

# Speech & LanguageLink

The Speech & Language Link whole school approach

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ASSESSMENT

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TRAINING

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REPORTING

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RESOURCES

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SUPPORT

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# Speech & LanguageLink

For over 20 years, Speech & Language Link has helped to support children and young people develop their speech and language skills. Our award-winning tools enable schools to support pupils with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) across the whole school and facilitate working more closely with parents and carers.

## The whole school approach

### The building blocks of oracy, attainment, emotional wellbeing and friendships...

At Speech & Language Link, we understand that effective communication is the foundation for academic success, social integration, and emotional wellbeing. For over 20 years, we've supported schools to build inclusive classrooms by identifying and addressing speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN) and supporting those who have English as an additional language (EAL).

With over 7 million students now enrolled in international schools globally, and multilingualism increasingly the norm, the need for high-quality language support has never been greater. Today's classrooms reflect a vibrant mix of linguistic and cultural backgrounds, from globally mobile families to locally based students attending English speaking schools. Many learners appear fluent across languages; however, they may have hidden speech, language and communication needs (SLCN) that get in the way of accessing the curriculum.

Our award-winning, online tools are designed to help you with these challenges. You can screen whole cohorts on entry, deliver targeted interventions and equip your teachers and learning support teams with research-backed strategies; our solutions are flexible and practical.

We know that support for language and communication development cannot sit in isolation. That's why our approach integrates fully with whole-school systems, encourages parent engagement, and empowers school staff to deliver language support confidently.

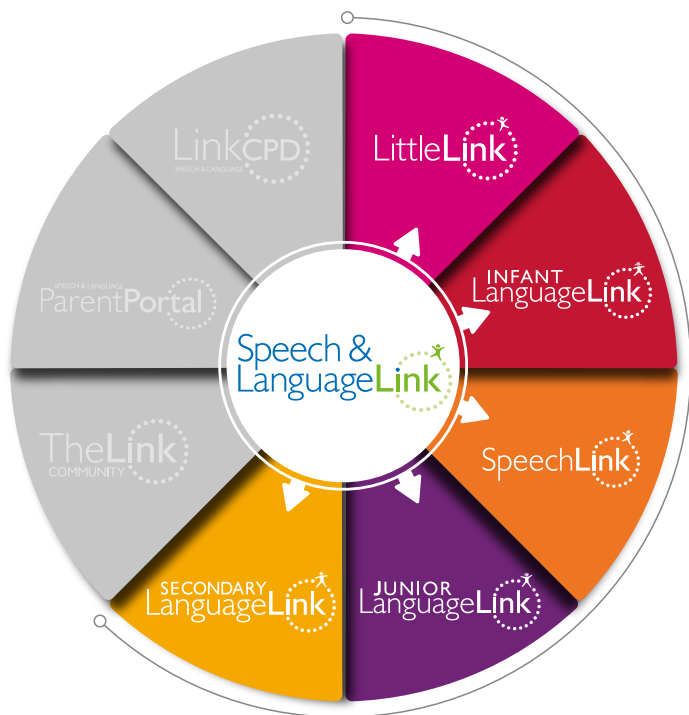
By embedding our whole school approach into your teaching practice, we help international schools worldwide to narrow the language gap—so that no child is left behind due to hidden communication needs.

As a leading provider of SLCN tools for schools internationally as well as in the UK, our products have helped screen over 229,000 students and over 93,000 were identified as requiring intervention (2023-24).



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## We offer:

- Universal, standardised assessments
- Data and reporting
- Targeted Interventions
- Help Desk and therapist support
- Staff training
- Resources for parents



- Speech & Language CPD:**
- Interactive online training
  - Therapist-led
  - For teachers, TAs and SENCos
  - Child-focused assignments
- Speech & Language Parent Portal:**
- Helping to support parents
  - Open access for all schools
  - Child development information
- The Link Community:**
- Free SLCN CPD for any school
  - Includes The Link magazine online
  - The Link Live conference
  - The Ultimate Guide to SLCN
  - Speech and language audit tool



## Infant Language Link — 4-8 year olds

Our award-winning Infant Language Link toolkit was created by speech and language therapists and is loved by English speaking schools. Our screening and interventions can be used with both English-only and EAL learners. Find out more below about how our online package can help you identify those with difficulties understanding language and support them with our interventions.

