

Award Winning Public Health Service



Help Kids Talk are delighted to have recently won the 2024 Advancing Healthcare Award in the N.I. Government's award for partnering, leading, shaping to improve population health.

Lorraine Coulter, Mabel Scullion and Sarah Ratcliffe received the award at the ceremony in London on 26th April. The judges were impressed with the model of delivery and in particular the strong partnership working across all sectors to ensure all children and young people get the best start in life.



Universal Approach

This programme element provides an opportunity for anyone responsible for a child to learn how to support their speech, language, and communication development through key messages, and online basic awareness and level one training.

Targeted Intervention

Early Talk Boost & Talk Boost: are evidenced based programmes developed by Speech & Language UK and improve their attention and listening skills, their understanding of words and sentences, and their speaking and communication are available in 33 settings in Lisburn, Belfast, and Londonderry/Derry.



New Partners in 2024



Our Partners



Everyone and every place playing their part to make a difference for children and young people.

Our Funders



Help Kids Talk

Report Card Sept 23-Aug 24

HKT comprises of community, voluntary, statutory and private partners who collectively work together to improve outcomes for children & young people aged 0-18

It was co-designed following the extensive research report 'The Best for Every Child' 2012, which highlighted the issues faced by children and young people in Lisburn, with 74% of young people leaving school without 5+ GCSEs (excluding Wallace and Friends.) In 2013, 32% of children, 78% of whom were boys, entered P1 in 9 schools in disadvantaged areas of Lisburn, with a mild to severe speech, language and communication problem.



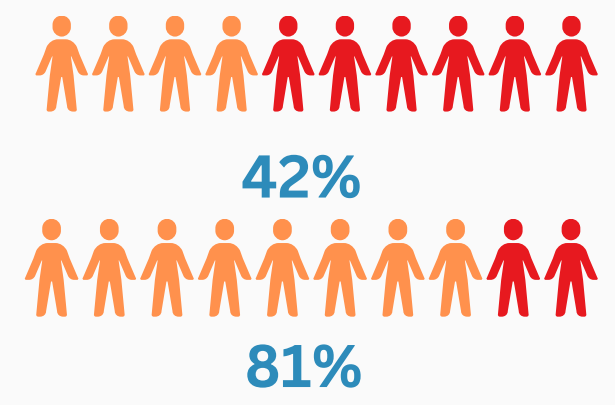
Making speech, language, and communication a priority



Training

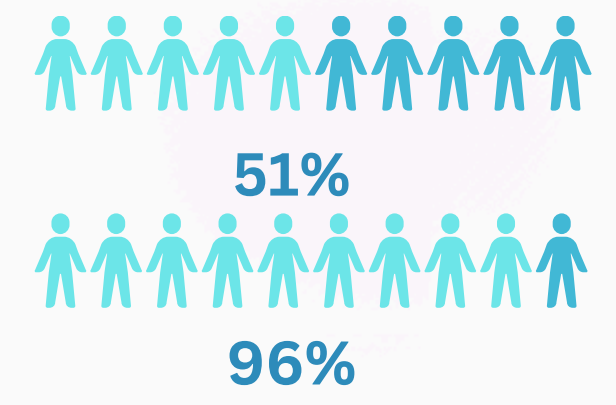
234 participants completed **BASIC AWARENESS** training Sept 23-Aug 24. **1612** in total since 2019.
29% parents **71%** practitioners.

