

Supporting Speech, Language and Communication Needs – Using Elklan As A Whole School Approach



Our school



Westmorland is a co-educational, independent, specialist day school in Chorley, Lancashire. We provide education for children between the ages of 5-11 for children with a range of additional needs including Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH); Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and Autism. Our class sizes are small and there is a high staff ratio; typically classes have a maximum of 8 children and a minimum of 2 staff members.

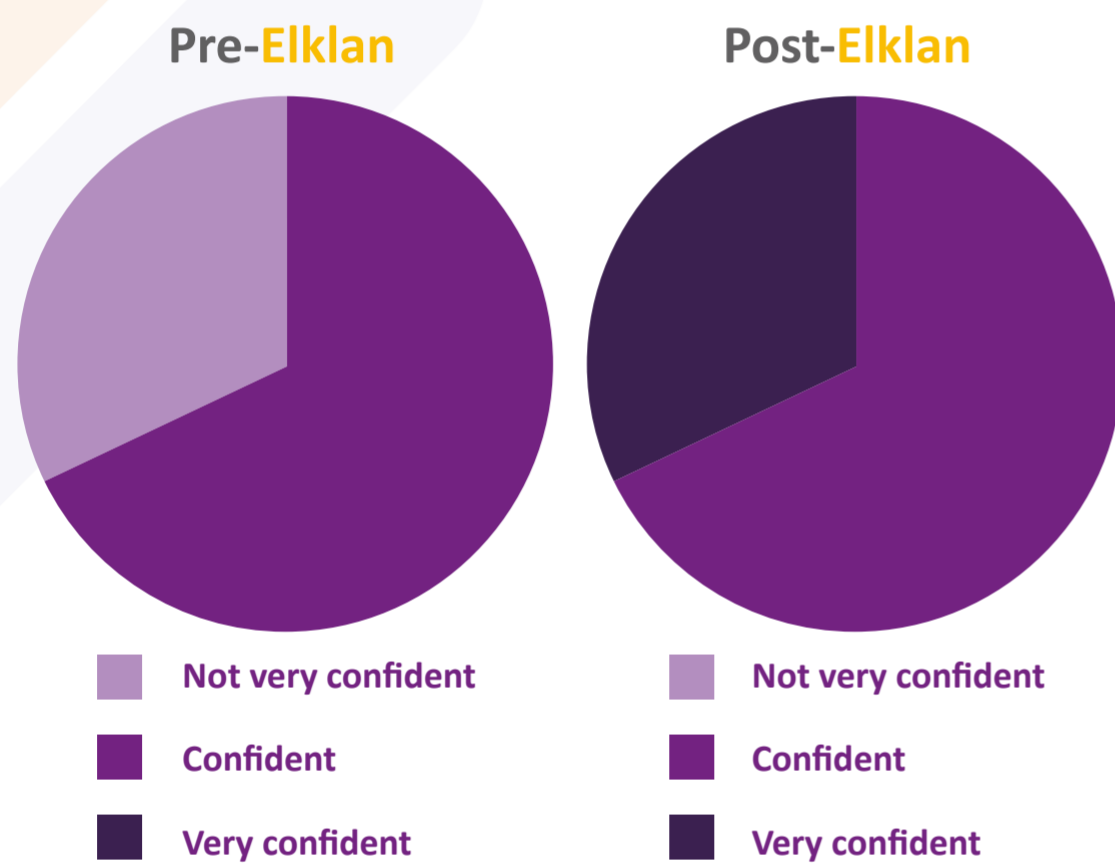
All of our pupils have access to a range of therapy sessions and one of these is speech and language. There is a full time speech and language therapist based in school. Throughout the 2017/2018 academic year, Elklan 5-11 training was delivered to staff members as part of a plan to develop a whole school approach to supporting SLCN.



The focus of Elklan is to provide support within the classroom on a daily basis by embedding Elklan support strategies to maximise the outcomes of our pupils and encourage development through consistent support for SLCN.

Elklan offers staff the opportunity to gain a nationally recognised accredited qualification. It is recognised on The Communication Trusts "What Works?" website as an effective training course for supporting SLCN.

