

# Speech & LanguageLink

THE SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS

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SLCN ASSESSMENT

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INTERVENTION

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TRAINING

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SUPPORT

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The Speech and Language Link **whole school approach**

## Speech & LanguageLink

THE SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS

Good communication skills are linked to achievement and life chances. Unsupported speech and language delays affect attainment, learning, literacy, social relationships, behaviour, mental health and ultimately employment and social mobility. Isn't it time this changed?



### The Speech and Language Link whole school approach

For the last 20 years, Speech and Language Link has been helping children develop their speech and language skills. Our award-winning packages will enable your school to develop a whole school approach to integrate support for children with SLCN in school and facilitate working more closely with parents and carers, and your multi-agency specialist teams.

#### **SPEECH AND LANGUAGE LINK PROVIDE:**

**Training for staff** – to develop their understanding of SLCN and how to use the packages across the school.

**Identification** – robust standardised assessments highlight where extra help is needed and suggest discussion with a therapist where appropriate.

**Intervention** – planned, evidenced class groups and 1:1 interventions are built on established speech and language therapist advice.

**Resources** – hundreds of full colour PDF resources support each intervention. There are also activities and tips for parents and carers through our award-winning Parent Portal.

**Measured progress** – easily accessible data for individual students, classes and year groups, allowing you to track and report progress and impact effectively.

**Why not take a free trial and find out why we are a leading provider of SLCN packages to schools throughout the UK.**

## LANGUAGE AND ATTAINMENT

The link between language skills, in particular vocabulary development and attainment is well established. But did you know that speech and language difficulties also impact on literacy development? To learn to read and spell a child must be able to understand the language used and learn to tell the difference between sounds in words.

## LANGUAGE AND POVERTY

There is a strong relationship between growing up in poverty and under achievement. Sadly 1 in 3 socially disadvantaged children have delayed language development. These problems can remain hidden for some time, often disguised as poor behaviour. Many schools have realised that to address this attainment gap they must first address speech and language skills.



FREE Trial at [speechandlanguage.info](https://speechandlanguage.info)

## The whole school approach

At Speech and Language Link, we are on a mission to make classrooms throughout the UK more communication friendly to improve the outcomes for students with SLCN. We believe the best way to do this is through a whole school approach. What does this look like?

The Speech Link and Language Link programmes include all the tools a school needs to develop their **whole school approach**. From standardised assessments to evidenced interventions; from an audit tool to high quality training and progress monitoring, we provide everything you need to make a real difference.

The **SLCN audit** helps you to highlight areas of strength and where to develop next. You can then use high quality **teaching strategies** in every classroom. There is **training** available for staff to boost their understanding

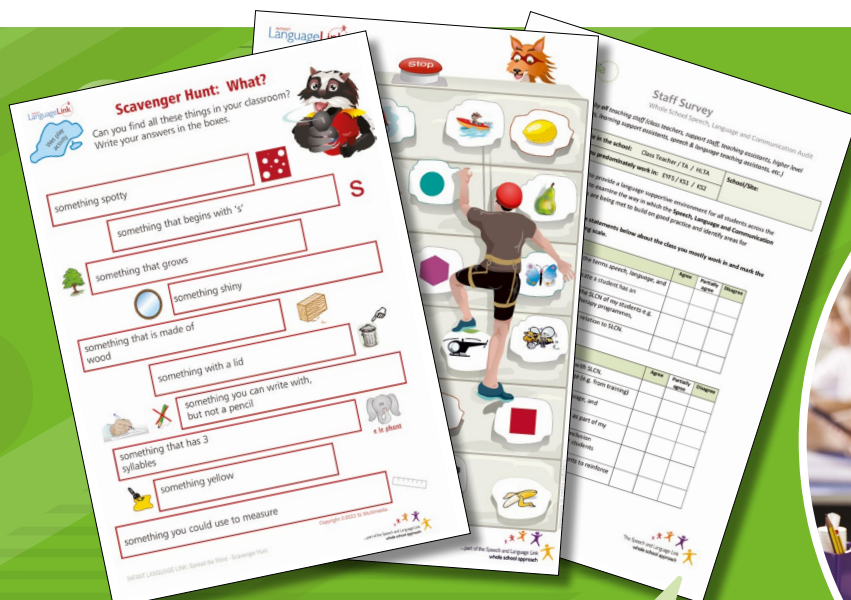
of the importance of speech and language skills. Staff will know how to improve communication across the school environment, between students, staff and parents/care givers. Robust **assessments** help you to easily identify different levels of need, leading to tiered interventions for identified students. Small group and individual **interventions** are available to be put in place, with close monitoring of intervention **outcomes**. You will have **information and activities for parents** and carers to continue the support at home.



