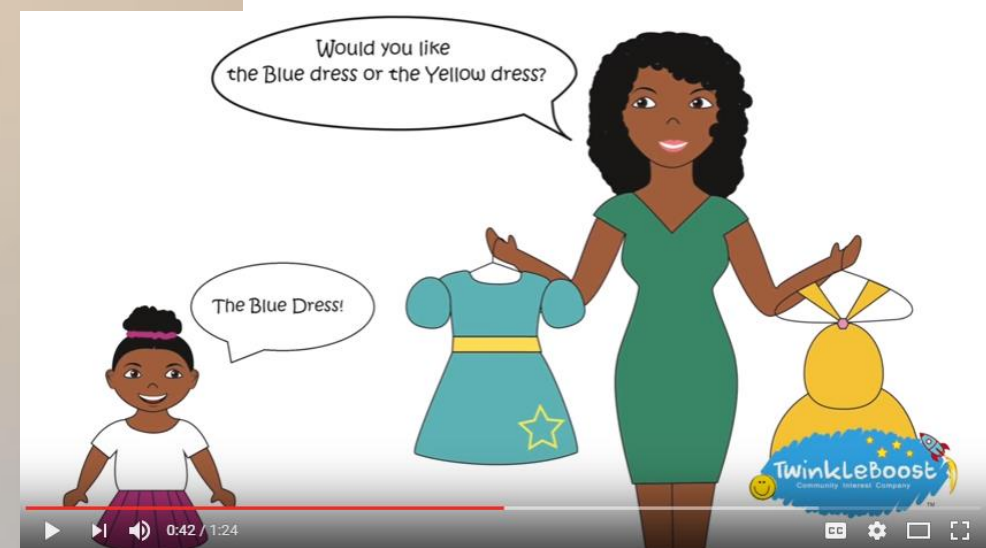
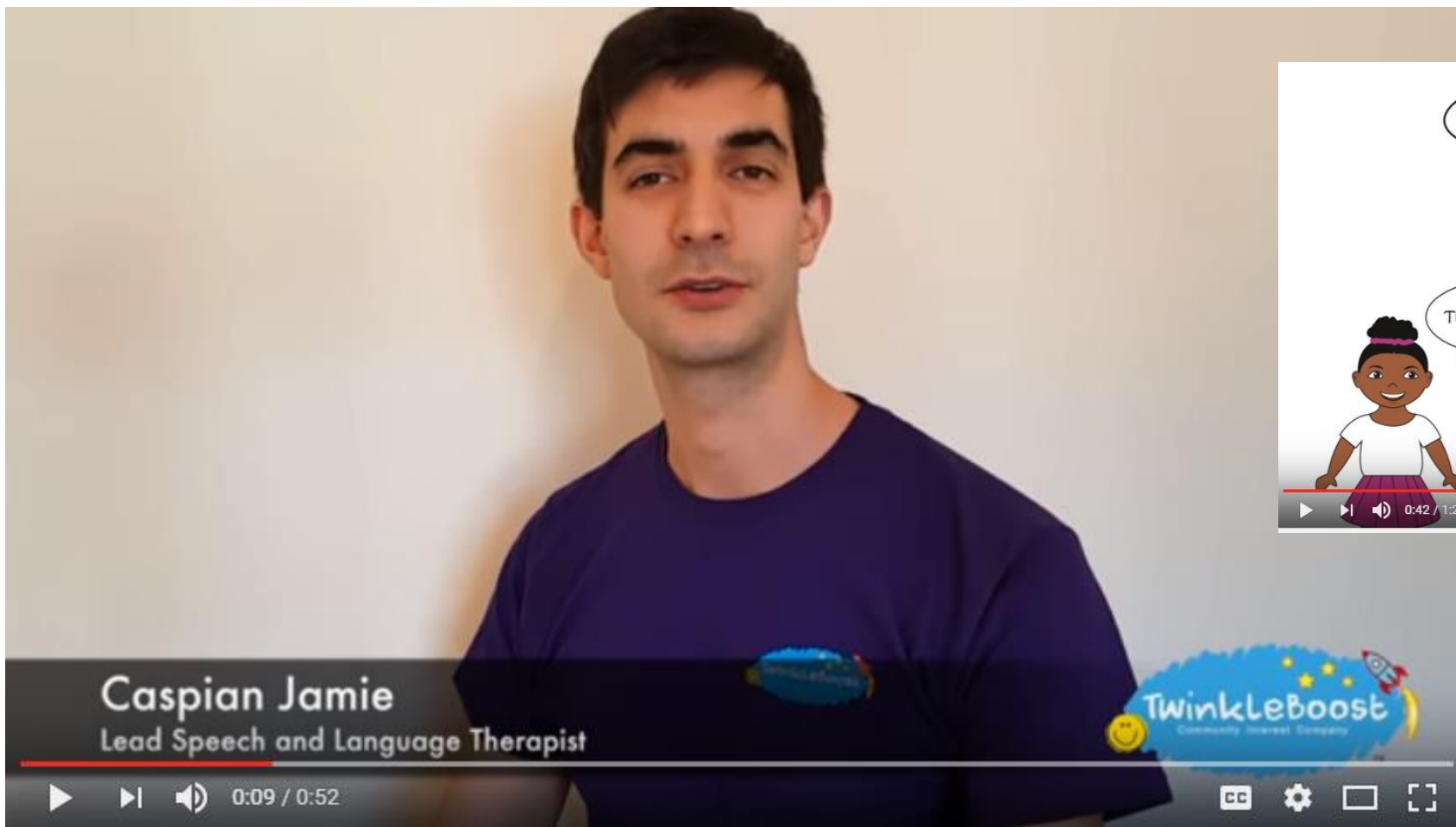
**Hello,**