After training, **81%** rated themselves as mostly confident/confident supporting SLC (compared to **42%** before)

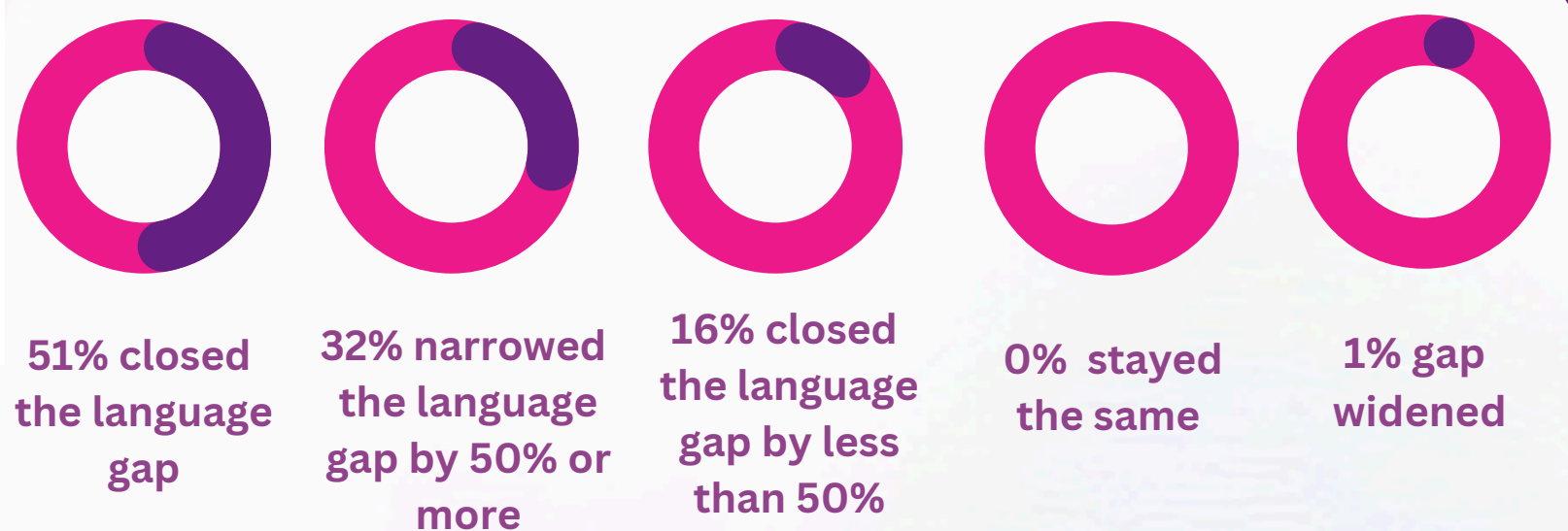


120 participants completed **LEVEL ONE** training Sept 23 - Aug 24. **402** in total since 2019.
35% parents, **85%** practitioners

After training **96%** participants reported good/very good understanding of SLC developmental milestones (compared to **51%** before)



Early Talk Boost & Talk Boost Programmes



% Children narrowing the gap towards expected levels following Early Talk Boost and Talk Boost

Bitesize Sessions



1156 views of Dummy bitesize session

Outcomes



64 % evaluation completion for BA & L1 training.

158, children completed targeted interventions (ETB and TB) Sept 23 - Aug 24. **937** in total since 2016



Community Engagement



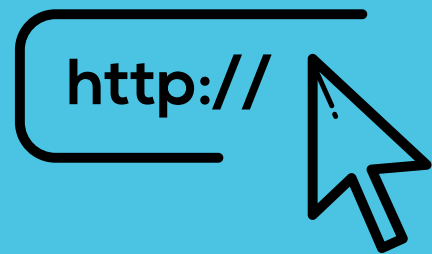
158 resource packs were distributed to children in 23/24, 1923 in total since 2021



Newsletter distribution increased by 26%: now sent to 1342 individuals

Website visited 6191 (1.9k new users)

times since launch in Mar 24 (UK, USA, Netherlands, Finland, Ireland, France, Austria, Seychelles, Germany, Canada)



