



Courses delivered by Speech and Language Therapists 2020

- Person Centred Communication
- Intensive interaction
- Objects of reference
- Multi-sensory stories
- Communication dictionary introduction
- Communication passports introduction
- Visual timetables

- Signalong Foundation training (15 hours) and Signalong Workshops (up to 6 hours)
- Cultural awareness working with people from Asian heritage
- Communication facilitator role
- Accessible information
- Communication dictionary facilitator



Follow up support

At Total Communication Services CIC we firmly believe in quality provision. Through years of experience and practice, we have found that in order for implementation of new initiatives to be successful, follow up support is often necessary.

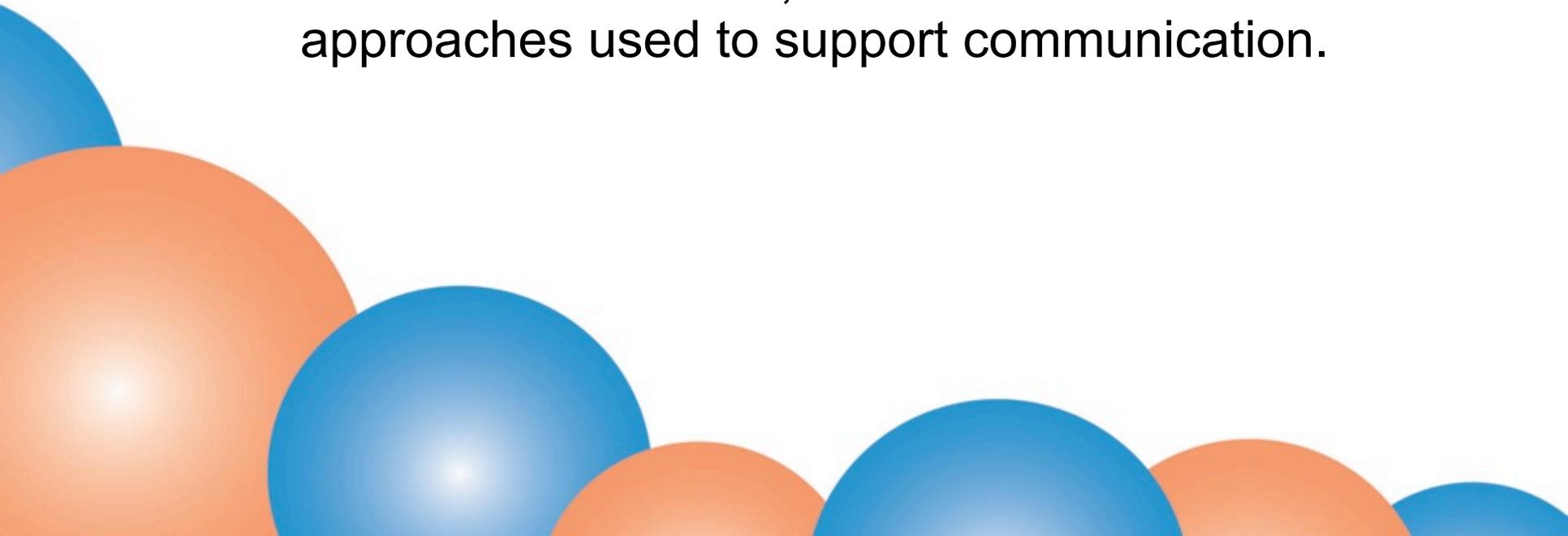
For this reason we strongly recommend that follow up is built into the package.



Person Centred Communication

This course is intended as an overview of communication with people with learning disabilities.

The course includes an introduction to communication skills, and tasters of the main approaches used to support communication.



Course details

The course content includes:

- Early communication
- Understanding of spoken language
- Symbolic development
- Communication dictionaries introduction
- Communication Passports introduction
- The use of visual support including photos, symbols and line drawings and talking mats
- Signalong taster session
- Objects of Reference
- Introduction to Intensive Interaction.
- Practical implementation of Total Communication
- Action planning to introduce changes into the workplace



Participants are required to use some of their own time to develop a resource to be used in an activity on day three.