“

23% OF SEN SUPPORT PUPILS  
IN ENGLAND HAVE SLCN AS  
THEIR PRIMARY NEED.”

DFE SCHOOL CENSUS DATA 2022



GET EVERYONE IN YOUR SCHOOL TALKING WITH OUR 'SPREAD THE WORD PACK' - PART OF YOUR LANGUAGE LINK SUBSCRIPTION

## SPEECH AND LANGUAGE HELP DESK



As well as our evidenced interventions, we offer telephone and email support and excellent in-package advice from SaLTs and former school staff.

## TRAINING



A range of training options for ALL teaching and support staff. Webinars, in-package training and bespoke solutions allow the SENCo to choose the strategic provision that best meets their team's CPD needs.

## PARENT PORTAL



Turn parents into partners with our award winning parent website featuring talking tips videos, speech and language development tables and a range of interactive and downloadable activities to encourage home practice.

## CASE STUDY

"The Scarborough Pledge has supported its coastal schools to address concern about pupils' poor levels of speech and language development. This has been made possible through Language Link – an interactive child-friendly system that screens children from Yr R/ P1 through to Yr 6/P7. Initially the project was for 5 schools but due to the success of the pilot, a further 10 schools joined the project.

The programme has not only been highly effective in identifying children whose teachers did not think they had communication or comprehension gaps, but the children have also made accelerated progress. It's a joy to work with and to see the children make progress because they have access to the interventions that meet their personalised needs."

Vicki Logan, Headteacher, Overdale CP School. Scarborough.





## Infant Language Link

Infant Language Link is an online tool to identify the skills that underpin oral language, understanding words and sentences. The tool enables timely targeted interventions as part of your whole school approach. This evidenced package allows you to track and support children aged 4-8 years, so no-one is missed or misidentified. An Infant Language Link subscription allows you to carry out unlimited assessments and interventions representing outstanding value for money.



### IDENTIFICATION

Understanding words and sentences are a pre-requisite for talking yet difficulty understanding language can be hard to spot in the classroom through observation alone. To ensure no child is missed, we recommend universal screening in Reception/P1 using our online, adult-led standardised assessments. Fun, quick and easily accessible, it looks at understanding of language across key areas appropriate for their age, helping identify reasons underpinning oral language difficulties. Instant results will identify children who need specialist support and recommend appropriate class and small group interventions so you can target help at the right level where it is most needed.

A set of comprehensive progress measures establishes how the child is coping in the classroom. These help teachers set targets for improvement across key skills including communication, participation, listening, active involvement and social confidence.

Our flexible dynamic reporting tool provides the information you need at the touch of a button. Reports and provision maps show in-school improvement for each child, class or year group.

“

THE CLASS TEACHER HAS FOUND THIS SCREENING OF ENORMOUS BENEFIT AND IT HAS MEANT FOCUSED INTERVENTION AT THIS EARLY STAGE HAS MADE AN ENORMOUS DIFFERENCE. THE TEACHER, TA & CHILDREN THOROUGHLY ENJOY USING YOUR RESOURCES. IT IS CERTAINLY A TOOL WE WILL CONTINUE TO USE.”

HEAD TEACHER, AYLESHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL, KENT.