5.3 K followers across Facebook, Instagram & X



Christmas Cracker in partnership with Lisburn Library & Atlas

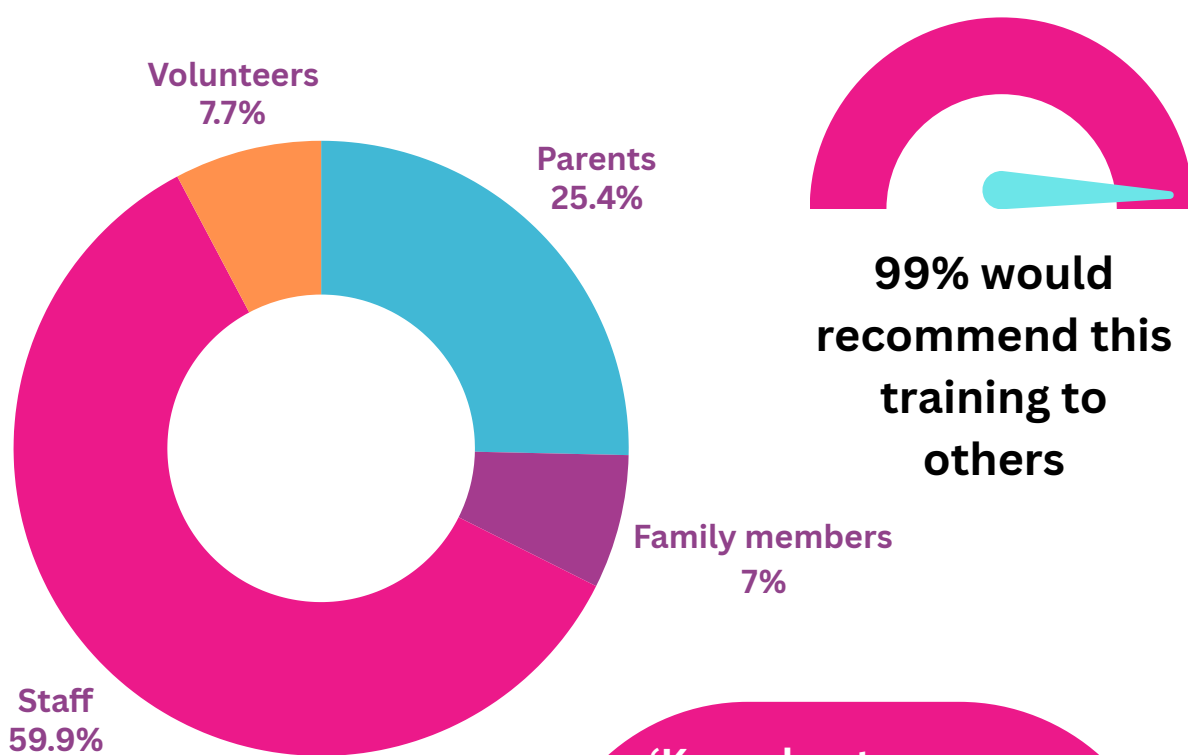


Tizzy's Tea Party in partnership with Pond Park Nursery School



The Easter Bunny in partnership with Choice Housing

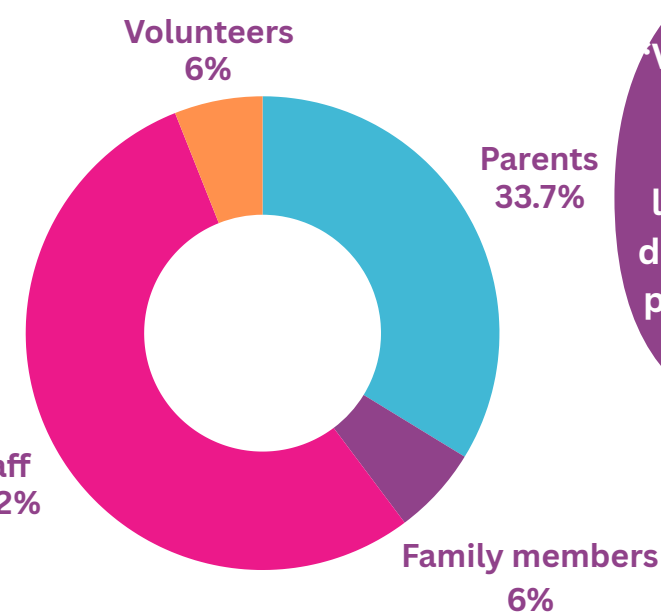
Outcomes: Basic Awareness



99% would recommend this training to others

'Kerry kept everyone engaged in the training with the case studies and application of theory to practice'