Follow up

Follow up support is an integral part of this course, sessions can be negotiated starting with a minimum of four hours.

We advise support for staff to look at the implementation of approaches. This could be in the form of support to develop an in-house training programme, support to implement work with individuals or project support.

Intensive Interaction one day practitioner course

What is intensive interaction?

Intensive Interaction is an approach to working with adults who have severe learning disabilities and/or autism and who may be at an early stage of social, emotional, cognitive and communication development.



It is about tuning into the communication of the person with learning disabilities and picking up on their signals.

For example, it may be that the individual already makes meaningful communication signals but, because they are unique to that person, others have failed to notice or interpret them. Intensive interaction is about interacting and having a conversation by whatever means possible, it may be we takes turns with movements or vocalisations.



What are the benefits?

Intensive Interaction can help to promote an increased understanding of an individual's way of communicating, thereby encouraging positive and meaningful non-verbal conversations.



Intensive Interaction can open up a variety of communicative experiences to the individual and reduce challenging behaviour, including aggressive and passive behaviours.

It provides improvements in quality of life through enhanced relationships and often boosts staff morale as they are able to connect with difficult to reach people.



Course details

The course content includes:

One day course including handouts.

Follow up support and implementation are an integral part of this course.

The minimum support we suggest is three hours.
This will involve staff reflection and feedback.

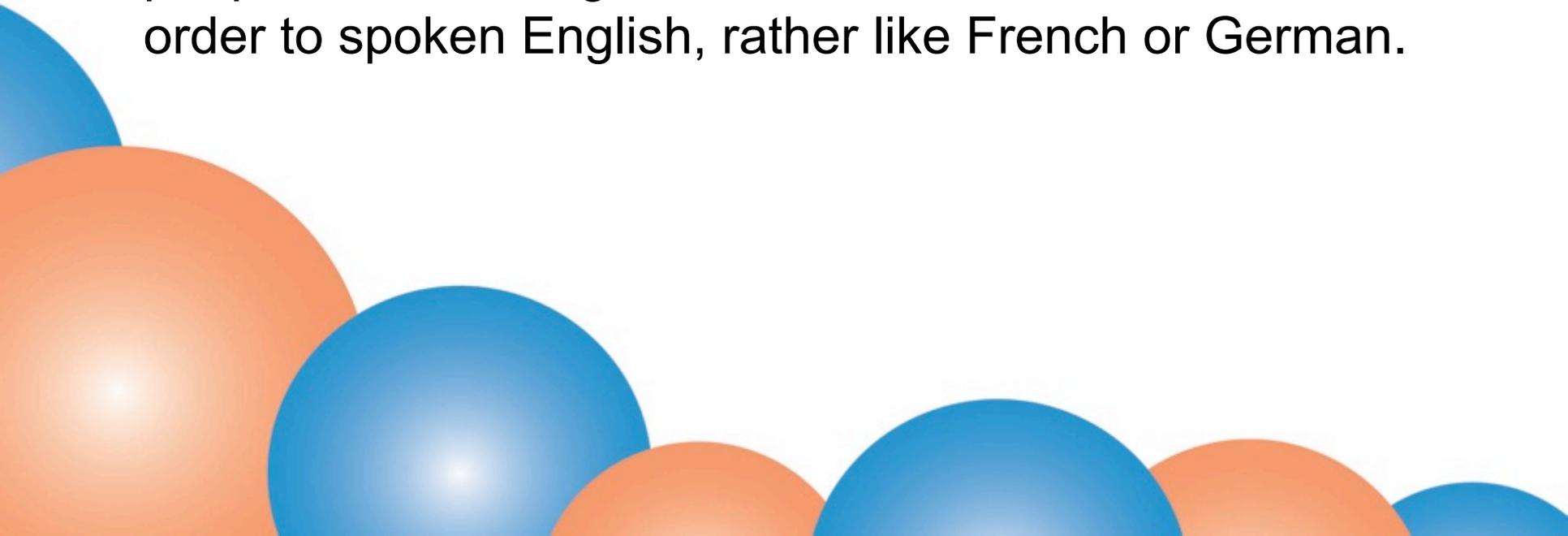


Signalong

What is Signalong?