## KEY FEATURES

- USED UNIVERSALLY IN YR R/P1 TO SUPPORT EARLY INTERVENTION
- IDENTIFIES CHILDREN WHO NEED SPECIALIST INPUT
- PROVIDES TAILORED SMALL GROUP AND 1:1 PROGRAMMES OF WORK
- INSTANT REPORTING FEATURE FOR ROBUST EVIDENCE OF IMPROVEMENT
- IN-PACKAGE AND WEBINAR TRAINING INCLUDED FOR ALL USERS
- SUITABLE FOR STUDENTS WITH EAL



## INTERVENTION

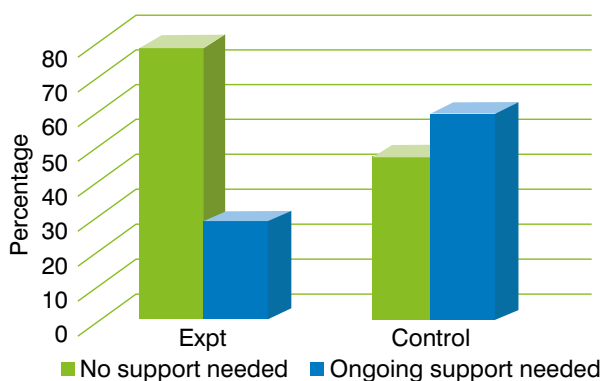
Infant Language Link includes planned and resourced interventions at a tiered level:

- **Whole class** – high quality teaching strategies and classroom resources allow the teacher to support speech and language difficulties universally
- **Group interventions** – small planned and fully resourced language groups allow support staff to provide targeted interventions
- **Individual interventions** – for pupils who need a little bit extra following a group, our supplementary teaching plans allow teachers and support staff to offer intensive focussed support in the classroom

Infant Language Link is an effective universal intervention to help schools close the attainment gap. In a recent study, we compared assessment results from two groups of schools. The experimental schools used the Infant Language Link recommendations and interventions with study pupils across two terms. The control schools provided their typical classroom intervention eg. class based support or language programmes. All children were assessed at the beginning and end of the study by the research SaLT team.

The results were overwhelmingly positive with the children from the 'with intervention' group making more progress than the children from the 'without' group. What's more, the children from the experimental schools had maintained this progress when they were followed up 18 months later.

Comparison of the percentage of children requiring ongoing support for speech and language needs following the study



Read our impact brochure for more detail.



## PRICING PER SCHOOL

**Standard Annual Subscription - £375 + VAT**  
(includes training and 'Spread the Word' pack)

## Speech Link

This innovative, easy to use package takes the stress out of identifying and working with children who have developmental speech difficulties. Traditionally seen as 'specialist' intervention, Speech Link demystifies speech, helping support staff work effectively with a child's common speech errors.

### IDENTIFICATION

The quick, engaging speech screen is used to identify the speech sounds that need support and will also alert staff to children who may need more specialist help from speech and language therapists.

