

# Speech, Language and Communication

**“Giving children the best possible  
start in life.”**

**A tool for health visitors.**

Joanne Gibson, Project Lead, NES

# Communication Trust Survey (2017)

- 21% of health visitors felt confident in their ability to support children's speech language and communication (SLC) development.
- 44% received little or no training around SLC development in their initial training
- 59% received little or no training / CPD around SLC development working as a health visitor

# Named Person Order 2016

Named Person required to have undertaken undergraduate, post-graduate or professional training in:

- child development
- assessing and profiling the speech, language and communication abilities and needs of children, young people and parents

# SLC: Giving Children the best possible start in life

- On-line resource – accessible format
- Based on universal health visiting pathway and GIRFEC principles
- Interactive
- Evidence based
- Consistent national key messages
- Complements wider learning experiences
- Signposts to relevant learning opportunities and resources
- Evaluation framework

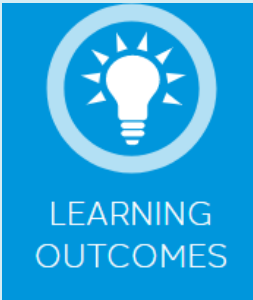
# Early Intervention

Health Visitors and Family Nurses play a key role in prevention and early identification of Speech, Language and Communication Needs.

Skilled workforce better  
Equipped to support  
children and families in  
therapeutic relationships

Improved  
outcomes for  
parents and  
children



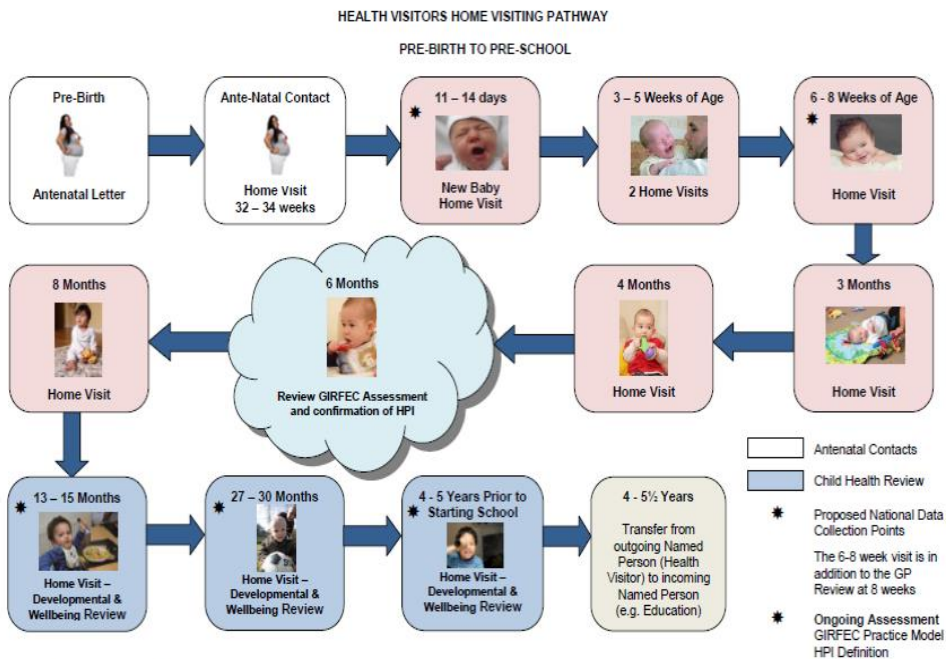


# Learning Outcomes



- Describe normal speech, language and communication development in children aged 0-5 years, recognise abnormal speech, language and communication development and when there is a speech, language and communication needs.
- Discuss factors impacting on the speech, language and communication development of children, their wellbeing and future outcomes and achievements.
- Recognise speech, language and communication difficulties in parents/carers, as well as children and young people.
- Discuss strategies to empower parents/carers to promote speech, language and communication development in children aged 0-5 years and to signpost to other services.
- Describe their own role, and that of others, in promoting speech, language and communication development in children aged 0-5 years.

# Universal Health Visiting Pathway (Scotland)



**Health Plan Indicator Definition**

An additional HPI indicates that the child (and/or their care) requires sustained (>3 months) additional input from professional services to help the child attain their health or development potential. Any services may be required such as additional HV support, parenting support, enhanced early learning and childcare, specialist medical input, etc.