Outcomes: Level One



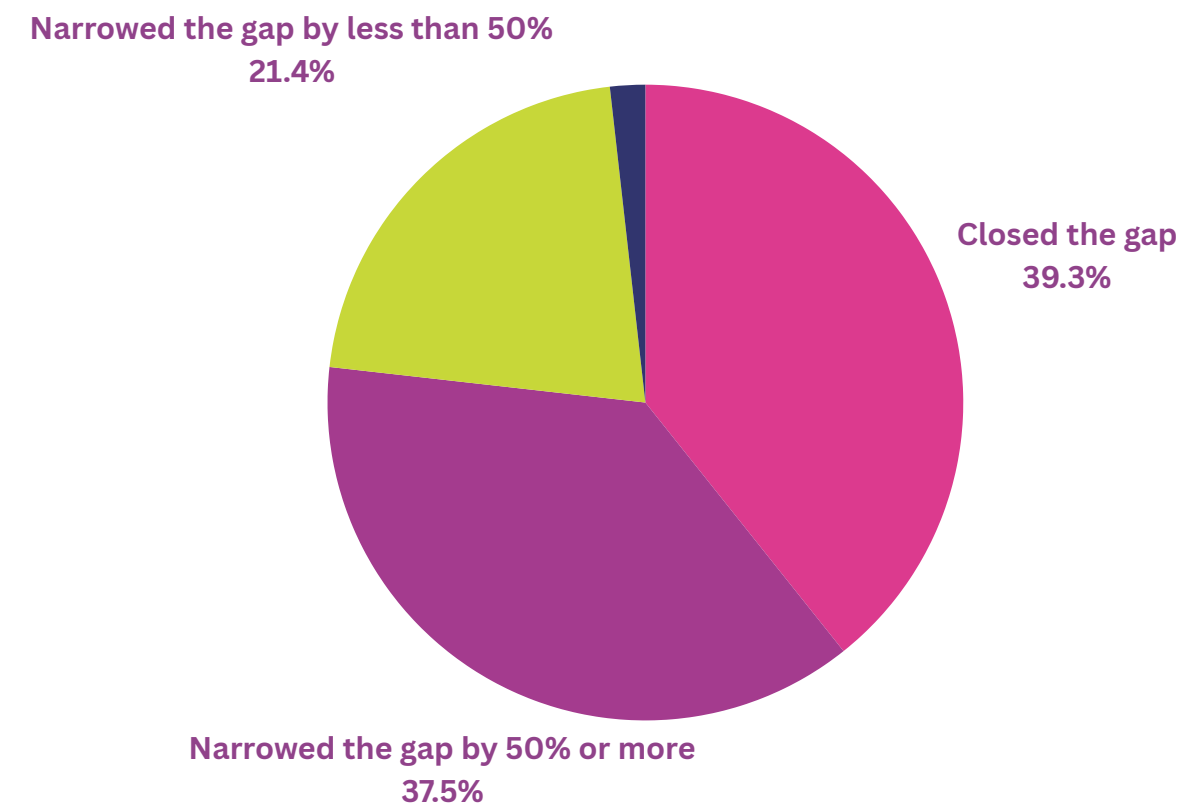
'Very useful from a health visiting perspective for picking up speech and language developmental delay and ways to support parents, prior to making a referral'