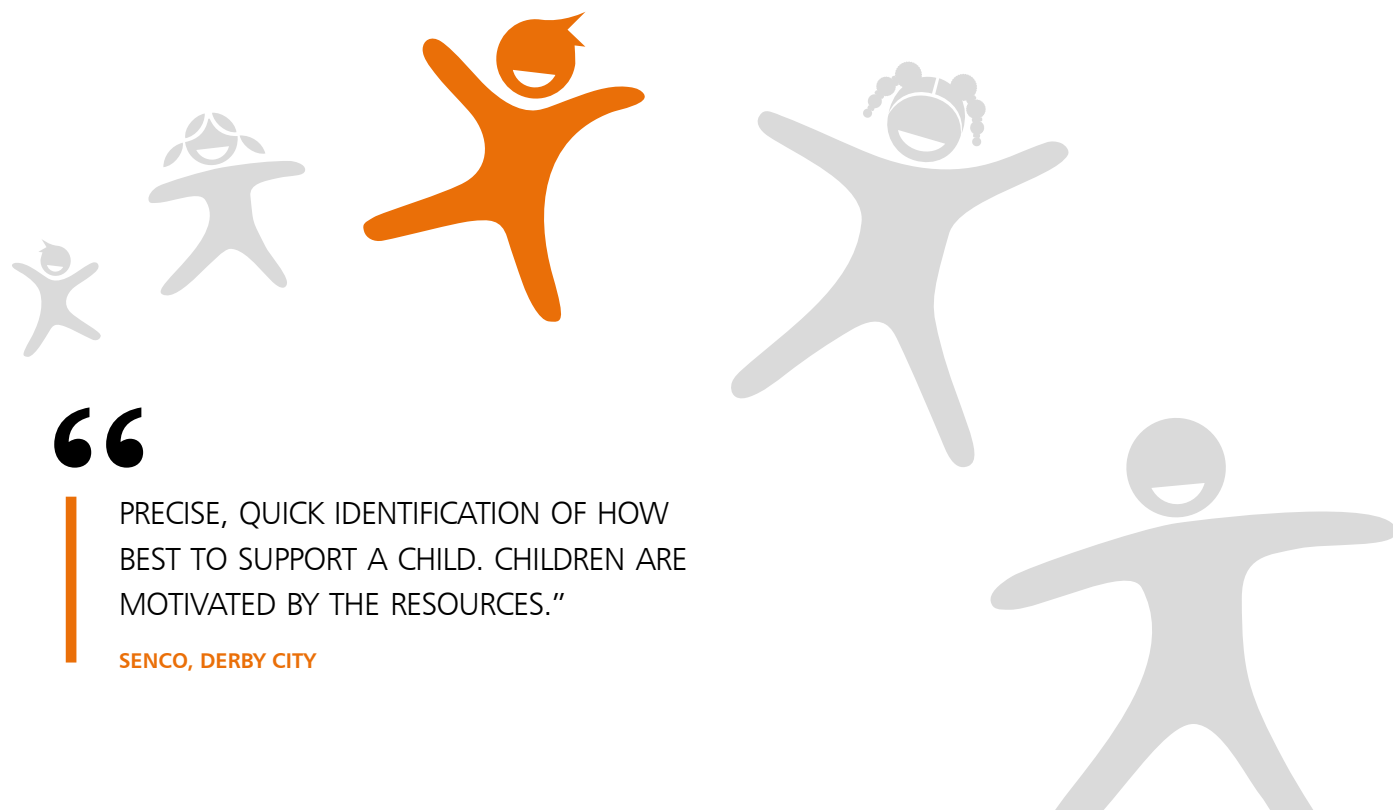
### INTERVENTION

Following assessment, an age appropriate speech programme will be recommended. Each programme comes with clear instructions for support staff and extensive

resources, including support materials for parents to use for home practice. The impact is measured through intelligibility ratings.

### TRAINING

Speech Link provides online training for staff new to working with speech. Our two modules cover how speech sounds are produced and show examples of speech and language therapists working through speech programmes.



“

PRECISE, QUICK IDENTIFICATION OF HOW  
BEST TO SUPPORT A CHILD. CHILDREN ARE  
MOTIVATED BY THE RESOURCES.”

SENCO, DERBY CITY



## KEY FEATURES

- EASY TO USE SPEECH SCREENER FOR CHILDREN AGED 4 – 8 YEARS
- IDENTIFIES CHILDREN WHO NEED SPECIALIST ADVICE
- INCLUDES A FULL RANGE OF PLANNED AND RESOURCED SPEECH PROGRAMMES
- ONLINE ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP LISTENING AND DISCRIMINATION SKILLS
- TRAINING FOR STAFF IN IDENTIFYING AND WORKING WITH SPEECH SOUND DIFFICULTIES



## LISTENING GAMES

The ability to hear the difference between speech sounds is essential for both speech and literacy development. A key part of our speech intervention programmes are our interactive online graded listening activities. These can be used across the whole class to develop good listening and sound discrimination skills. These fun engaging games guide the child through five different levels from single sounds to identifying sounds at the beginning and ends of words. An indispensable resource for the infant classroom to establish the skills needed to access early phonics.