There are two main sign support systems in the learning disability field. These are **Signalong** and **Makaton**.

British Sign Language (BSL) is the language of the deaf community and broadly speaking it is not suitable for people with learning disabilities as it has a different word order to spoken English, rather like French or German.



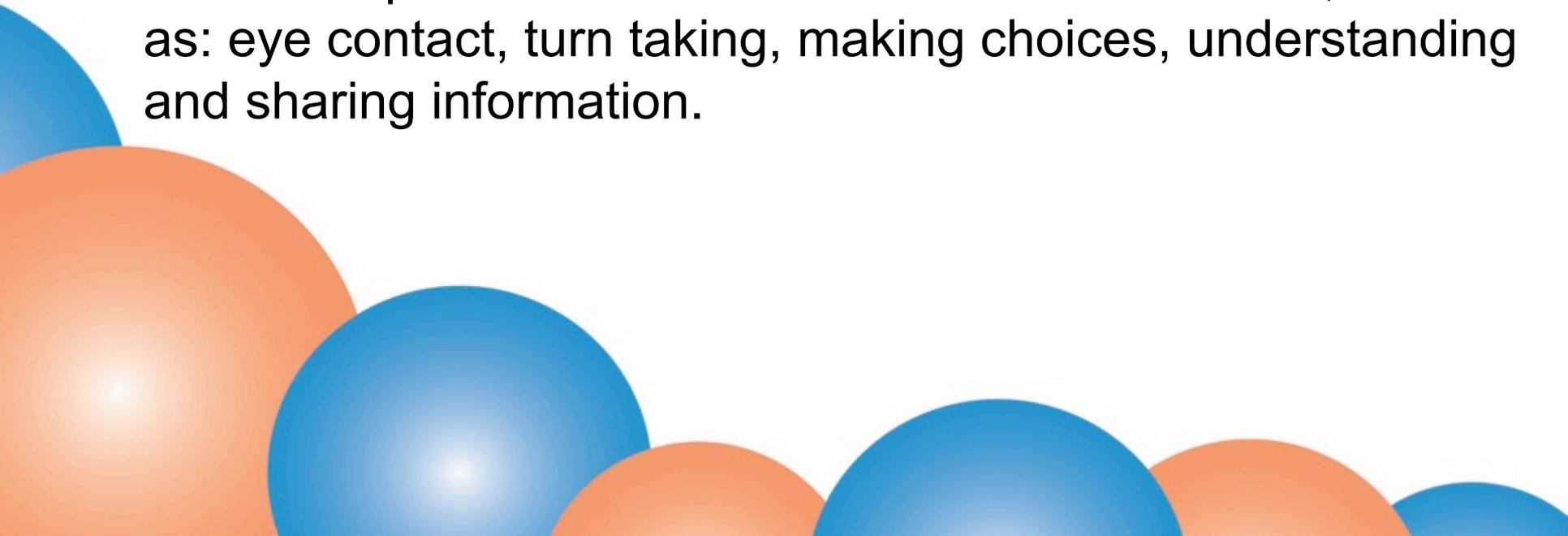
Makaton and **Signalong** are designed to be used by people with learning disabilities the sign support is on key words only and everyone is encouraged to speak as they sign.

Signalong is a sign supporting system designed to help people acquire language skills and reduce communication difficulties. The spoken word should accompany every sign and follow English word order. Signalong signs are adapted from British Sign Language.

Why should we use signing?

Signalong can aid peoples' understanding of speech and also language concepts e.g. 'behind', 'big', 'small', etc.

Signalong can also be used as a means for people to express themselves in combination with other methods of communication or just signing. Signalong can promote the development of other vital communication skills, such as: eye contact, turn taking, making choices, understanding and sharing information.