### IDENTIFY CONSISTENTLY

School staff can identify children with SLCN within the first term of school using our fun and speedy standardised assessment. With our most recent updates, screening of your pupils is even more efficient. Our assessment will consistently tell you which children have language needs and what areas of language they find difficult. Built in progress measures enable you to track the impact of intervention on your student's language skills. Reports are available immediately after assessment, with standardised scores and recommendations – giving you the confidence that the right children will be identified.\*

### INTERVENE EFFECTIVELY

Our tiered approach to intervention means that you can provide the best support, right from the start. Our classroom resources and high-quality teaching strategies enable teachers to effectively boost language across the whole class.

For children needing a targeted approach, we offer 14 fully planned group interventions and over 400 colourful resources with clear goals, key vocabulary, and easy-to-follow instructions – ideal even for staff new to delivering support.

If more focused help is needed, our additional teaching plans provide targeted support tailored to individual children within the classroom.



The Infant Language Link assessment was standardised in association with The Psychometrics Centre - University of Cambridge.

### INFANT LANGUAGE LINK SCHOOL ENTRY ASSESSMENT

Two years in the making, this standardised assessment\* of the understanding of language continues the detail and accuracy our Infant Language Link subscribers are used to. We have dramatically shortened the time to screen the average class, making the essential task of identifying language difficulties on school entry much easier.



- ✓ **Precise Age-Specific Measurements**  
Uses detailed one-month age bands for the most accurate assessment\* of language development.
- ✓ **Robust Research Base**  
Built on comprehensive data with an average of 75 pupils per each age in months, with approximately 1,500 participants in the Autumn term alone.
- ✓ **Representative Sampling**  
Carefully aligned with the UK's 2021 census demographics.

- ✓ **Clear, Actionable Results**  
Provides practical insights to identify exactly where and how much support a child needs, moving beyond simple pass/fail outcomes.
- ✓ **Scientific Scoring System**  
Reports both standard score and percentile rank making it easy to understand and communicate results.\*

Our language assessment offers unmatched accuracy by using standardised scores for each month of age. With specific assessments and parameters for different parts of the school year.



## KEY FEATURES

- ✓ Standardised\* assessing at school entry to highlight early intervention needs
- ✓ Identifies where children need in-class through to specialist support
- ✓ Tailored and targeted programmes for small groups and 1-to-1
- ✓ Instant reporting for evidence of improvement
- ✓ In-package and on-demand webinar training



## REPORT INSTANTLY

Need data for individual students, classes, year groups or across the school? Our reports are available on the spot, helping you to track and evidence progress and impact efficiently.

## TRAINING AND SUPPORT

We're here to help you make the most out of Infant Language Link. With simple User Guides, friendly Help Desk support and training, we've got everything you need to get started and feel confident. And if you ever need advice about a child, our specialist speech and language therapists are just a phone call or email away, ready to offer their expertise.

## SUPPORT FOR EAL

Infant Language Link is also suitable for children with English as an additional language. Our fun interventions and resources help build the vocabulary and comprehension skills that all children need to succeed in the classroom.

## SUBSCRIPTION FEE

An Infant Language Link subscription allows you to carry out unlimited assessments and interventions, representing outstanding value for money.

**Annual subscription from £400 per year**  
(Exc. applicable taxes per school.)

**Small school pricing available on request.**



 **FREE TRIAL** 

[speechandlanguage.link/trial](https://speechandlanguage.link/trial)



APPROX. NUMBER OF OUR SPEECH AND LANGUAGE ASSESSMENTS COMPLETED EACH TERM

“

We've managed to target children that probably would have gone under the radar. And so for me, that's a really amazing thing about it.

SENCO, DOHA ENGLISH SPEAKING SCHOOL

Infant Language Link allows us to start early intervention as quickly as possible. Early support at age 5 is crucial.

EAL TEACHER, BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, JEDDAH



\*Standardised on English-speaking only pupils in the UK.

## Speech Link — 4-8 year olds

Speech Link, our award-winning screening and intervention package, makes it easy for schools to identify and support children with speech sound difficulties. It removes the guesswork, enabling staff to work confidently with common errors and flags pupils who may require specialist input from a speech and language therapist. Our new phonological awareness groups can boost speech and phonics skills across the whole class.