### PRICING PER SCHOOL

**Standard Annual Subscription £250 + VAT**  
(includes training)



## Junior Language Link

Did you know that 50% of children referred to mental health services have underlying language difficulties? Sadly, many of these pupils' language difficulties remain undetected, with many labelled as having behaviour difficulties. We developed Junior Language Link so every child aged 7-11 years could be identified and supported appropriately.

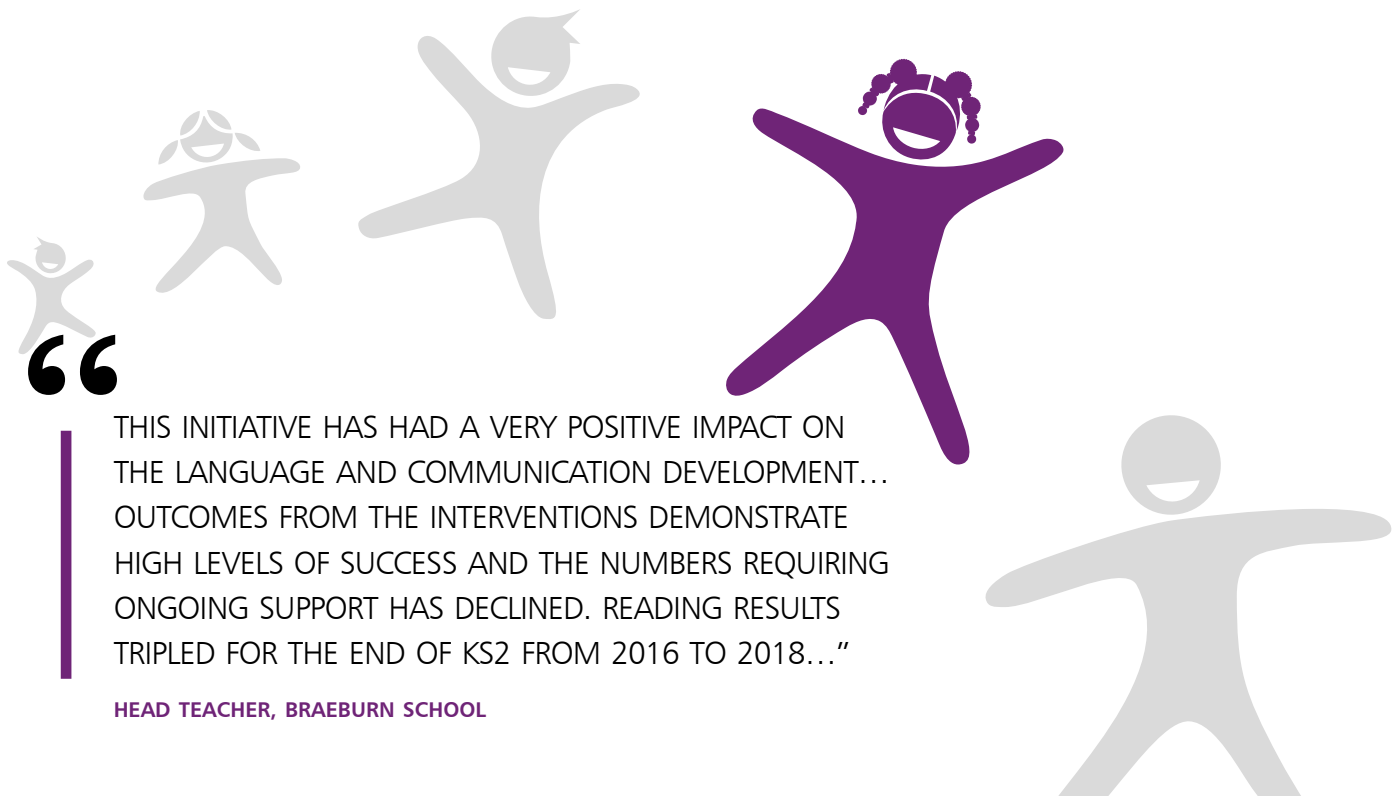
### IDENTIFICATION

Language difficulties change over time and children can become experts at hiding them. Are they being disruptive because they are unable to self-regulate or are they struggling to understand classroom instructions? Can they score well in a reading test without understanding what they are reading? Do they use their knowledge of how the world works to make inferences and read between the lines or do they only see the literal answers?

The Junior Language Link assessment allows you to quickly identify where any language breakdowns are occurring. The

online assessment is used universally in year 3 or 4 (P4 or P5) and then to track individual children where intervention has been recommended. Instant results are provided and children who require specialist input will be highlighted. Following assessment, class teachers use our progress measures to establish baseline functional communication skills and set targets for improvement.

Our inspection ready instant reports mean you have data about progress at the touch of a button.



“

THIS INITIATIVE HAS HAD A VERY POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT... OUTCOMES FROM THE INTERVENTIONS DEMONSTRATE HIGH LEVELS OF SUCCESS AND THE NUMBERS REQUIRING ONGOING SUPPORT HAS DECLINED. READING RESULTS TRIPLED FOR THE END OF KS2 FROM 2016 TO 2018...”