Introducing Signalong can reduce challenging behaviours. People who have difficulty understanding and speaking often become frustrated or withdrawn.

By using Signalong, we provide a means to communicate in a more acceptable way.

Research has shown that Signalong encourages speech and is easier to understand than the spoken word on it's own.



Course details

Signalong Foundation Training Currently this is a 2 day course 15 hours total study time.

Signalong workshops- up to 6 hours

Follow up support

Support is available for follow up and implementation.

We can support staff to develop a group for service users and to create and maximise opportunities for signing in your setting

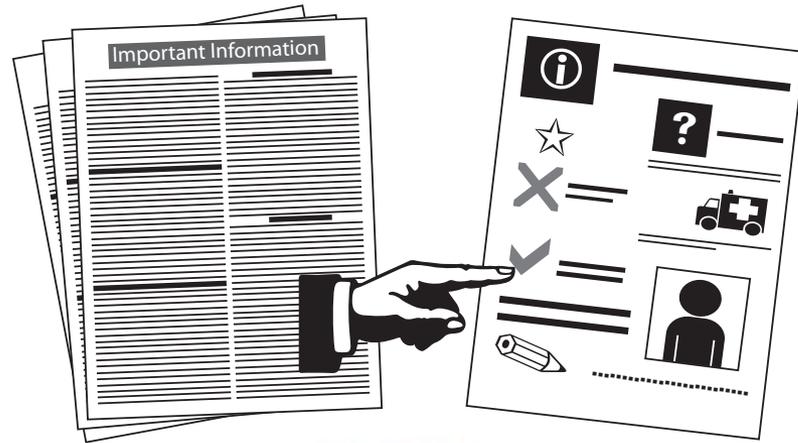


Accessible Information

What is it?

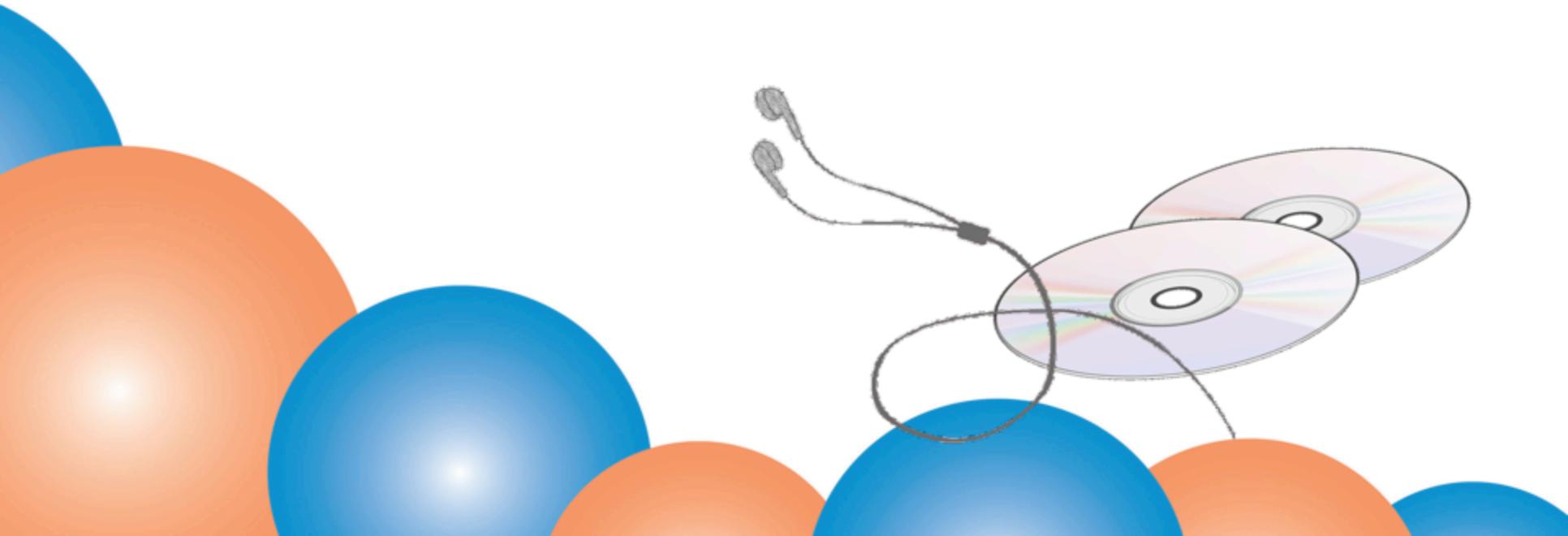
Accessible information is sometimes called easy read. Broadly speaking it includes adapted and simplified information.

