



Let's Talk Together

A practical course to help parents and carers learn how to maximise the communication of children with social communication needs including autism.



Let's Talk Together

Understanding the communication of children and young people with social communication needs (including autism) is essential if they are to develop friendships and progress in school.

This practical course, designed for parents and carers, but also suitable for teaching assistants, will help you to maximise the communication of the children and young people with whom you live and work. It is designed for those supporting individuals who are already using spoken language but need help to develop their communication skills further.

The course workbook is full of strategies and activities that can be used in all environments, at home, and at school.

The aims are

- To share information about typical communication development.
- To learn about the specific communication challenges children and young people with social communication needs face.
- To give practical ideas to help them learn to listen, understand, talk and interact.
- To help you develop their social understanding so that they find school easier.
- To share ideas with other parents and carers.

Topics covered

- Understanding what's happening when we talk to each other.
- Improving interaction in children and young people with social communication needs.
- Exploring how to use visual and physical structure effectively.
- Improving listening and understanding.
- Learning how to ask appropriate questions and share books together.
- Developing conversation skills.
- Interpreting unwanted behaviour as communicative.

What the experts say

'Before age 6, children with ASD make the most changes in their language development. If we want to have the biggest impact on a child's language development path, we need to start doing so before they reach 6.' (Pickles, A., Anderson, D. K., & Lord, C. 2014).

'Almost anyone diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder will benefit from working on their communications skills' (Verywell Health)

What the participants say

Excellent course. Every parent should take this course.

Very helpful - has opened my mind to the multitude of difficulties in communication that children with social communication problems have.

More information

This course is delivered weekly but can be run over three separate days. It aims to be practical, interactive and fun! Completion of this course can lead to exploring the issues in more depth by attending, 'Communication Support for Verbal Pupils with ASD' - whole course details available at: www.elklan.co.uk