HEAD TEACHER, BRAEBURN SCHOOL

**FREE  
SCHOOL  
AUDIT**



## KEY FEATURES

- **STANDARDISED ASSESSMENT TO IDENTIFY WHO NEEDS SPECIALIST INPUT**
- **12 PLANNED AND FULLY RESOURCED LANGUAGE INTERVENTION GROUPS**
- **19 TAILORED PROGRAMMES FOR 1:1 WORK**
- **INSTANT REPORTING FEATURE FOR ROBUST EVIDENCE OF IMPROVEMENT**
- **IN-PACKAGE AND WEBINAR TRAINING INCLUDED FOR ALL USERS**
- **SUITABLE FOR STUDENTS WITH EAL**



## INTERVENTION

Junior Language Link provides a wide range of planned and resourced interventions for a graduated approach to supporting children with SLCN. Our whole class strategies also allow teachers to support language development universally.

For children needing more support, our tailored group interventions target a range of language skills:

- using language to understand, reason and solve problems
- understanding and using complex language structures
- vocabulary building skills
- understanding the language used in exam questions e.g. complex question words

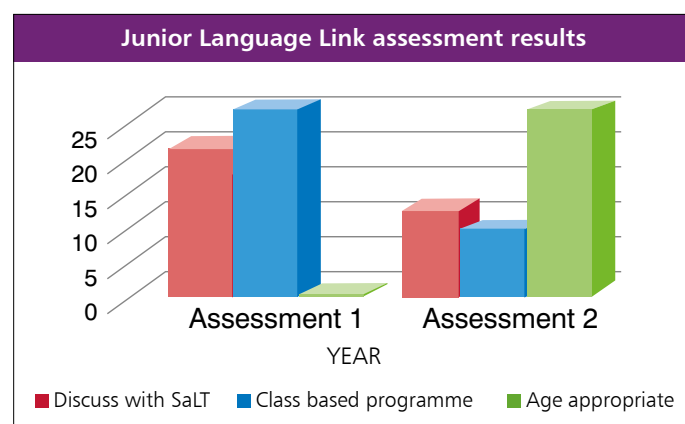
## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We talked to a school to find out how they were using Junior Language Link to improve outcomes for pupils.

Braeburn school is a two-form entry primary school in North Yorkshire which started using the package as part of the wider initiative to improve life chances, ambitions and outcomes for young people in the area. To investigate the impact of using Junior Language Link, we analysed assessment results over a two year period. Students were identified using the assessment and then received recommended group interventions. Participants

were then reassessed the following year. Over 56% of the identified children no longer needed support following the interventions and there was a marked reduction in those needing outside agency input.

