

# Elklan

Training to Support Children's  
Language and Learning

## Elklan's Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting Programme Research Places

As part of the Department of Education's Early Years Recovery Programme, Pen Green Stronger Practice Hub (SPH), in the East Midlands and the EEF are working together to fund childminders' access to Elklan's Communication Friendly Home-Based Settings (CFHBS) Programme. The University of York and the University of Sheffield will study the programme's influence on the knowledge, skills and confidence of the childminders as well as explore its feasibility for more widespread implementation.

### What are the benefits of taking part?

- As a childminder taking part in the programme, you will receive in depth training through either:
  - Elklan's Let's Talk with Under 5s (LTU5s) and Creating Communication Friendly Home-Based Settings (CFHBS) OR
  - Elklan's Speech and Language Support for 3-5s (SLS3-5s) and Creating Communication Friendly Home-Based Settings (CFHBS)
- The course will give you enhanced knowledge about speech, language and communication development and how to support this for all children but particularly for those who have, or are at risk of having, a speech, language or communication need. You will gain accreditation at either level 1 (Let's Talk with Under 5s route) or level 3 (Speech and Language Support for 3-5s route) through an Ofqual approved and regulated national awarding organisation.



- You will learn with and from other childminders during live webinars.
- You will consider and develop the opportunities, resources and interactions provided in your home to support the speech, language and communication development of all the children they care for, with guidance from an Elklan Tutor.
- You will receive a Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting award (renewable after 3 years).
- You will receive a total of £446.25 or £536.25 (depending on whether you follow the LTU5s or SLS 3-5s route to gaining the award) towards the costs of your time in completing the programme and supporting the research.

## What is involved in the CFHBS programme?

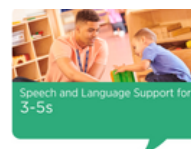
### CFHBS through Let's Talk with Under 5s (LTU5s)



- You will attend 8 live group webinars in groups of approximately 10, to discuss your learning with an Elklan Tutor and with each other and have opportunities to reflect on the implementation of strategies from the course and share experiences in consistent small groups. The webinars total 16.5 hours and are held at the same time and day of the week throughout the programme, excluding half terms and school holidays. Timetables are provided on the final pages.
- There are no eLearning sessions for the LTU5s route. All the learning is via live webinars.
- You will complete an online learning log of evidence of implementing strategies in your home. The tasks are simple and can be done within the everyday activities you do with the children and will take a maximum of 20 minutes a week to write up.
- You will complete a CFHBS checklist with opportunities to showcase the changes you have made to their:
  - The physical environment
  - Interactions with children
  - Modelling and developing children's talking
  - The resources and opportunities for communication and learning.
  - The use made of books in supporting children's communication development
- Most of the evidence involves uploading photos.
- You will have a virtual visit from an Elklan Tutor who will observe the environment and your interaction and modelling skills with children. A few will have a face-to-face visit (instead of a virtual visit).



### CFHBS through Speech and Language Support for 3-5s (SLS)



- You will complete 10 interactive self-study eLearning sessions, one before each webinar linked to the session. Each eLearning session takes approximately one hour but can be done at your own pace at a time that suits you.
- You will attend 11 live group webinars in groups of approximately 10, to discuss your learning with an Elklan Tutor and with each other and have opportunities to reflect on the implementation of strategies from the course and share experiences in consistent small groups. The webinars total 14 hours and are held at the same time and day of the week throughout the programme, excluding half terms and school holidays. and the immediate pre-Christmas period). Timetables are provided on the final pages.

- You will complete an online learning log of evidence of implementing and evaluating strategies. Implementing planned activities might take an hour a week and writing up the Learning Log will take up to an hour a week.
- You will complete a CFHBS checklist with opportunities to showcase the changes they have made to their:
  - The physical environment
  - Interactions with children
  - Modelling and developing children's talking
  - Resources and opportunities for communication and learning
  - Use made of books in supporting children's communication development
  - Most of the evidence involves uploading photos
- You will have a virtual visit from an Elklan Tutor who will observe the environment and your interaction and modelling skills with children. A few will have a face-to-face visit (instead of a virtual visit).