For people with learning disabilities this often needs to include images which support meaning.



Accessible information can be provided in a range of media, such as leaflets, brochures, booklets, pamphlets or posters.

Information can also be produced via audio or DVD.



Why do we need to know about it?

In 2016 the NHS has launched a new
Accessible Information Standard.

This is known officially as **SCCI1605 Accessible Information**
– it's a new 'information Standard' for implementation
by all organisations which provide
NHS or adult social care.



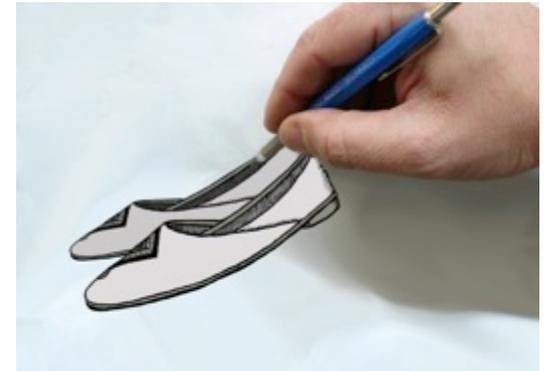
Course Details

1 day course covering the reasons we need to make information accessible, good practice guidelines and checklists for ensuring your information meets current standards. Course includes approaching meetings to make them more inclusive. This approach has been used in supporting parents with learning disabilities in child protection meetings and mental health hospital settings to include people in ward round meetings.

Follow up:

Follow up support is available including technical advice and advice about resources.

We also offer a service to create documents on your behalf.



Multisensory Stories

What are Multisensory stories?

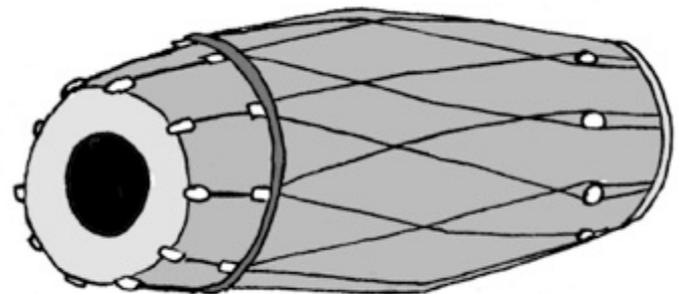
Multisensory stories are a relatively new and increasingly popular activity for children and adults with learning disabilities.

They combine the unique human experience of storytelling and the importance of sensory stimulation to offer a unique activity for people with complex needs.



The idea behind sensory stories is to offer storytelling in a way which means the listener does not have to understand the language of the story in order to understand the entire activity.

They are usually around ten pages long and along with each sentence, a sensory experience is offered to the listener to support the language of the story. This might be a musical instrument, a cuddly toy to feel or a button to press.



Why are they beneficial?

Multisensory stories are a fantastic group activity as well as an engaging and enjoyable individual activity.

Not only are multisensory stories fun but there is plenty of research which provides evidence for the benefits as well. Our course supports staff to understand the theory and to create their own stories



Some of the benefits of multisensory stories include:

- Learning and literacy skills
- Physical responsiveness and motor skills
- Behavioural and communicative response:-
anticipation, recognition, attention to stimuli,
vocalisations
- Social interventions



Course details

This 1 day course covers the theory behind multisensory stories with a practical session which may include people with learning disabilities.