### IDENTIFY CONSISTENTLY

Speech sound difficulties can be persistent, affecting not only early reading and writing skills, but also a child's confidence and classroom participation. The online speech assessment provides instant, easy-to-interpret reports that highlight which speech sounds are atypical for a child's age – and crucially, what action to take next.

### INTERVENE EFFECTIVELY

With over 250 colourful resources, 19 different speech programmes, 12 planned phonological awareness sessions and 8 online listening games, our package is bursting with tools to help you support your pupils' speech sounds. Turn parents into partners with our range of information and

homework activities including signposting to our award-winning Parent Portal to keep families engaged and inspired.

### REPORTING INSTANTLY

Whether monitoring progress, evidencing impact, or planning next steps, the tracking and reporting tools make it simple to track support for speech sound development at every level. Instant reports provide clear data for individual pupils, classes, year groups and across the school.

### TRAINING AND SUPPORT

Confident delivery starts with the right support. Speech Link includes online training modules that build essential knowledge – from how sounds are made to best practice for

**40k** CHILDREN ASSESSED PER YEAR FOR SPEECH SOUND DIFFICULTIES



## KEY FEATURES

- ✓ Easy-to-use assessment to highlight early intervention needs
- ✓ Online activities to develop listening and discrimination skills
- ✓ Resources and information to support parents
- ✓ Instant reporting for evidence of improvement
- ✓ In-package and on-demand webinar training



delivering targeted support to get the very best out of your pupils.

Clear user guides, flexible training, and expert advice ensure staff feel equipped from day one and specialist speech and language therapists are on hand to provide personalised guidance through our Help Desk.

### SUBSCRIPTION FEE

A Speech Link subscription allows you to carry out unlimited assessments, interventions and training, representing outstanding value for money.

**Annual subscription from £275 per year**  
(Exc. applicable taxes) per school.



**FREE TRIAL**



[speechandlanguage.link/trial](https://speechandlanguage.link/trial)



“

It's been really valuable to share the results from the Speech Link assessment with parents, helping them understand how they can support their child and what the next steps will be.

**NICOLA DALY, EAL TEACHER, BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, JEDDAH**

Speech Link interventions give them [a teacher or inclusion assistant] the tools they need to feel like an expert themselves - the guidance is right there. They don't need someone to tell them how to do it.

**GINETTE MOORE, INCLUSION LEAD, CRANLEIGH, ABU DHABI**



## Junior Language Link — 7-11 year olds

Our award-winning Junior Language Link toolkit was created by speech and language therapists and is loved by English speaking schools. Our screening and interventions can be used with both English-only and EAL learners. Find out more below about how our online package can help you identify those with difficulties understanding language and support them with our interventions.

### IDENTIFY CONSISTENTLY

School staff can identify children with SLCN within the first term of school using our fun and speedy standardised assessment. With our most recent updates, screening of your pupils is even more efficient. Our assessment will consistently tell you which children have language needs and what areas of language they find difficult. Reports are available immediately after assessment, with standardised scores and recommendations – giving you the confidence that the right children will be identified.\*

### INTERVENE EFFECTIVELY

Our whole class high-quality teaching strategies and resources allow teachers to provide universal intervention.

For pupils needing a targeted approach, we offer 13 fully planned group interventions focusing on a range of language skills – from using language to understand, reason and solve problems to using complex language structures, narrative inference and multiple meanings.

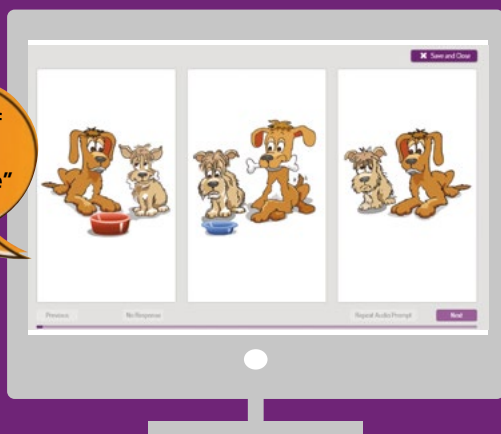
We also cover transition, preparing pupils to develop their understanding of the language used in exam questions.