**Read our impact brochure for more detail.**



## PRICING PER SCHOOL

**Standard Annual Subscription - £375 + VAT**  
(includes training and 'Spread the Word' pack)

## Secondary Language Link

This unique online package combines a standardised assessment, targeted interventions with measured outcomes and a teacher training package. It enables schools to identify and effectively support the language and communication needs of students aged 11-14 years, boosting attainment and improving life chances.

### IDENTIFICATION

The interactive online standardised assessment is used universally in year 7 to ensure no student is overlooked or misdiagnosed. The content reflects the typical daily demands for young people to understand and use language both in the classroom and in conversation with peers. It can be delivered to groups of students and is fully audio supported, placing minimal demand on literacy skills.

The assessment utilises a number of formats including video, interactive virtual classroom and multiple choice questions, making this an engaging experience. Following assessment, individual profiles and class reports identify

areas of strength and need. This enables senior leaders to set targets and develop action plans to address barriers to learning across the school.

The assessment divides into two areas. **Core Language** looks at following instructions, processing information and understanding of concept vocabulary and complex sentences. **Social Understanding** focuses on understanding multiple meaning, sarcasm, idiomatic language and making inferences. These skills all underpin the use of oral language in a range of situations.

“

THEY LOVED IT!! A GROUP OF YEAR 7 STUDENTS SAID THE ASSESSMENT WAS FANTASTIC. IF ASKED TO SIT AGAIN THEY WOULD. A BRILLIANT RESOURCE.”

HALIFAX HIGH SCHOOL



## KEY FEATURES

- **STANDARDISED ASSESSMENT USED UNIVERSALLY IN YEAR 7**
- **7 INNOVATIVE THERAPIST LED INTERVENTION GROUPS**
- **SLCN TOOLKIT INCLUDING 2 ONLINE TRAINING MODULES FOR ALL STAFF**
- **COMMUNICATION CONTRACT – A SELF HELP TOOL FOR STUDENTS ENCOURAGING THEM TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR OWN LEARNING.**
- **SUITABLE FOR STUDENTS WITH EAL**



## INTERVENTION

Secondary Language Link promotes universal and targeted support. Our unique **Communication Contracts** enable students to take responsibility for their own learning. Students and subject teachers use the identified strategies from the contract during whole class teaching.

Our **SLCN Toolkit** is an online teacher training resource which examines key aspects of teaching that will support the learning and achievement of students with SLCN and those new to English. Suitable for all subject teachers, it promotes inclusion across the curriculum and can be added to staff CPD programmes.

Our targeted and resourced immersive groups utilise a video-based format which includes instruction from speech and language therapists making delivery easy, even for inexperienced staff members. These innovative groups have been designed with student engagement in mind. An exciting real-life adventure format encourages students to work together to solve puzzles and problems.

There are 7 different groups to choose from to develop your students' problem solving, language and functional communication. Our **Aim High group** provides a unique transition experience with where students take on the roles of senior leaders, completing puzzles and making decisions to ensure the smooth running of the school.

## PRICING PER SCHOOL

**Annual subscription for average school £895\*+ VAT**

\*Subscription based on size of KS3





## The Link CPD

Here at Speech and Language Link, we have been training teachers and support staff for nearly 20 years. We believe that high quality professional development is key to implementing an effective whole school approach to supporting SLCN. High quality, relevant, and engaging training is an investment with far-reaching impact that rewards the whole school community.

### HIGH QUALITY CPD

We have poured our passion and expertise into the development of these innovative short online courses. A flexible modular structure meets the individual needs of learners to help them make changes to their real-life practice. The online platform allows participants to learn at their own pace at a time convenient to them.

Each module uses a range of different learning tools to develop practical knowledge and skills that can be easily implemented in the classroom. The expert course tutors are all speech and language therapists. They will guide your learning, mark your assignments and facilitate discussion in the course forum, so that you can achieve the best possible outcomes and truly apply your learning in your school.

