



aiming high with communication

Communication Support for 0-25s with Complex Needs

Evidence based training visit:
www.elklan.co.uk

All Elklan courses are accredited

A course for practitioners working
with pupils with severe or profound
complex needs.

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COMMUNICATION SUPPORT FOR 0-25s WITH COMPLEX NEEDS

This course is usually delivered over 8 weekly sessions.

Learners can gain 9 credit awards at either level 2 or 3 by completing a portfolio.

What does the course teach?

1. WHAT IS COMMUNICATION?

- Discuss the development of pre-intentional to intentional communication..
- Identify the stage of communication at which a pupil is functioning.

2. CREATING A COMMUNICATION FRIENDLY SETTING

- Consider issues that make a setting communication friendly for pupils with complex needs and PMLD.
- Reflect on best practice in terms of using Objects of Reference.

3. PRE-INTENTIONAL COMMUNICATION

- Recognise pre-intentional communication of pupils with complex needs and PMLD.
- Explore appropriate adult-pupil interaction at a pre-intentional stage.
- Know how to encourage play/exploratory learning and thinking skills at this level.

4. ANTICIPATING THE EVENT

- Recognise when a pupil can anticipate events and facilitate their understanding through the planning of clear routines.
- Know about the development and importance of Joint Attention.
- Know how to encourage play/exploratory learning and thinking skills at this level.

5. INTENTIONAL COMMUNICATION

- Explore an assessment of Means, Reasons and Opportunities to communicate.
- Know how to encourage intentional communication and develop choice making skills.

6. THE LINK BETWEEN PLAY/EXPLORATORY LEARNING & LANGUAGE

- Learn about the development of symbolic understanding and how this underpins the development of language.
- Discuss enabling pupils of all ages to access appropriate play/exploratory learning opportunities.

7. TOTAL COMMUNICATION

- Explore the nature of 'Total Communication'.
- Reflect on best practice in terms of using signs and symbols.
- Discuss the structure and use of Communication Passports to share key information to support a pupil.
- Know how to encourage pupils to use their communication skills to convey different types of messages.
- Raise awareness of the importance of non-verbal communication.

8. LINKING IT ALL TOGETHER

- Work in small groups to devise a poster that summarises the learning gained throughout the course.

“ Very interesting and informative. The course has been very valuable in helping me to support the pupils I work with more effectively and meet their individual needs. The tutors were excellent, everything was very well presented. - Val G ”

“ Excellent content and delivery! This will be invaluable for my teaching. The structure was clear and useful and positive strategies were taught to support the child with complex needs. - Tanya J ”