Staff rating of ability to identify SLCN



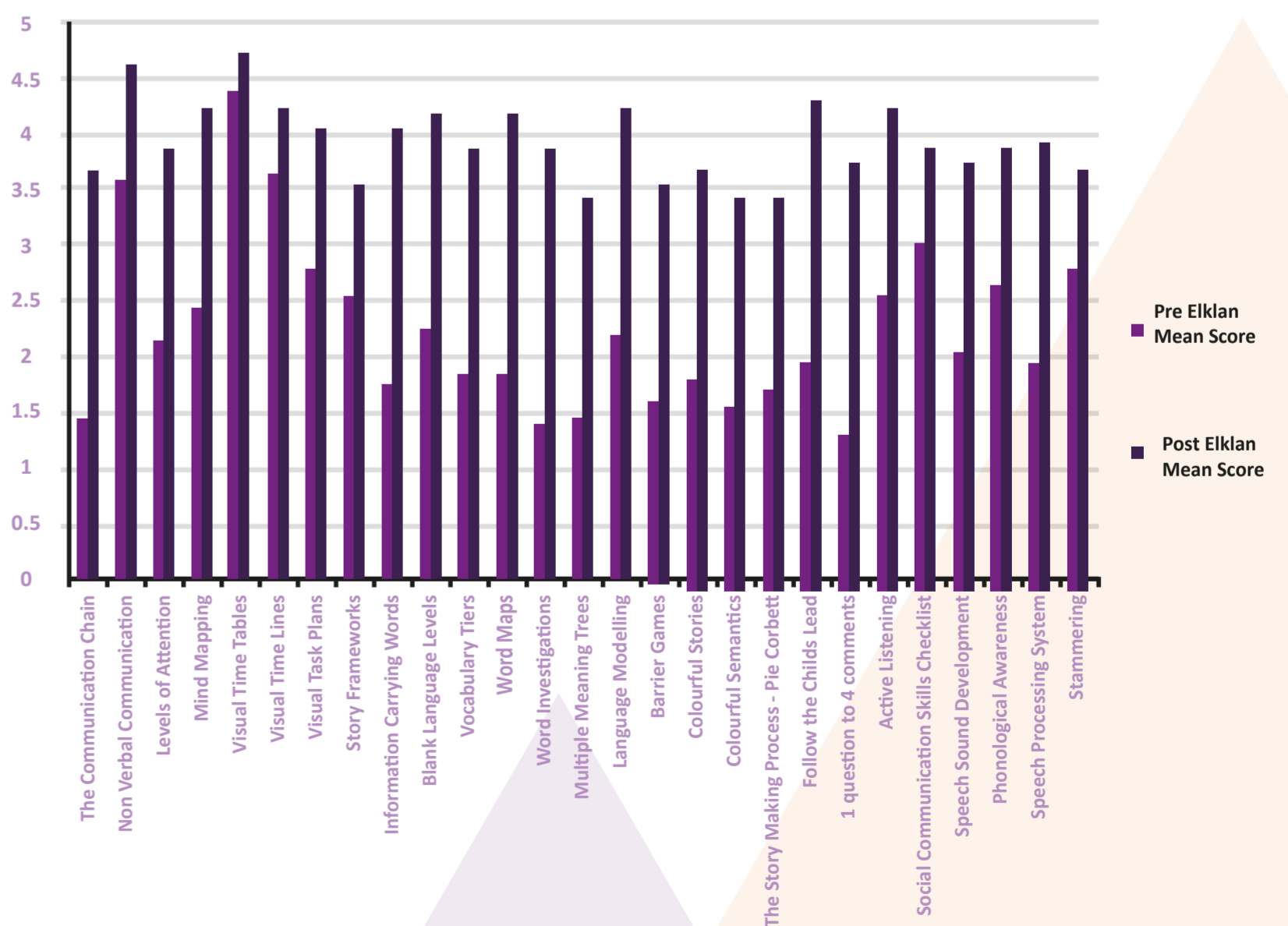
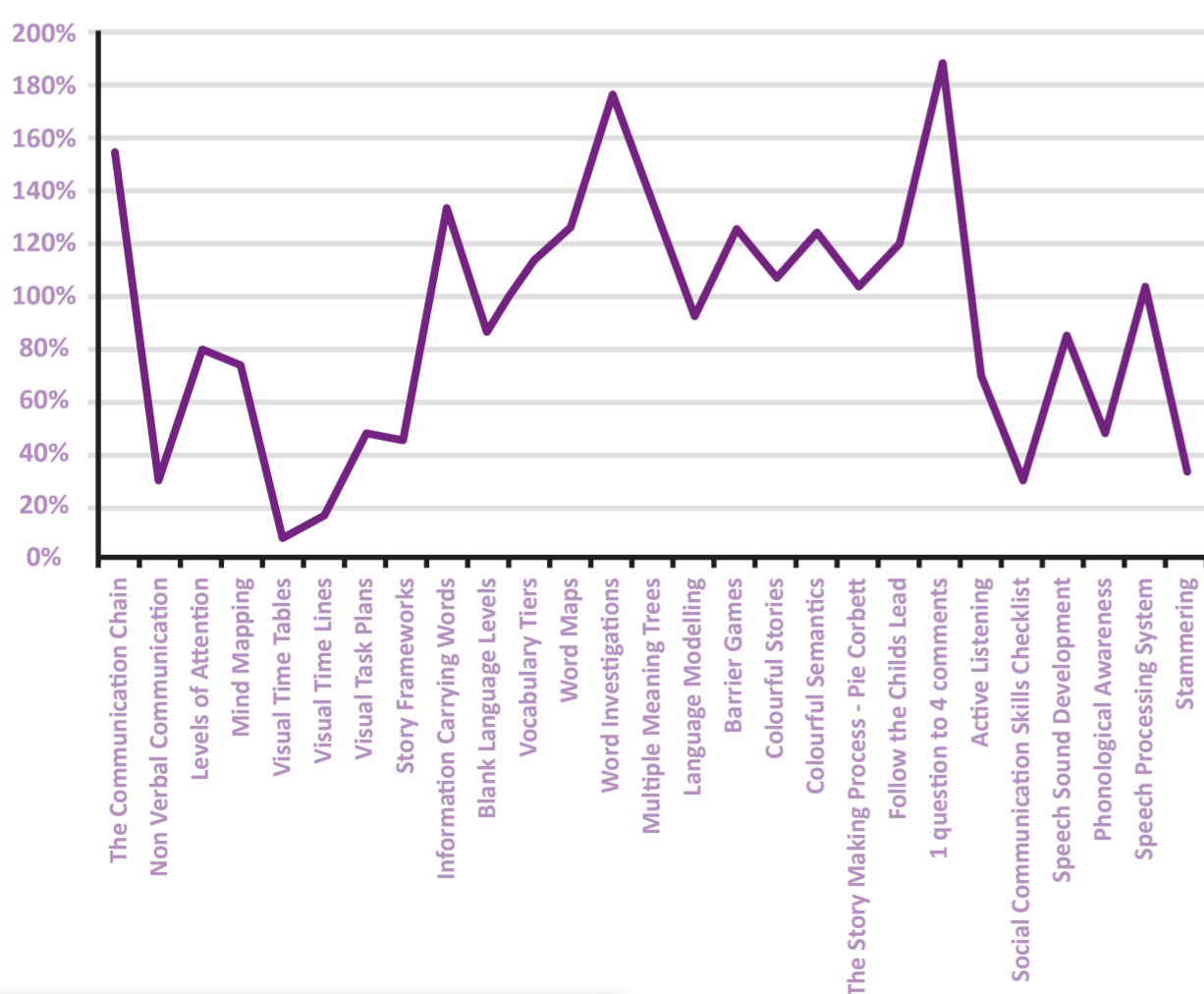
Staff comments

"Elklan strategies can be applied in the classroom environment. They help you adapt for different pupils needs."

"Elklan has filled a gap in my knowledge and has helped me to better understand the specific needs of pupils with communication difficulties. It is making me a better teacher."

"Elklan has given me ideas for sequencing activities to support language development."

Percentage Increase in knowledge and skills



Progress and outcomes

26 members of staff have gained the Level 3 qualification from Elklan. We are working towards becoming an accredited communication friendly setting by the end of the 2018/19 academic year.