### REPORT INSTANTLY

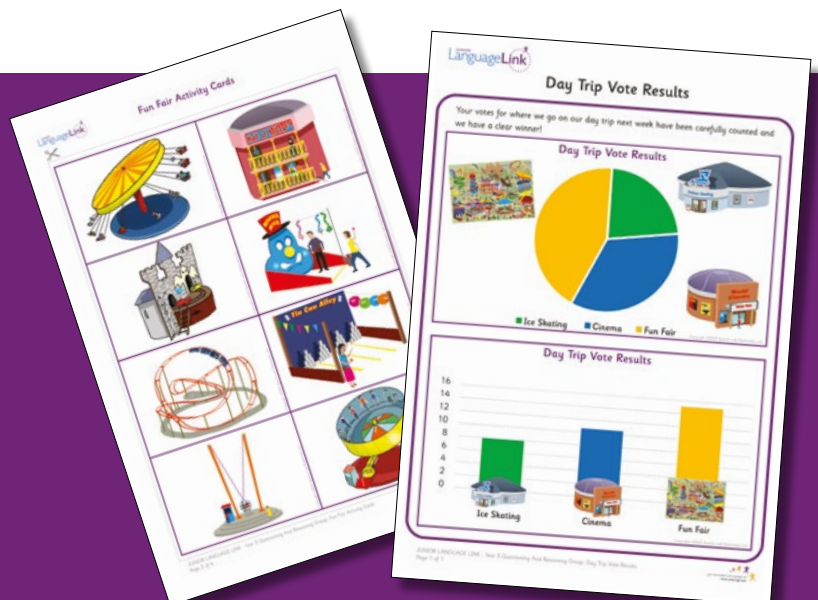
Need data for individual students, classes, year groups or across the school? Our reports are available on the spot, helping you to track and evidence progress and impact efficiently.



The Junior Language Link assessment was standardised in association with The Psychometrics Centre - University of Cambridge.



“Neither of the dogs have a bone”



✓ Our online assessment looks at 7 key areas of understanding and is quick to deliver.

✓ Resources are available for 13 language intervention groups and 19 1-to-1 tailored programmes.

## KEY FEATURES

- ✓ Standardised\* assessment to identify pupils struggling with more advanced language
- ✓ Planned and fully resourced group-based interventions
- ✓ Tailored and targeted programmes for groups and 1-to-1 work
- ✓ Instant reporting for evidence of improvement
- ✓ In-package and on-demand webinar training



## IN-PACKAGE TRAINING AND SUPPORT

We're here to help you make the most out of Junior Language Link. With simple User Guides, friendly Help Desk support and training, we've got everything you need to get started and feel confident. And if you ever need advice about a pupil, our specialist speech and language therapists are just a phone call or email away, ready to offer their expertise.

## SUPPORT FOR EAL

Junior Language Link is also suitable for children with English as an additional language. Our fun interventions and resources help build the vocabulary and comprehension skills that all children need to succeed in the classroom.

### SUBSCRIPTION FEE

A Junior Language Link subscription allows you to carry out unlimited assessments and interventions, representing outstanding value for money.

**Annual subscription from £400 per year**  
(Exc. applicable taxes) per school.

Small school pricing available on request.



**FREE TRIAL**  
[speechandlanguage.link/trial](https://speechandlanguage.link/trial)



**93.4%**

REPORTED THAT LANGUAGE LINK MADE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE TO THEIR PUPILS

“

When communication needs go unnoticed, behaviours can escalate, but early intervention makes a big difference. [Language Link] boosts children's confidence and improves their ability to express themselves, which positively impacts their overall behaviour and engagement in school.

It was lovely to see how the progress from the intervention improved focus in small groups and that increased attention in a whole class situation.

NICOLA DALY, EAL TEACHER, BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, JEDDAH



\*Standardised on English-speaking only pupils in the UK.

## Secondary Language Link — 11-14 year olds

Our unique Secondary Language Link toolkit was created by speech and language therapists to tackle the complex communication needs of this cohort. Find out more below about how our online package can help you support language and communication needs, boosting student attainment and improving life chances.

