

Home Talk

Coaching parents and carers to support the talking skills of children with early expressive language delay



A licensed evidence-based targeted intervention for speech, language and communication needs pathways.

An ideal solution for commissioners, providers and schools.

Talking Together





What is HomeTalk®?

Home Talk® is an evidence-based, 6 week early intervention programme. It is delivered by specifically trained practitioners (Home Talk® Workers) with parents and children in their own homes. The programme accelerates the language skills of children aged 2-2½ years by supporting their parents to provide language-rich home learning environments. This enables children's language skills to flourish to support their better longer term outcomes.

Home Talk® 2+ is designed as a targeted-indicated intervention that forms part of a speech, language and communication needs pathway in a local area. It provides:

- Early identification of children with early expressive language delay*
- Appropriate early advice and signposting
- A coaching programme for parents around the home learning environment

Home Talk®3+ is an alternative for children from 3 years of age.

Home Talk® Workers require oversight by a qualified speech and language therapist (SLT): the Home Talk licence supports local speech and language therapy teams to facilitate the delivery of the programme in their area. The programme provides targeted support to families of children who are already showing high levels of delay but who, as yet, are not triggering referral to SLT services. Supervision by a qualified SLT ensures the highest quality programme is delivered and that timely referrals are made for those children requiring more specialist intervention.

*Please note the service is not designed for children that have social interaction difficulties, global developmental delay or significant difficulties understanding what is being said to them at a level below age expectations.

What is the evidence base?

The programme aims to minimise the impact of early language delay on a child's outcomes such as their mental health, behaviour and attainment.

The Home Talk® programme has been nationally recognised in....

- The Tickell Review of the Early Years Foundation Stage
- Centre for Excellence in Outcomes (C4E0)
- The Welsh Government's "Flying Start" best practice guidance

- The Early Intervention Foundation's **Best Start at Home**
- Research in a peer reviewed scientific journal..Child Language Teaching and Therapy 2019 highlighting the potential of the programme to accelerate language development and identify those with previously undetected wider speech, language and communication needs

What do parents say?

Home Talk has completely changed our lives...before the Home Talk Worker (HTW) came to help my child with her speech, my child suffered from lots of tantrums - constantly, she couldn't communicate her needs and I couldn't understand her. It left us both feeling upset....I felt completely defeated as a mother to the point where I was finding it difficult to leave the house... Additionally my child struggled with her relationship with her younger sibling...and...my husband.

Home Talk has honestly been a miracle...My child's speech has improved so much that she now is able to talk to us...With this her tantrums have stopped, she is so close to her sister and my husband. Our home is just so much happier and together...The HTW really saved us!





What will the licence fee pay for?

- One half day consultation with a senior Nottinghamshire Healthcare Foundation Trust (NHCFT) Speech and Language Therapy Manager who has experience in supervising the Home Talk® programme.
- 1 day's training delivered by a NHCFT SLT to the purchasing organisation's own SLTs, who will then act as supervisors. (These SLTs must have achieved the RCSLT competencies.)
- Scripts supplied to the licensed, named SLTs to facilitate training of further cohorts of Home Talk® Workers, excluding the video interaction sessions.
- 2 full days training for the Home Talk® Workers, including video interaction coaching.
- 2 further half days video interaction - based training and coaching
- One further half day training and video interaction coaching sessions 6 months into the delivery of the programme.
- Access to support phone calls to senior NHCFT Speech and Language Therapy Manager who has experience in supervising the programme.

To find out more about the how a Home Talk® licence may work for your area and the costs contact:

Email: L4L@nottshc.nhs.uk

Web: www.nottinghamshirehealthcare.nhs.uk/language-for-life