Some focus is given to exploring different approaches to creating stories in your setting, for example, group versus individual stories and home made versus pre-designed stories.



Communication and parents with learning disabilities

Communication is often an area which is over-looked when working with parents with learning disabilities, yet many parents have some difficulties with literacy and with understanding which may present as non-compliance with parenting guidance.

The communication facilitator role enhances the communication between provider services and families and ensures reasonable adjustments are in evidence.

Course Details

This one day course is led by a Speech & Language Therapist and focuses on the often hidden communication needs of parents with learning disabilities.

Course content includes exploration of learning disability and the impact on parenting, the communication facilitator role, advocacy and parents with learning disabilities.

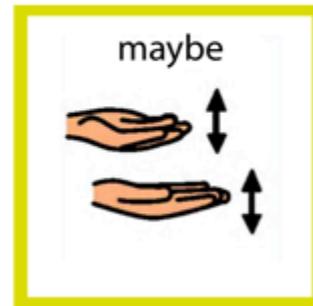
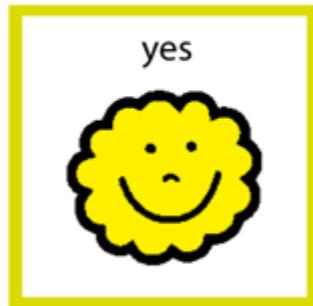
Practical adaptations to meetings and parenting advice are outlined.



Talking Mats Foundation Training

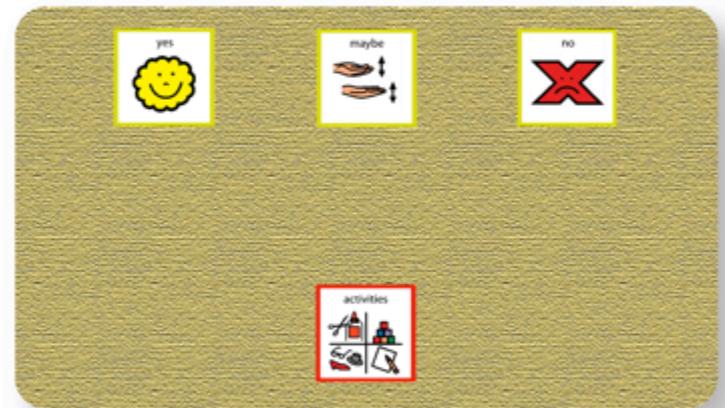
Talking Mats® is a low tech communication framework to help people express views and feelings.

The talking mat is an interactive resource that uses 3 sets of picture symbols (a visual scale, a topic symbol and symbols for options) and a mat on which to place them. This is a 1 day course

