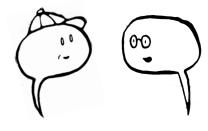


Speech Bubbles is a weekly drama programme taking place in school time. Designed by London Bubble Theatre Company, Speech Bubbles sessions give primary school children an opportunity to have fun telling stories and acting them out.

The programme has a particular emphasis on supporting children to gain confidence and develop their physical and verbal communication skills.

This is the story of Speech Bubbles' ninth year...

WHO WAS INVOLVED?



744 children in 38 schools

42% of children were eligible for pupil premium funding

14% had a statement or an education and health care plan

42% were female

58% were male

50% had English as an additional language

Over **330** people attended Speech Bubbles trainings

7 whole day training events

13 half day training events

12 new practitioners have been trained for 2018-19

WHERE DID IT HAPPEN?



Greater Manchester

Rochdale M6 Theatre Company

Oldham Oldham Theatre Workshop

Manchester Peoplescape Theatre North West Drama







Greater London

Enfield Face Front Inclusive Theatre

Hackney Immediate Theatre

Tower Hamlets Half Moon Theatre

Newham University of East London Kazzum

Southwark, Greenwich, Lewisham, Lambeth London Bubble



Trinity Theatre









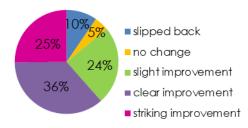




New for 2018-2019



WHAT HAPPENED?



85% of children monitored improved their learning, speaking and listening skills

I liked when we had our parents come and help and it made me laugh

My son absolutely adores Speech Bubbles and I feel he has benefitted greatly from it

86% showed emotional and conduct behaviour improvements



20%
21%
21%
3lipped back
no change
slight improvement
clear improvement
striking improvement

Teachers reported positive change in **88%** of Speech Bubbles children

He loves talking. He loves telling his stories. He is happier and full of enthusiasm for learning

EXTERNAL RESEARCH

Speech Bubbles is a low cost intervention which delivers good value for money

EY and Pro Bono Economics

Speech Bubbles makes a positive difference to children's speech, language and communication development

Drs. Heather Price & Eric Ansong, UEL

In 2019 Speech Bubbles will be a ISOTIS case study

150115

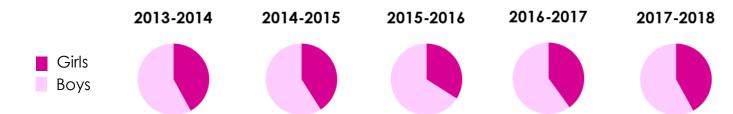
INCLUSIVE EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SUPPORT TO TACKLE INEQUALITIES IN SOCIETY

From 2018-20 Speech Bubbles will be part of the national 'Learning About Culture' research trial





QUESTIONING OUR PRACTICE: GENDER



Question 1. Do more boys than girls have communication needs? Or is there a referral bias towards boys?

'There are genuinely more boys with speech, language and communication needs, however based on my experience of working in schools there are lots of girls who struggle with confidence in communication and have low level anxiety that can easily be missed.'

Wendy Lee Speech and Language Therapist

It appears that there is a referral bias towards boys for communication interventions and that includes Speech Bubbles.

It appears that the benefits of the programme are broadly equivalent for boys and girls.

Question 2.

Does participating in Speech Bubbles have a differing impact on boys and girls?

In 2017-2018:

For Learning, Speaking and Listening

86% of girls showed improvement

85% of boys showed improvement

For Emotional and Conduct Behaviour

84% of girls showed improvement

89% of boys showed improvement

Teacher Comments

86% of girls showed improvement89% of boys showed improvement

Reading and writing levels

Pre project **28%** of boys did not meet expected levels, that reduced to **8%**

Pre project 15% of girls did not meet expected levels, that reduced to 7%

We haven't run a statistical analysis of this data; however the only real difference seems to be that the boys had a lower literacy level at the start of the project.

TACKLING A REFERRAL BIAS, WE WILL...

Update referral guidance for 2018-2019 Raise the question of gender in induction training Continue to monitor. Our monitoring system now includes a non-binary option

EVALUATING THE SPEECH BUBBLES NETWORK

In 2017-2018 **9** organisations delivered Speech Bubbles, supported by funding from **SHINE** This funding has now ended so we are evaluating the network to see what the future of the network will look like. Partners have highlighted that they:

want to continue the programme with the current levels of London Bubble support are driven by
supporting children,
organisational
development and
building school
relationships

value Speech
Bubbles resources,
the training, and
the online
assessments

value the emphasis on evaluation and research

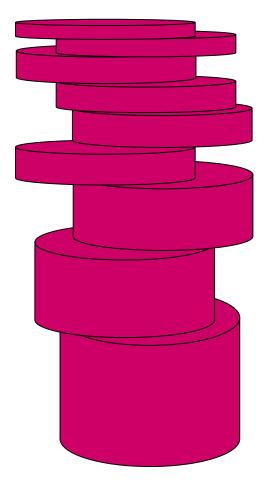
value the current level of brand protection

would like a more
flexible annual fee
structure, which
reflects the number
of schools
recruited

would like an updated case for support and more attractive annual report

are concerned about finances, funding and ability of schools to pay

INCOME 2017-2018

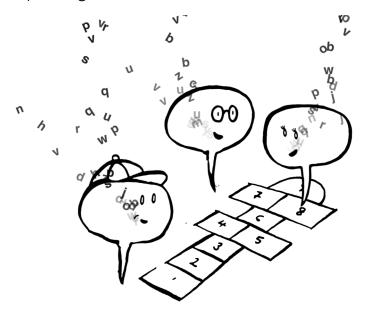


Across the Speech Bubbles Network income from schools, grants, trusts and foundations totalled

£226,193

LOOKING FORWARD

In 2018-2019 we are expecting:



1100 children in 56 schools to take part in Speech Bubbles sessionsdelivered by 10 organisations

With the EEF study and our connections to the RSA Learning About Culture programme we are hopeful for the continued role of Speech Bubbles as an effective and creative intervention supporting young children.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR 2017-2018 TO:

SHINE Pro Bono Economics

The Walcot Foundation EY

The D'Oyley Carte Foundation The Communication Trust

The Gatwick Foundation Dr Heather Price
Whitehead Monckton Dr Eric Ansong

The Henry Smith Charity Dr Jonathan Barnes

The Ironmonger's Company Alison Wilmott

Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund in Tara Millan Brophy

partnership with RCT Tracy Brook
BBC Children in Need Matt Towner

Barnardos Jonathan Petherbridge

The Tudor Trust

Natasha Tomlin

NHS CCG

Maddy Webb

Healthy Young Minds

Diana Valcheva

RMBC Children's Services/Early Help & The Speech Bubbles Drama Practitioners

ools The incredible Speech Bubbles Teaching Assistants

744 excellent young storytellers

Schools

Awards for All

Edmonton Community Partnership