95% reported their practice will change as a result of the training



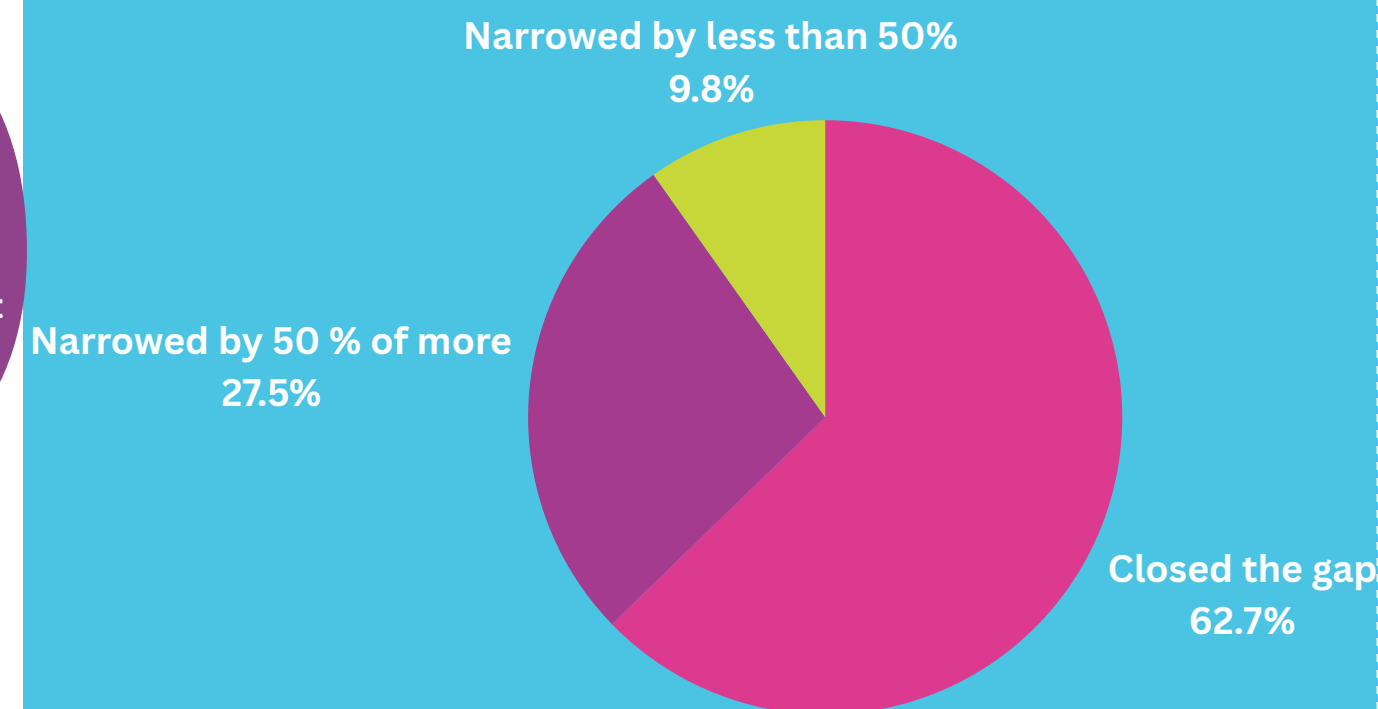
5 settings trained & provided with resources to deliver ETB in 2023-24 (17 in total since 2016)

% of children narrowing the gap towards expected levels post Early Talk Boost



13 settings trained & provided with resources to deliver Talk Boost in 2023-24. (28 in total since 2016)