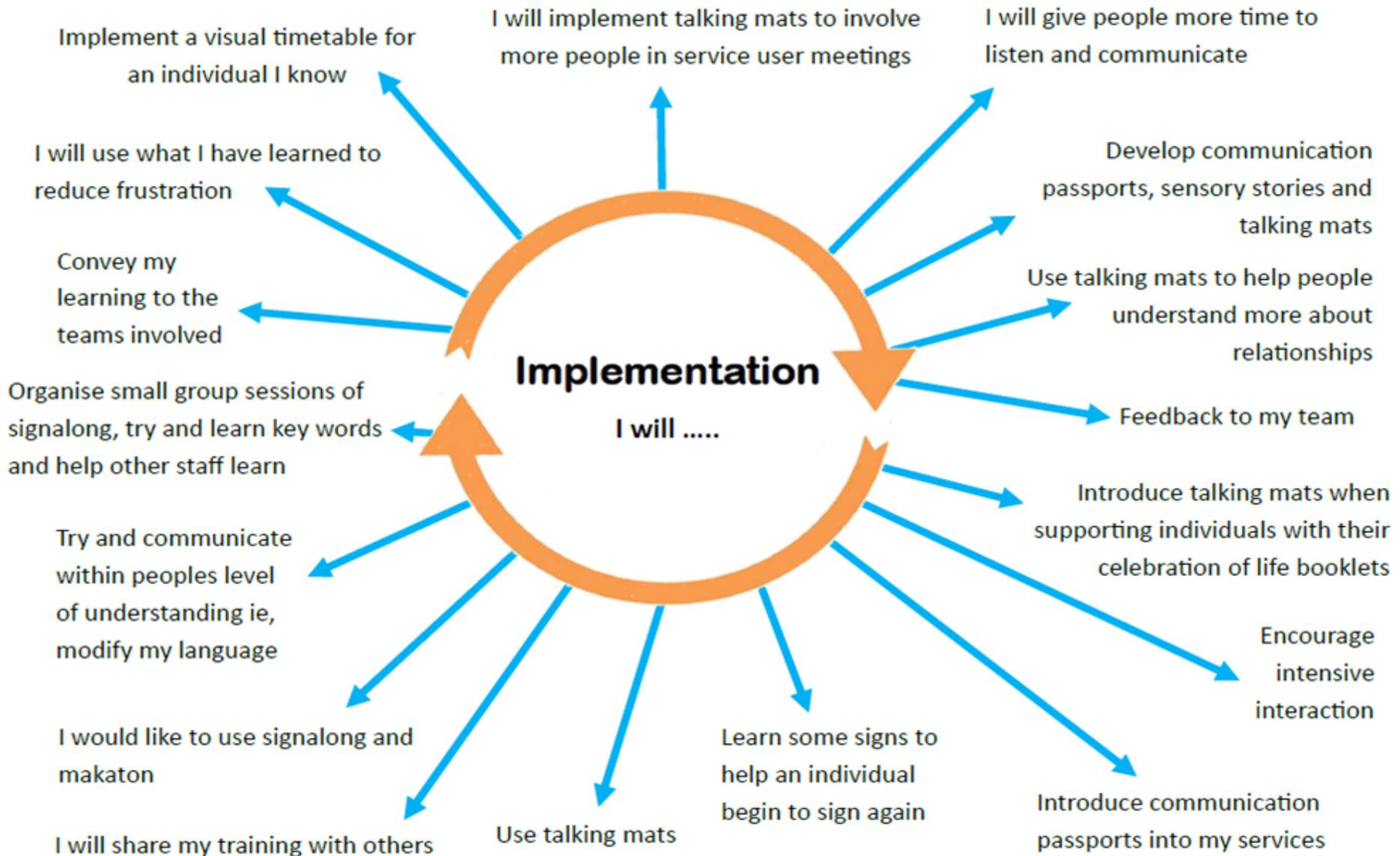


The person's thoughts are displayed visually, making the results easy to record and use to support decisions and on-going discussions.