### IDENTIFY CONSISTENTLY

When used universally, our online standardised assessment ensures no student risks being overlooked at transition. Innovative and engaging in its approach it utilises several formats including video, an interactive virtual classroom and multiple-choice questions. Divided into Core Language and Social Understanding sections, the fully audio-supported assessment places minimal demands on literacy skills. Reports are available immediately after assessment, with standardised scores and recommendations – giving you the confidence that no student risks being overlooked.\*

### INTERVENE EFFECTIVELY

The Communication Contract empowers students to take responsibility for their own learning, supported by staff-

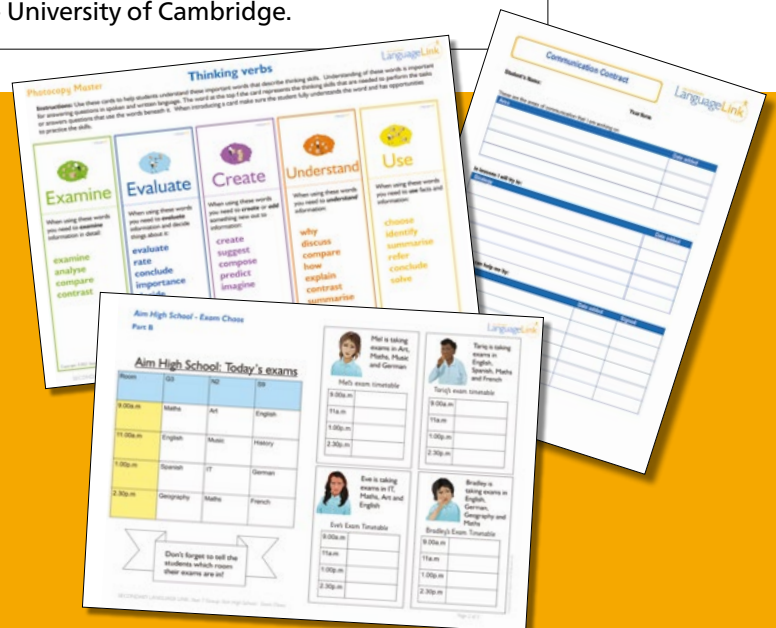
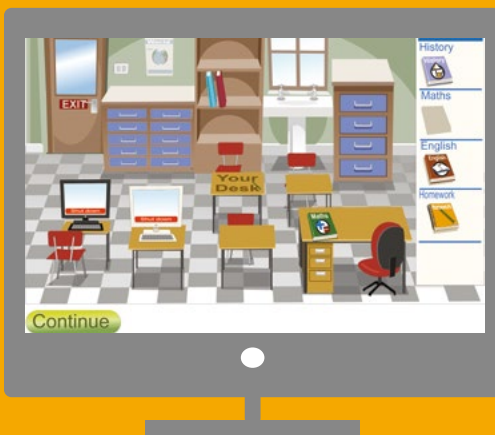
led strategies during whole class teaching. For students needing a targeted approach, we offer 6 fully planned group interventions focusing on problem solving, language and functional communication. Our Aim High group provides a unique transition experience where students take on the roles of senior leaders, collaborating to ensure the smooth running of a school!

### REPORT INSTANTLY

Need data for individual students, classes, year groups or across the school? Our reports are available on the spot, helping you to track and evidence progress and impact efficiently.



The Secondary Language Link assessment was standardised in association with The Psychometrics Centre - University of Cambridge.



✓ Includes a unique transition experience where students become senior leaders, running a school.

✓ Our Communication Contract enables students to be responsible for their own learning.

## KEY FEATURES

- ✓ Standardised\* assessing, ideal for universally screening at transition
- ✓ Planned and fully resourced group-based interventions
- ✓ Individual student self-help tool
- ✓ Instant reporting for evidence of improvement
- ✓ SLCN Toolkit in-package teacher training modules



## IN-PACKAGE TRAINING AND SUPPORT

We're here to help you make the most out of your Secondary Language Link package. With simple User Guides, friendly Help Desk support and training, we've got everything you need to get started and feel confident. And if you ever need advice about a student, our specialist speech and language therapists are just a phone call or email away, ready to offer their expertise.

## SUPPORT FOR EAL

Secondary Language Link is also suitable for students with English as an additional language. The innovative interventions and resources help build the vocabulary and comprehension skills that are needed for all pupils to succeed in the classroom.

## SUBSCRIPTION FEE

A Secondary Language Link subscription allows you to carry out unlimited assessments and interventions representing outstanding value for money.

Designed for use with universal screening in Year 7.  
See website for details.