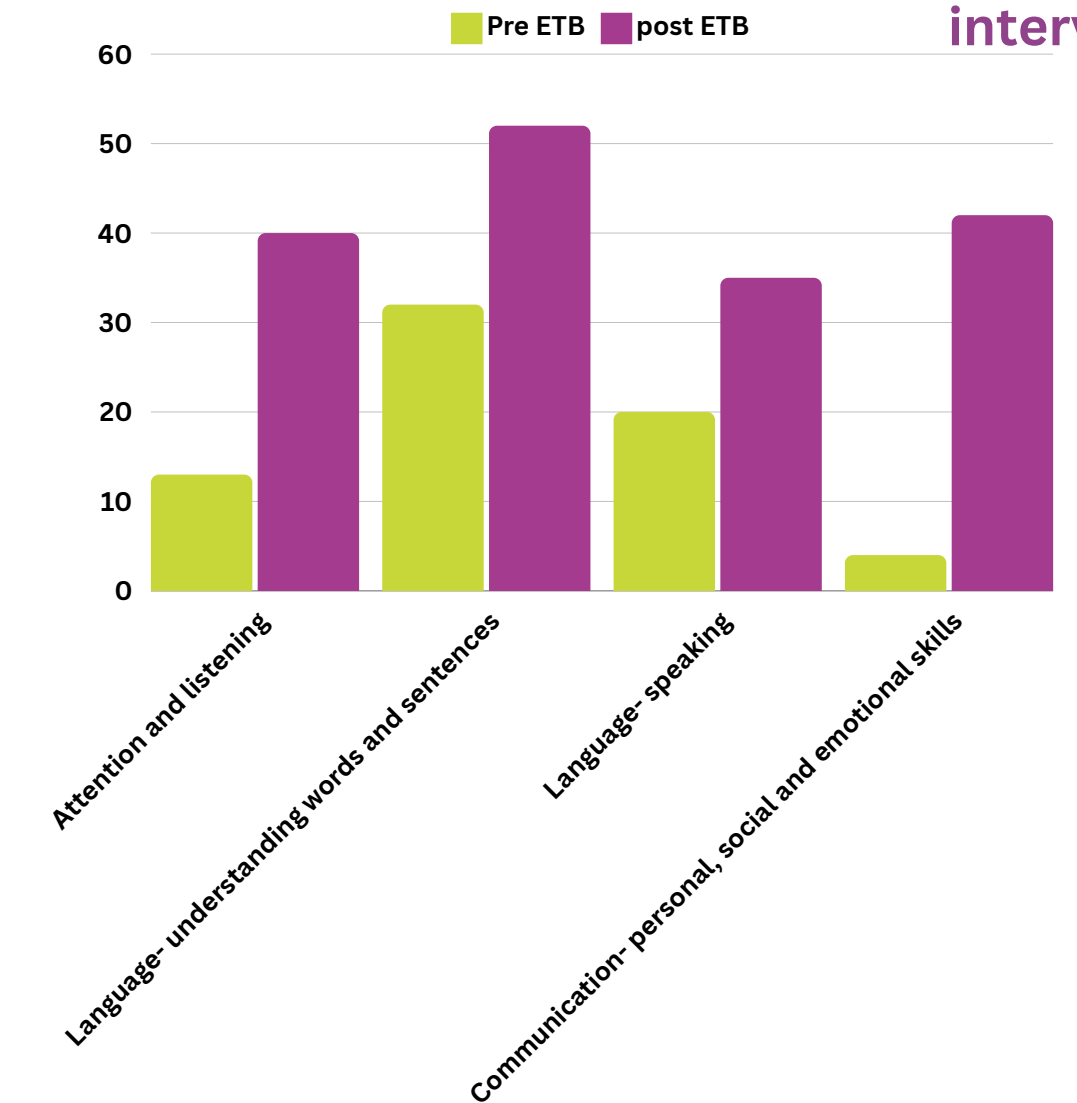
% of children narrowing the gap towards expected levels post Talk Boost



9.54 % of the children who participated in TALK BOOST and EARLY TALK BOOST had English as a second language. Their home languages included Arabic, Cantonese, Polish and Portuguese.