HOW I GROW UP  
AND DEVELOP



MY WIDER  
WORLD

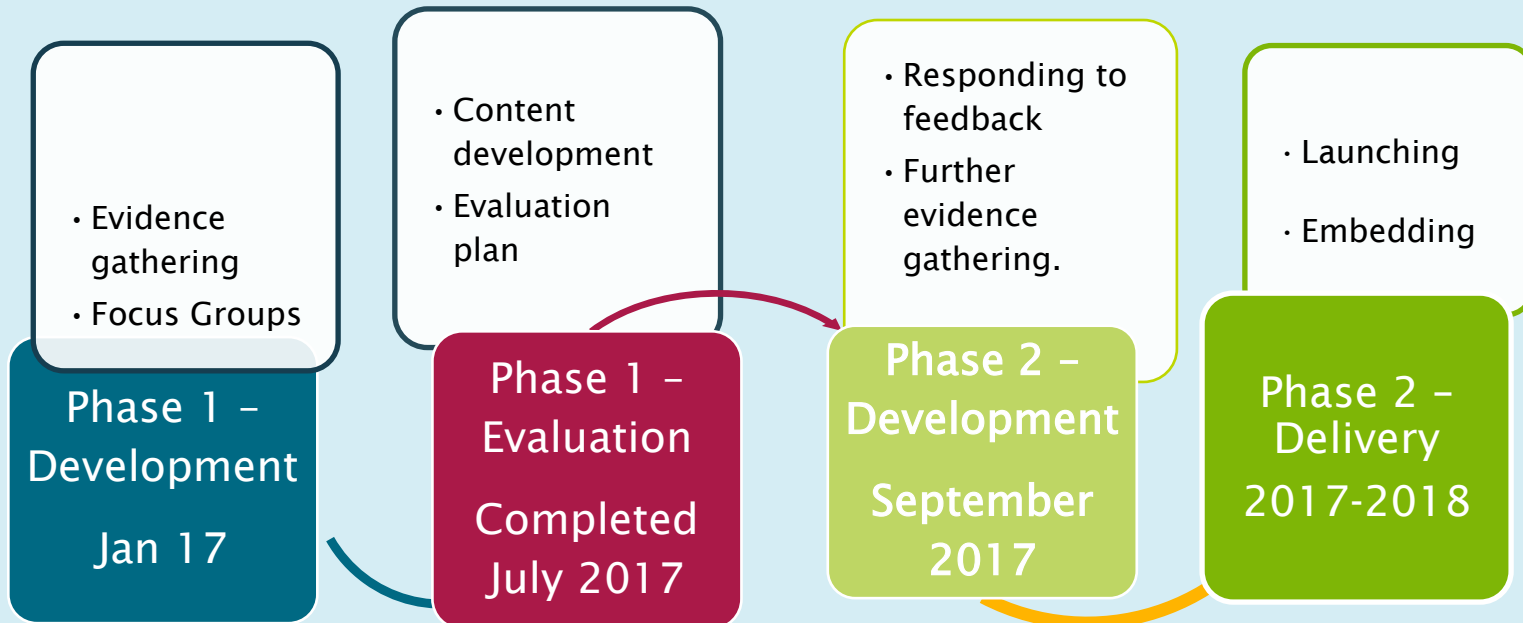


WHAT I NEED  
FROM PEOPLE WHO LOOK  
AFTER ME



SUPPORT

# Project Timescales





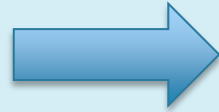
# SLC: Giving Children the best possible start in life



- <http://speechlanguage.businesscatalyst.com/introduction.html>



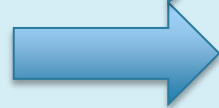
# Key Learning Points



Collaborative approach



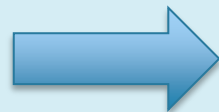
Involve target group early on



Ensure content is relevant



Consider ease of access/navigation



Consider overall appeal of resource



National key messages



Don't reinvent the wheel!

Evaluation/sustainability

# References

- Communication Trust. 2017. Professional Development in Speech, Language and Communication: Findings from a National Survey.  
Accessible on-line from:  
<http://www.thecommunicationtrust.org.uk/workforce-survey>
- Named Person (Training, Qualifications, Experience and Position) (Scotland) Order [2016]  
Accessible on-line from:  
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2016/16/article/2/made>