 **FREE TRIAL**   
[speechandlanguage.link/trial](https://speechandlanguage.link/trial)



69.2%

OF PARTICIPANTS SAID THAT USING LANGUAGE LINK HAD MADE A DIFFERENCE TO STUDENT ATTAINMENT

“

The screen provides a good starting point and is quick and easy to use. Can screen a whole class in one hour and learners are identified that might otherwise have slipped under the radar. Post-intervention scores reveal that most pupils improve. This is also noticed in class.

**NPT SECONDARY SCHOOL**

They loved it! A group of Year 7 students said the assessment was fantastic. If asked to sit again they would. A brilliant resource.

**THE HALIFAX ACADEMY**



\*Standardised on English-speaking only pupils in the UK.

## Case Study 1

Nicola Daly, EAL Teacher from the British International School in Jeddah (2-18 years)

### Great to meet you. We'd love to know a bit about yourself and your school.

Hello, I'm Nicola and I'm an EAL Teacher. I work at the British International School, which is a community co-educational school in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. We have over 1,300 students from over 60 countries and more than 240 staff from 20 countries.

### That's a very varied student population. What language profiles do your children typically have and what challenges came from these?

Many of our children speak English in the classroom but are immersed in other languages—often Arabic—at home. While these children appear fluent, their receptive language skills can be masked, making it difficult for teachers to spot gaps in understanding.

Our teaching team recognised the importance of consistent, high-quality teaching strategies. We needed a way to embed these strategies consistently across all classrooms and support early identification of any underlying SLCN.

### You've used Infant Language Link for a year now. What made you choose this package and have you noticed any differences since you started using it?

Our head of Early Years, inspired by training on SLCN, saw the importance of early identification and sought a tool that

could pick up all learners—particularly those with hidden needs. Infant Language Link has provided exactly that.

The assessments and interventions have had significant impact—helping us deliver support faster and more effectively. We've seen tangible improvements not only in language development but also in behaviour, confidence, and classroom focus.

“We've seen tangible improvements not only in language development but also in behaviour, confidence, and classroom focus.”

### It must be so rewarding to see so many changes. What do you like the most about the Infant Language Link package?

The tools are easy to use—for both children and teachers. The listening and language interventions are ideal for our younger learners. Even our older pupils benefit from discreet strategies like thumbs-up/thumbs-down check-ins to show understanding.

### Have you involved parents at all?

Yes, sharing the results with parents has been key to our success. The assessments have helped parents understand their child's specific needs and what support is required.

We've also used the Parent Portal to give families access to activities and advice and held workshops to demonstrate how to use it.

**Thanks, Nicola—it's clear you're doing amazing work with your learners. Lovely to hear how Infant Language Link is helping along the way!**

## Case Study 2

**Julie Veljic, Inclusion Teacher,  
British International School of  
Stockholm (3-18 years)**



### **Thanks for talking with us today, Julie. Can you tell us a little about your school?**

We serve approximately 420 students aged 3–18, representing over 50 nationalities. Our student body is made up of both expatriate families and local residents, reflecting a rich mix of cultural and linguistic backgrounds. Around 65% of our students speak English as an additional language, with many from bilingual or multilingual homes.

### **What made you consider a screening and intervention package for oral language needs?**

Some of our families do not have access to the health system, meaning children may miss out on key early language assessments. Also, speech therapists' resources and interventions are primarily in Swedish, which limits assessment and support for our English-speaking children. So, without in-house specialists, we needed a tool to help teachers recognise and respond to language difficulties early.

### **Why did you start using Speech Link and Language Link at your school?**

As a small international school with limited funding, we began using the Infant Language Link package to support our Early Years and Key Stage 1 learners (4-8 years). We were drawn to the package because it offers a comprehensive screener combined with structured, measurable interventions, making it practical for classroom teachers and support staff to deliver.

### **And what changes have you noticed in class?**

Less than a year in, we have already noticed some promising changes. There's now greater awareness among teachers and support staff of how to support children with SLCN in everyday classroom routines. We've also seen an improved confidence in identifying potential language difficulties early allowing us to become more informed and supportive with our communication with parents.

### **What advice would you give to a school using Speech Link and Language Link?**

Make use of the screening results to inform further, help with progress tracking, and contribute to a broader picture of need across the school. Use the in-package training so staff feel confident using the screener and understand how to implement suggested strategies. Finally, clear communication with families is vital, especially when navigating differences in national healthcare systems or cultural expectations about development.