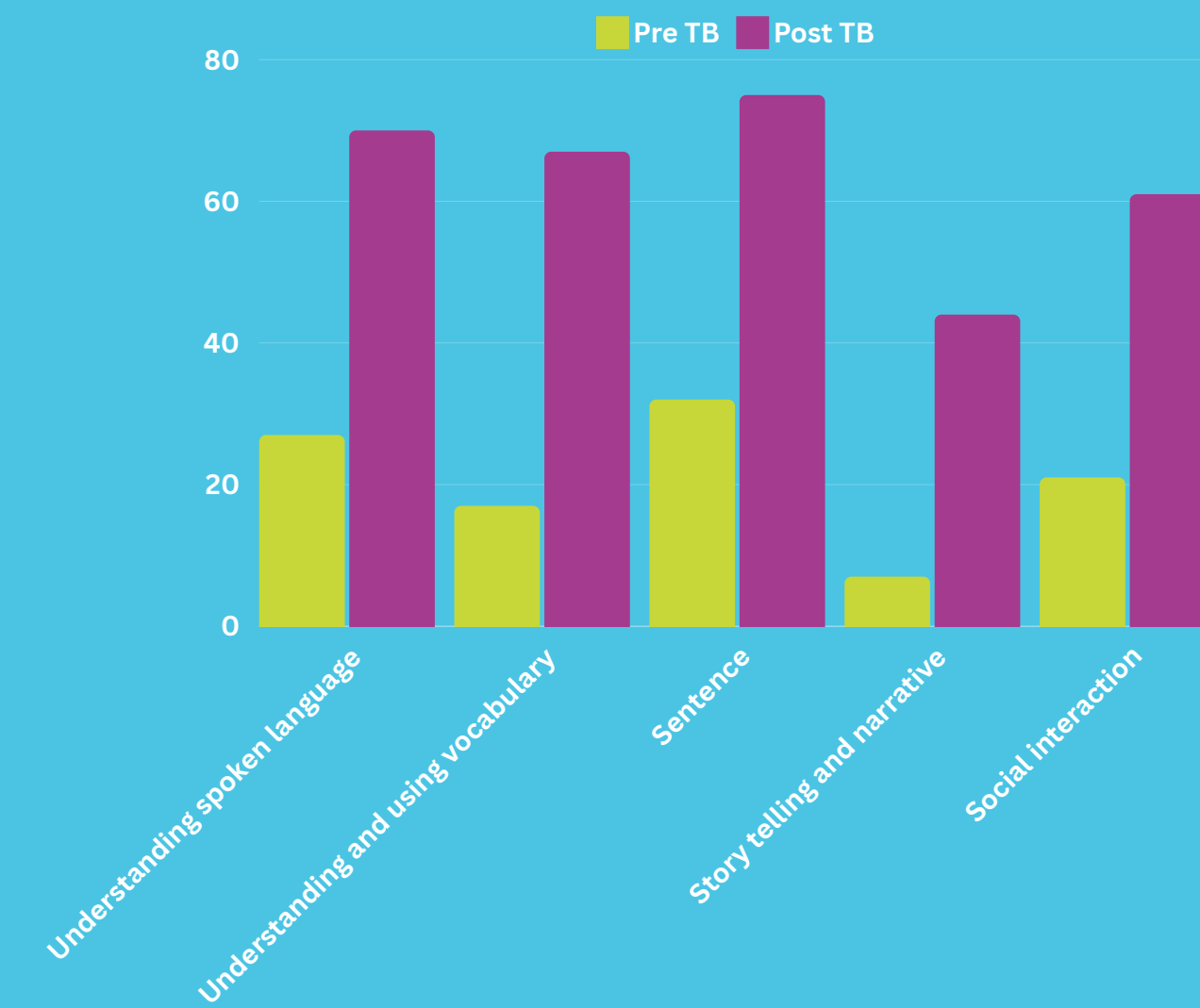
Outcomes: Early Talk Boost

% of children at expected levels pre and post ETB intervention



Outcomes: Talk Boost

% of children at expected levels pre and post Talk Boost intervention



New Developments

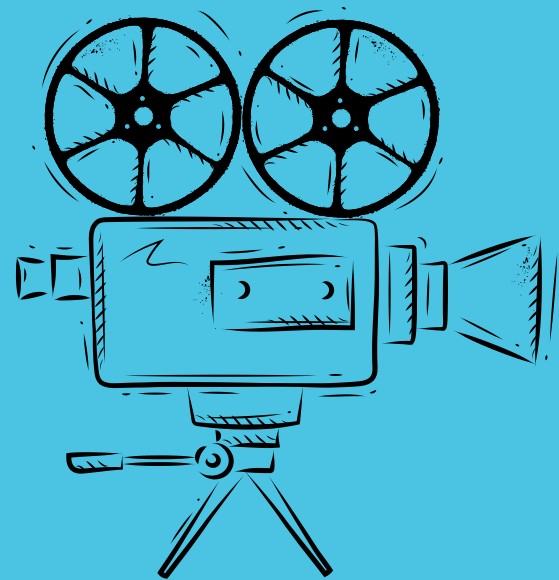
HKT Delivered into NI Prisons

“Feeling great, learning about different ways to communicate with your kids in different ways.”

“Good day, I thought the session was brilliant. I learned a lot about children and how to talk to them and how to show them things (learning to talk).”

“Having the speech therapist coming in to talk to us was great. She managed to breakdown the information well. It was eye opening and informative, learned more about effective techniques for teaching children and helping them develop their language.”