## What is involved in being part of the pilot study?

The research team from the Universities of York and Sheffield are exploring the feasibility of the 2 programme variants<sup>[1]</sup> for childminders. You will be asked to complete two short online surveys (at the beginning and end of the training) about your experiences of training and its impact in your home-based setting. Interviews may also be conducted with a small number of childminders.



## What is the cost to the childminder?

- The training, resources and external accreditation are all fully funded by the EEF and Stronger Practice Hubs.
- If you complete the programme, you will receive a financial contribution towards the cost of your time, calculated to be approximately 50% of an early years practitioners hourly rate.
- You will also receive a payment for your time and involvement in the research element of the programme.

## Who can take part?

Childminders who:

- Anticipate having at least one child, aged 2-5 years, in their care during 2023/24.
- Have sufficient computer skills to log onto the Elklan site, access live webinars and manage their Learning Log including uploading photos.

<sup>[1]</sup> The variants being Elklan's Let's Talk with Under 5s and Creating Communication Friendly Home-Based Settings courses (LTU5s + CFHBS) OR Elklan's Speech and Language Support for 3-5s and Creating Communication Friendly Home-Based Settings (SLS3-5s + CFHBS) courses



- Are in Pen Green SPH which include the local authorities: North Northamptonshire, West Northamptonshire, Leicestershire, Leicester, Rutland and Lincolnshire.

To complete CFHBS through the SLS route you need to have gained a minimum of at least one A level, or NVQ level 3 or National Diploma level qualification in the past. Whereas the LTU5s route only requires you to have 3 or more GCSEs at grades 1-3/D-G or above.

## Next Steps

You can express a preference for undertaking CFHBS through the LTU5s or SLS route (if you meet the eligibility criteria) and state whether you would prefer a September 2023 or January 2024 start date via the below link. The deadline for applications is 20th June 2023. After that deadline, or if there is over subscription to one route or date, places will be randomly allocated

## For further information

Visit the project page at [www.elklan.co.uk/CFHBSResearchProgramme/](http://www.elklan.co.uk/CFHBSResearchProgramme/) for detailed information, privacy, safeguarding, consent forms and to express an interest.

## Timelines

Timelines for the 2023/2024 academic year (September 2023 and January 2024 start dates) which are available to childminders from the Pen Green Stronger Practice Hub (SPH), in the East Midlands.



## LT U5s / CFHBS Combination - September 2023 Start

Activity & Practitioner	Let's Talk with Under 5s		Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting		
	2 hour webinar session (CM)	Let's Talk Learning Log (L1) (CM & Tutor)	Extended webinar for CFHBS support (CM & Tutor)	CFHBS Learning Log (CM & Tutor)	Home visit x1 and 2 if needed (most will be virtual visits)
11-15 Sept 2023	1. What is communication?	1	(0.5 hrs) Extension to explain the CFHBS process. CMs to familiarise self with manual and checklist before next webinar		
18-22 Sept 2023	2. ACI	2	(0.25 hr) Start sections 1a - c (physical enviro) and reflect on section 2 (ACI) in preparation for observation		
25-29 Sept 2023	3. Play	3	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks sections 4a and b (play resources and opportunities)		
2-6 Oct 2023	4. VC	4	(0.5 hr) Complete sections 1a - c (physical enviro) and discuss progress/share ideas/feedback re impact of any changes		
9-13 Oct 2023	5. EL	5	(0.25 hr) Reflect on section 3 (modelling) in preparation for observation		
16-20 Oct 2023	6. Blank & books	6	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks sections 5a and 5b (book sharing) and discuss progress/ share ideas/ feedback re impact of any changes. Mention home visits.		
23-27 Oct 2023	Half-term				
30 Oct-3 Nov 2023	7. Unclear speech and PA	7. Learning Log Complete	(0.5 hr) Complete Wow moment and evaluation (modelling). Discuss progress/ share ideas/ feedback re impact of any changes. Make home visit arrangements.		
6-10 Nov 2023				CFHBS LLog deadline (excl. amendments)	
13-17 Nov 2023					Home visit 1
20-24 Nov 2023				CFHBS LLog deadline (incl. amendments)	
27 Nov-1 Dec 2023					Home visit 2
4-8 Dec 2023			(0.5 hr) Share Wow moment/ feedback re impact of any changes.		
11 Dec 2023 - 5 Jan 2024	Christmas Holidays				
26 Jan 2024					
Let's Talk Under 5s Certificate			Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting Certificate		

