The Impact of Training

Improving Joint Working Between SLTs, Families and Educational Settings

Aims of Today

To answer the following questions about the training packages we provide as a speech and language therapy service.

Who

What

Why

Training

What Next

How

Why Provide Training?

▶ One of the RCSLT outcomes of the Bercow 10 review was to support the effective partnership between SLTs and schools and families.

▶ Research related to several interventions recommends training of key adults to support children with SLCN and increase efficacy of therapy.

▶ Helps spread awareness of Speech, Language and Communication Needs, the role of a Speech and Language Therapist and how to identify and support children with a range of SLCN in various settings.

▶ Directly influences other areas of an SLT's job:

  ▶ Accuracy and propriety of referrals

  ▶ Caseload management

What Training Do We Offer?

Early Years Foundation Stage

- Attention Builders
- VERVE
- Total Communication
- EarlyBird
- Supporting Communication Development in 2 Year Olds
- Receptive and Expressive Language Development
- Speech Sound Development
- Selective Mutism
- Fluency

Primary School

- Attention Builders
- VERVE
- Total Communication
- EaryBird+ and Cygnet
- Blanks Level Language
- Colourful Sentences
- Narrative Skills
- Speech Sound Development
- Selective Mutism
- Fluency

Who Can Receive Training?

- ▶ Anyone who supports a child with SLCN!

Who Provides Training?

- ▶ Any speech and language therapist!

How is Training Created and Delivered?

▶ Regularly review the assessments and interventions we provide

- New evidence and research   - Functionality and clinic findings

▶ Create and review training packages as required

▶ Offer training to educational settings and parents/adults

- Termly SENCo Meetings   - Initial session of preschool groups

- Final session of therapy offered to early years settings

▶ Collect and review feedback

▶ Discuss as a team and amend interventions and training as required

Feedback Gained So Far

- Keen to use the resources across the classroom

- Appreciate the ability to work closely with the SLT and develop better rapport between parents/staff and SLT

- More able to support new staff in implementing strategies

- 'It made me reflect on how I am supporting children's language development'

- Training let's staff implement 'a method that works'

- 'Reduced frustration' from children

- Can see difference in vocabulary

- 'Wow it works'

- Ensures all staff are working on the new page

- Better identification and referral of children with SLCN

- Incorporate SLCN into SMART school targets

- Inspired more queries in to DLD and provoked a lot of conversation and reflection among staff

- Managing national curriculum and speech and language expectations re. developmentally appropriate age-related levels

- 'All children in the class may not be at the same level'

- 'Inspiring...useful and informative'

- Offers a refresher and new ideas for using resources in the classroom

- Highlights importance of all areas of communication (e.g. attention)

- Progress observed with language and academic levels

- Increased staff confidence un supporting and communicating with children at the appropriate level

- 'I reduced my language level and now he doesn't get frustrated with me and follows what I say'

Some Changes Made so Far

▶ Provision of new evidence-based interventions and training packages based on clinical need

- Cycles   - Colourful Semantics   -Narrative Therapy

▶ More sessions added to preschool speech groups which incorporate new therapy techniques and cover a broader area of speech sounds

▶ Language programmes revamped to be workable documents and training updated to include support for behaviour

▶ School has adopted Colourful Sentences as whole key stage approach

▶ Problem-solved effective means of providing quick input to key adults to support children (outside therapy sessions, following assessment)

What Happens Next?

- Continue to review our clinical practice and feedback and use this to inform the training packages we offer.

- Continue to spread awareness of SLCN and up-to-date support and interventions in line with the evidence base.