I hope you had a great time at our Little Red Riding Hood Class!

Our strategy for the baby class was 'Following your babies gaze'. Research has found that Children whose parents talk about what the child is focused on have more advanced vocabularies than children whose parents try to redirect children's attention. You don't need to do any special activities to use this strategy at home. When sat together at home or our and about, pay attention to what grabs the interest of your baby and label and describe the object or activity.



# Digital technologies: YouTube



# Digital technologies: Social Media



 **TwinkleBoost CIC**  
Published by Hannah Christina [?] · 4 November 2016 · 🌐


New [research](#) published on babies early gesture and language development. You can find out more about the importance of gesture in our 'Three Little Pigs' class. <http://www.nurseryworld.co.uk/.../engaging-with-babies-simple...>



Engaging with babies' simple gestures helps develop language, finds study | Nursery World

Read Engaging with babies' simple gestures helps develop language, finds study childcare and the latest childcare & early years news & best practice on Nursery...

NURSERYWORLD.CO.UK

 **TwinkleBoost CIC**  
Published by YouTube [?] · 9 May · 🌐

Here is Caspian Jamie again our Lead Speech and Language Therapist talking about how to increase your baby's vocabulary!



**Narrating your baby's day**  
Join our Speech and Language Therapist as he talks about the benefits of narrating your baby's day

YOUTUBE.COM

791 people reached

**Boost post**



# Our Impact

Social Impact Report June 2016 - June 2017



From June 2016-June 2017  
We have provided...

Twinkleboost  
has provided  
Specialist Speech  
and Language  
support to



**1866**  
INDIVIDUALS

INCLUDING

Speech & Language  
Classes to

**955**  
CHILDREN

We have  
provided Speech  
and Language  
Training to



**699**  
NEW PARENTS

OF THESE  
PARENTS

**44**  
have completed  
a certificate in  
'Supporting Speech  
and Language  
development in the  
early years'

We have  
provided Speech  
and Language  
Training to

**187**  
NURSERY &  
TEACHING  
STAFF

**We have trained**

**12**  
Volunteer  
Communication  
Assistants

**7**  
Speech and Language  
Therapy Assistants.  
Speech and Language  
Therapy Assistants

# Implications for the future



Low pressure / high support environment

Peer to peer modeling

Certificate program

Digital technologies – Face Book, YouTube



# Thank you