## SLS 3-5s / CFHBS Combination - September 2023 Start

Activity & Practitioner	Speech and Language Support for 3-5s			Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting		
	e-learning online session (CM)	Webinars (CM & Tutor)	Learning Log L3 (CM & Tutor)	Virtual seminars (CM & Tutor)	Learning Log (CM & Tutor)	Home visit x1 and 2 if needed
11-15 Sept 2023	1. What is communication?					
18-22 Sept 2023	2. CFS, ACI and working with families	1		(0.5 hrs) Extension to explain the CFHBS process. CMs to familiarise self with manual before next webinar		
25-29 Sept 2023	3. Listening/attn, NVC and using visuals	2	1	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks section 1a and c (physical enviro) and section 2 (ACI)		
2-6 Oct 2023	4. Vocab	3	2	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks section 1b. Discuss feedback re changing ACI		
9-13 Oct 2023	5. ICWs	4	3	(0.25 hr) No specific CFHBS/LL task. Explain links from vocab to CFHBS and check CFHBS progress		
16-20 Oct 2023	6. Blank	5	4	(0.5 hr) No specific LL task. Explain links from Blank to CFHBS and discuss progress/share ideas/feedback re impact of any changes		
23-27 Oct 2023	Half-term					
30 Oct-3 Nov 2023	7. EL and Narrative	6	5	(0.25 hr) No specific LL task. Explain links from session to CFHBS		
6-10 Nov 2023	8. Play and links with lg dev	7	6	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks section 3 (modelling).		
13-17 Nov 2023	9. Unclear speech and PA	8	7	(0.5 hr) Start sections 4 (resources and opportunities) and 5 (books) Check CMs on track with LLog.		
20-24 Nov 2023	10. Stammering and course reflection	9	8	(0.25 hr) Reminder re complete tasks sections 4 (resources and opportunities) and 5 (books) Mention Home visit. Explain in person/virtual		
27 Nov - 1 Dec 2023		10	9 and 10	(0.5 hr) Check CMs on track with LLog. Make home visit arrangements. Feedback re impact of changes made		
4 - 8 Dec 2023			LLog deadline (incl. amendments)		CFHBS LLog deadline (excl. amendments)	
11 Dec 2023 - 5 Jan 2024	Christmas Holidays					
8-12 Jan 2024						Home Visit 1
15-19 Jan 2024					CFHBS LLog deadline (incl. amendments)	
22-26 Jan 2024						Home Visit 2
29 Jan - 2 Feb 2024				(0.5 hr) Share Wow moment/feedback re impact of any changes.		
16 Feb 2024						
Speech and Language Support for 3-5s Certificate				Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting Certificate		