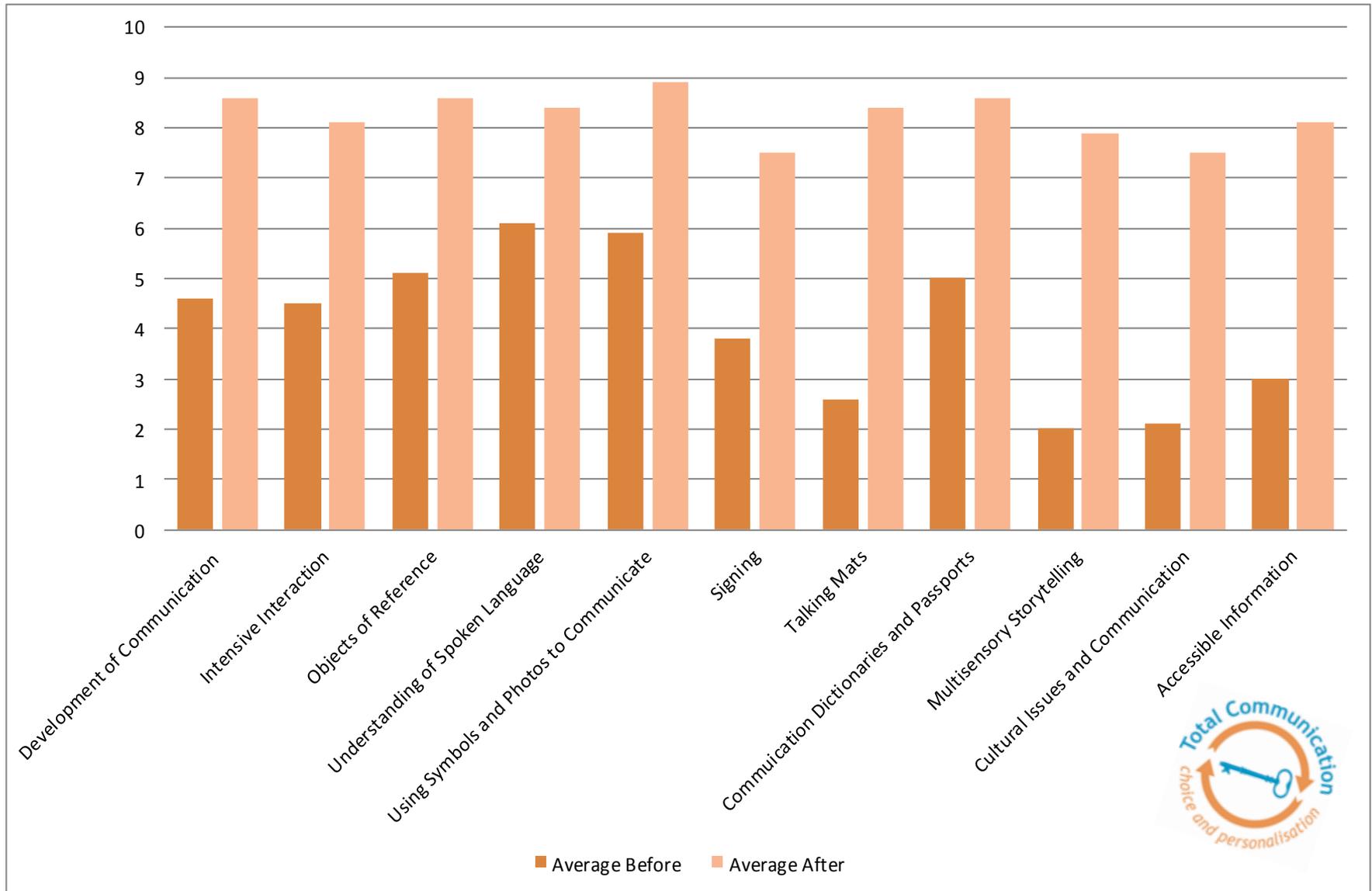
The Talking Mat® is designed to help people with communication difficulties to think about issues discussed with them, and provide them with a way to express their opinions, whilst reducing memory demands.



Staff pledges - illustrating the approaches they want to implement following person centred communication training



Self evaluation of knowledge pre and post person centred communication training course



Feedback from training

Summary of Training Feedback from the 3 Day Person Centred Communication Course

Facilitated by



For



On the 4th, 11th & 18th of October 2016

It has really made me think how I can improve and develop effective communication

The course has given me a great insight into different ways of communicating and different types of communication

Training was excellent

This has really helped to build on my ideas and feedback to the team

I have already begun to use my training in the services I manage and feel it is going to help

I feel I can be creative and develop communication using methods that were taught on the course

I will now try to implement key skills learned with a number of individuals

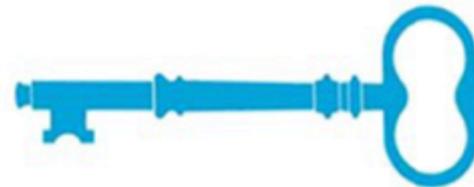
The trainers were very informative and passionate about the various communication

The presentation was really interesting and educational

Made me more aware of the way I communicate

The training was good and it will help me to use it for my work

Feedback from the ... **Person Centred**



Communication Workshop

Very interesting and time flew by

The presentation was very clear with plenty of opportunities to ask to clarify

Makes you think of your own approach

For more information about our courses please visit our website at

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