### **Great advice, and it's inspiring to hear how your team is making such a difference! Thanks so much, Julie.**

“ We have already noticed some promising changes. ”

## Case Study 3

Nicola Sheldon, SENCo, Doha  
English Speaking School, Qatar  
(3-13 years)



71.2%

OF SUPPORT STAFF REPORTED THEY HAD CHANGED THE WAY THEY WORK WITH CHILDREN RESULTING FROM USING LANGUAGE LINK

**Thanks so much for taking time out of your busy day to chat with us! Can you start by telling us a bit about yourself and what you do?**

You're welcome! I'm Nicola Sheldon, and I'm a SENCo at Doha English Speaking School in Qatar.

**Lovely to meet you. What made you feel that our packages could work well for your setting?**

Drawing from experience using Speech Link and Language Link where I worked previously in the UK, I advocated for the introduction of these tools in my new role.

Infant Language Link allows us to identify children who would not have otherwise been flagged. Some seemed to be getting on well in class and were particularly adept at using non-verbal communication, making it difficult for teachers to recognise any underlying language difficulties without formal assessment.

**It sounds like Language Link really helped uncover hidden needs. Has it influenced how you support your children now?**

It has, introducing Language Link helped standardise our approach. Staff receive training and the classroom resources empower staff to improve quality-first teaching across the board.

The programme helps bridge communication between support staff and classroom teachers, and conversations about pupils' progress are now backed by objective data.

Teachers often express surprise at children identified by the assessments, admitting they wouldn't have otherwise noticed the language gaps.

**That's wonderful. What impact have you seen from using Language Link over time?**

We've seen fantastic outcomes. Pupils from our early intervention groups are now progressing confidently. Our Year 1 cohort, which previously received FS2 assessments and interventions, is now achieving age-appropriate scores and making solid academic progress. Importantly, external

referrals have decreased, indicating that early in-school support is working.

We've also strengthened our relationship with speech pathologists, using the Language Link data to support collaborative planning.

**If you look at the bigger picture, what would you say has been the overall difference these tools have made?**

Speech Link and Language Link have become foundational tools in our school's approach to language development. They've improved outcomes, empowered staff, opened-up parent communication and most importantly, ensured that no child goes unnoticed. The return is undeniable.

**It's been a pleasure hearing how Speech Link and Language Link have become part of your school's success—thank you, Nicola.**



READ OUR  
IMPACT BROCHURE  
FOR MORE DETAILS





## Why Speech & Language Link?

Thousands of schools worldwide trust us for evidence-based tools, expert support, and outstanding service in SLCN.

### IN-PERSON SUPPORT

All subscribing schools can access our therapy team via phone or email through our Help Desk. Our experienced speech and language therapists provide guidance on assessments, interventions, and next steps for individual pupils. The team also develops and updates packages, delivers training, and leads on SLCN strategy. A dedicated Research Lead manages standardisation and efficacy studies. We always aim to respond to our international schools within 24 hours (Monday – Friday).

### DATA-GUIDED; EVIDENCE-BASED

Our tools gather detailed data to accurately identify each child's level and type of need. Where formal assessment is required, we use standardised tools developed with **The Psychometrics Centre – University of Cambridge**. This underpins robust analysis and trends. Schools receive detailed class- and school-level reports on assessment outcomes and pupil progress.

### MULTIPLE PROGRESS TOUCHPOINTS

Progress is measured at four key points. A follow-up standardised assessment is available later in the year or at the start of the next. Teacher engagement ratings highlight classroom support impact. Intervention outcomes are recorded per session and overall, offering a clear view of pupil development. Individual question responses also form part of extended pupil reports, supporting further specialist involvement.



JOIN THE LINK COMMUNITY FOR FREE AND ENJOY ALL OF THESE RESOURCES



### The Link magazine

The award-winning Link magazine offers practical SLCN advice, universal CPD and a new dedicated international schools section. Primary and Secondary editions are available online.

### The Link Community

A full collection of FREE school support: The Ultimate Guide to SLCN, The Link magazine, our blog and newsletter and entry to The Link Live annual SLCN online conference.