Development of Bite Size Sessions



A bite size session to promote the use of Makaton and signing is in production, in partnership with Surestart, South Eastern Trust and parents/carers.

Planning further bite size sessions

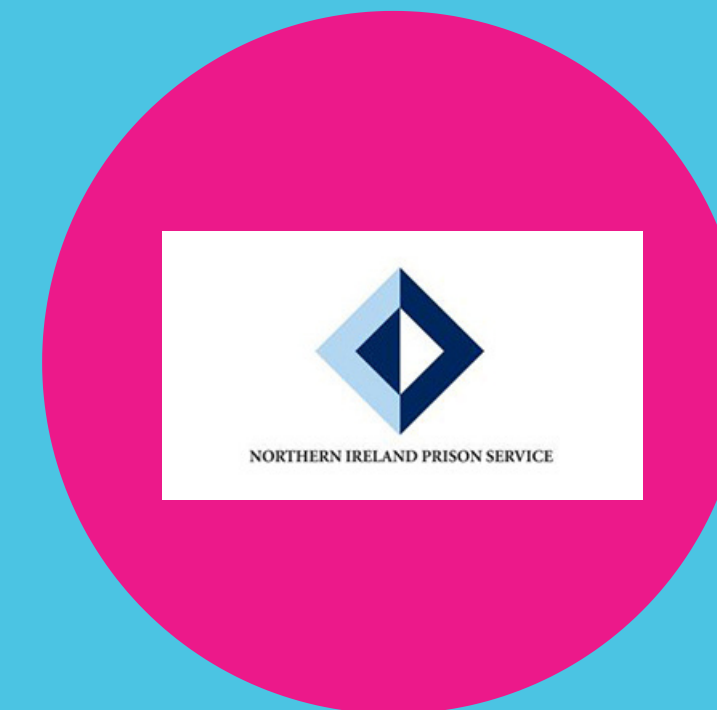
e.g.

Joint attention

Having difficult conversations re referrals

Establishing & Strengthening Links

HKT is now a member of the regional Speech, language and Communication Alliance to lobby local policy makers and government.



- HKT training delivered to parents in NI prisons as part of a QI project: 9 fathers trained in August 24.
- Planning training 7 - 9 fathers every 7 weeks in Maghaberry.
- Plan to roll out to other prisons.



Developing links with Altram, supporting the Irish Medium preschool sector.