## LT U5s / CFHBS Combination - January 2024 Start

Activity & Practioner	Let's Talk with Under 5s			Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting		
	e-learning online session (CM)	Webinars (CM & Tutor)	Learning Log L3 (CM & Tutor)	Virtual seminars (CM & Tutor)	Learning Log (CM & Tutor)	Home vist x1 and 2 if needed
15-19 Jan 2024	1. What is communication?	1	1	(0.5 hrs) Extension to explain the CFHBS process. CMs to familiarise self with manual and checklist before next webinar		
22-26 Jan 2024	2. ACI	2. ACI	2	(0.25 hr) Start sections 1a-c (physical enviro) and reflect on section 2 (ACI) in preparation for observation		
29 Jan-2 Feb 2024	3. Play	3. Play	3	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks sections 4a and b (play resources and opportunities)		
5-9 Feb 2024	4. VC	4. VC	4	(0.5 hr) Complete sections 1a-c (physical enviro) and discuss progress/share ideas/ feedback re impact of any changes		
12-16 Feb 2024	5. EL	5. EL	5	(0.25 hr) Reflect on section 3 (modelling) in preparation for observation		
19-23 Feb 2024	Half-term					
26 Feb-1 Mar 2024	6. Blank and books	6. Blank and books	6	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks sections 5a and 5b (book sharing) and discuss progress/share ideas/ feedback re impact of any changes. Mention home visits		
4-8 Mar 2024	7. Unclear speech and PA	7. Speech and PA	7. Learning Log Complete	(0.5 hr) Complete Wow moment and evaluation (modelling). Discuss progress/share ideas/ feedback re impact of any changes. Make home visit arrangements.		
11-15 Mar 2024					CFHBS LLog deadline (excl. amendments)	
18-22 Mar 2024						Home Visit 1
25-28 Mar 2024					CFHBS LLog deadline (incl. amendments)	
1-12 Apr 2024	Easter Holidays					
15-19 Apr 2024						Home Visit 2
22-26 Apr 2024				(0.5 hr) Share Wow moment/ feedback re impact of any changes.		
24 May 2024						
Let's Talk with Under 5s Certificate				Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting Certificate		

## SLS 3-5s / CFHBS Combination - January 2024 Start

Activity & Practitioner	Speech and Language Support for 3-5s			Communication Friendly Home-Based Setting		
	e-learning online session (CM)	Webinars (CM & Tutor)	Learning Log L3 (CM & Tutor)	Virtual seminars (CM & Tutor)	Learning Log (CM & Tutor)	Home visit x1 and 2 if needed
8-12 Jan 2024	1. What is communication?					
15-19 Jan 2024	2. CFS, ACI and working with families	1		(0.5 hrs) Extension to explain the CFHBS process. CMs to familiarise self with manual before next webinar		
22-26 Jan 2024	3. Listening/attn, NVC and using visuals	2	1	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks section 1a and c (physical enviro) and section 2 (ACI)		
29 Jan-2 Feb 2024	4. Vocab	3	2	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks section 1b. Discuss feedback re changing ACI		
5-9 Feb 2024	5. ICWs	4	3	(0.25 hr) No specific CFHBS/LL task. Explain links from vocab to CFHBS and check CFHBS progress		
12-16 Feb 2024	6. Blank	5	4	(0.5 hr) No specific LL task. Explain links from Blank to CFHBS and discuss progress/share ideas/feedback re impact of any changes		
19-23 Feb 2024	Half-term					
26 Feb-1 Mar 2024	7. EL and Narrative	6	5	(0.25 hr) No specific LL task. Explain links from session to CFHBS		
4-8 Mar 2024	8. Play and links with lg dev	7	6	(0.25 hr) Complete tasks section 3 (modelling).		
11-15 Mar 2024	9. Unclear speech and PA	8	7	(0.5 hr) Start sections 4 (resources and opportunities) and 5 (books) Check CMs on track with LLog.		
18-22 Mar 2024	10. Stammering and course reflection	9	8	(0.25 hr) Reminder re complete tasks sections 4 (resources and opportunities) and 5 (books) Mention Home visit. Explain in person/virtual		
25-28 Mar 2024		10	9 and 10	(0.5 hr) Check CMs on track with LLog. Make home visit arrangements. Feedback re impact of changes made		
1-12 Apr 2024	Easter Holidays					
15-19 Apr 2024			LLog deadline (incl. amendments)		CFHBS LLog deadline (excl. amendments)	
22-26 Apr 2024						Home Visit 1
29 Apr-3 May 2024					CFHBS LLog deadline (incl. amendments)	
7-10 May 2024						Home Visit 2
13-17 May 2024				(0.5 hr) Share Wow moment/feedback re impact of any changes.		
24 May 2024						
Speech and Language Support for 3-5s Certificate				Communication Friendly Home-Based Settings Certificate		