Our **Introduction to Language** module develops learners' understanding of what we mean by 'speech', 'language' and 'communication' and supports users to understand the context and impact of SLCN in the classroom. Our **Language Intervention** module develops the skills for delivering successful language interventions.

### BLENDED LEARNING

The Link CPD utilises a blended learning approach.

### LIVE WEBINARS

Each course starts with a short introductory live webinar hosted by the course tutor.

“

I FOUND THE WORKLOAD MANAGEABLE, AND THE CONTENT WAS REALLY INTERESTING. WORKING WITH A CHILD, I HAD A REVELATION ABOUT HIS UNDERSTANDING AND USE OF LANGUAGE THAT I THINK I MAY NOT HAVE NOTICED BEFORE. IT HAS REALLY MADE ME THINK ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT IS AND THAT WE SHOULDN'T TAKE IT FOR GRANTED THAT A CHILD WILL JUST "PICK UP" ALL THEY NEED TO KNOW."

NATALIE CRAWLEY - HLTA, CHARTHAM PRIMARY, KENT

## KEY FEATURES

- EACH MODULE IS LED BY AN EXPERT SPEECH AND LANGUAGE TUTOR
- UTILISES A RANGE OF LEARNING FORMATS INCLUDING VIDEO, INTERACTIVE ONLINE ACTIVITIES AND PRACTICAL ASSIGNMENTS.
- THE REFLECTIVE PRACTICE JOURNAL SUPPORTS PARTICIPANTS TO MAKE CHANGES TO CLASSROOM PRACTICE
- SUITABLE FOR CLASS AND EARLY CAREER TEACHERS, SENCOS, AND TEACHING ASSISTANTS
- EACH MODULE IS ACCREDITED BY CPD UK



## CONTENT VIDEOS

Following the webinar, participants will watch content videos, complete interactive activities, and undertake assignments to transfer the skills which they have learnt back into classroom practice.

## ONLINE FORUM

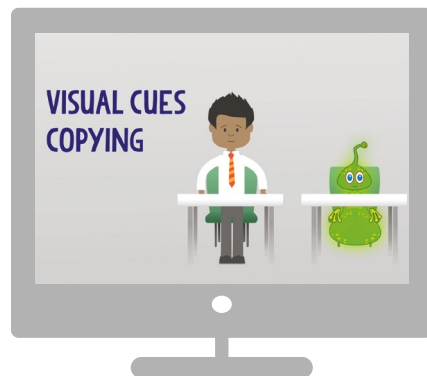
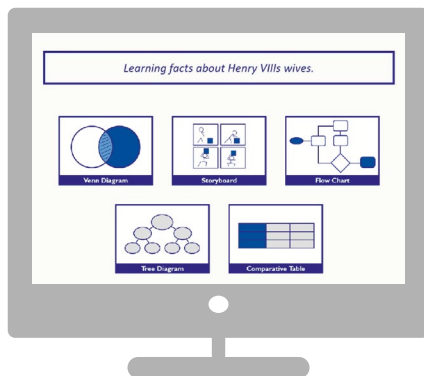
Participants will be encouraged to join the online forum for their module to discuss learning points and classroom practice, and share their own observations, ideas, and questions with their peers and tutor.

## REFLECTIVE PRACTICE JOURNAL

Learning is recorded online in a **Reflective Practice Journal** and all activities and assignments will be monitored by the course tutor, ensuring personalised feedback is received.

## PRICING PER PARTICIPANT

**£225 + VAT per module**



# The Speech and Language Link Whole School Approach

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PROUDLY SUPPORTING SPEECH AND LANGUAGE IN SCHOOLS SINCE 2003

Find out more about our products and services at  
[www.speechandlanguage.info](http://www.speechandlanguage.info)

or talk to our friendly Speech and Language Help Desk on

**T: 0333 577 0784**

**E: [helpdesk@speechlink.co.uk](mailto:helpdesk@speechlink.co.uk)**

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whole school approach