### Our Parent Portal

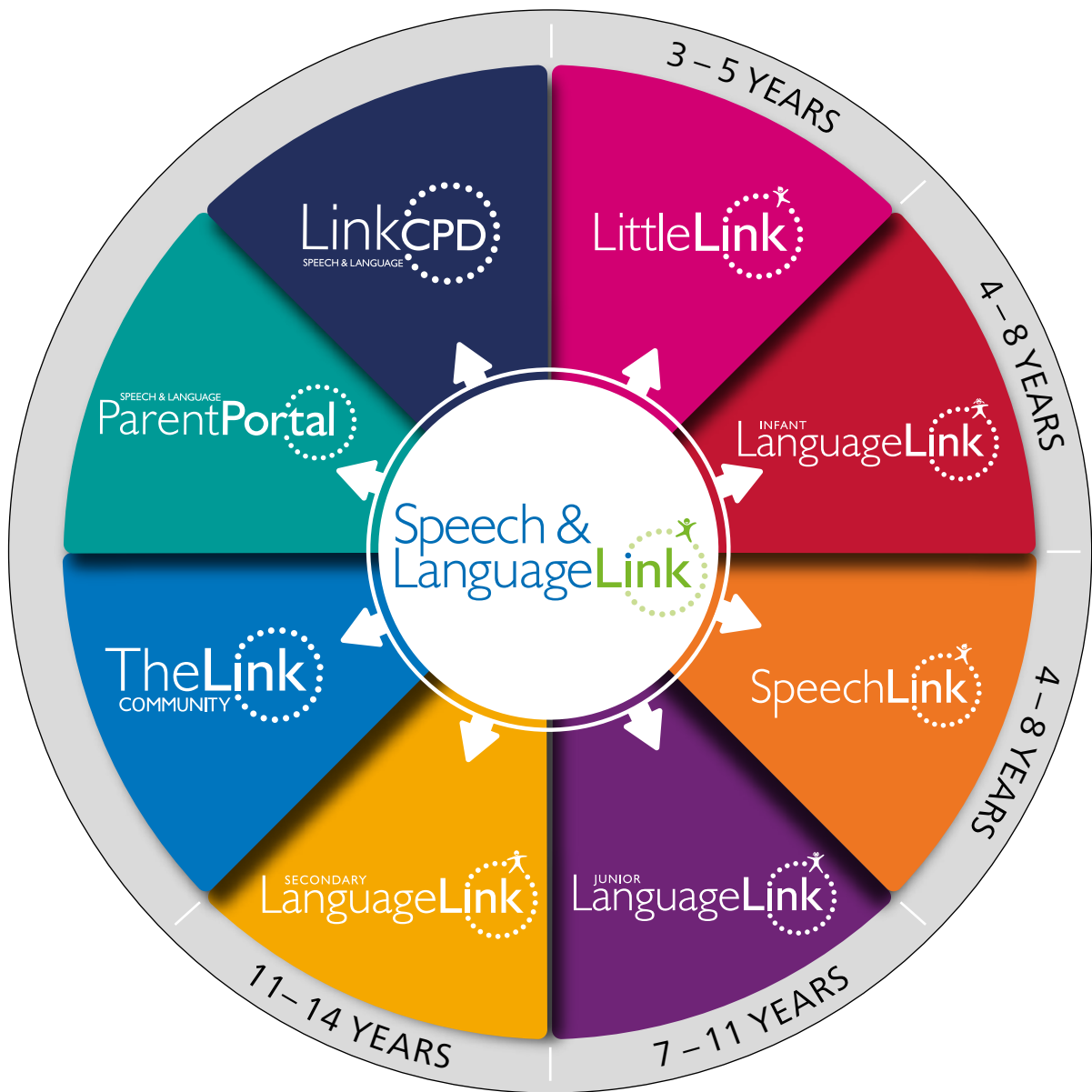
Our Speech & Language Parent Portal helps schools engage parents as partners, with therapist-led videos, development tables, and downloadable resources to support home practice.



*Speech & Language Link and The Psychometrics Centre – University of Cambridge, have a long history of collaboration.*



# The Speech & Language Link whole school approach



PROUDLY SUPPORTING SPEECH AND LANGUAGE IN SCHOOLS SINCE 2004

Scan to  
book a  
**FREE** trial



Or talk to our friendly Help Desk team

**Tel: +44 333 577 0784**

Email: [helpdesk@speechlink.co.uk](mailto:helpdesk@speechlink.co.uk)



The Speech & Language Link  
whole school approach