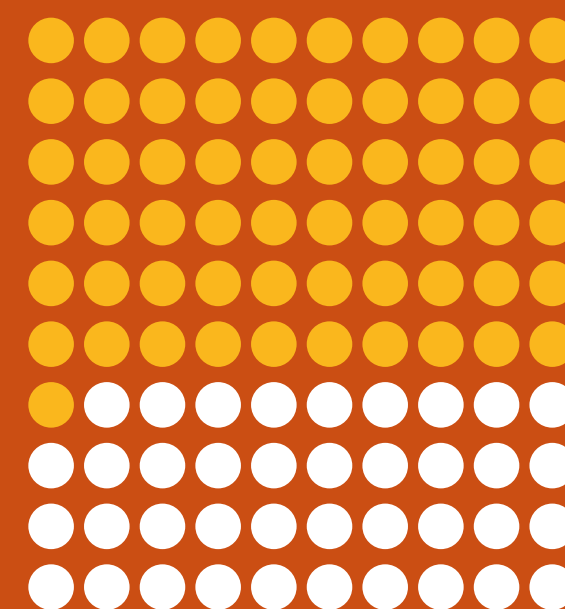


4.8% of school children in Wales have **speech, language & communication needs** ¹

3/10

30% of children in Wales with **Additional Learning Needs** have **speech, language & communication needs**, the most common type of **Additional Learning Need** in Wales ²



61% of children with **speech, language & communication needs** did not meet expected levels across the core subjects at the end of Key Stage 3 ³



Children from **less advantaged backgrounds** who lost access to Early Childhood Play, Learning and Care (ECPLC) during the Covid-19 pandemic were **disproportionately disadvantaged by social distancing** ⁴



Modest investment into training early years practitioners can have a **huge impact** on children's speech, language & communication outcomes ⁵



Education

Trained practitioners can make a huge difference

1,2 Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC), 2023
<https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Education-and-Skills/Schools-and-Teachers/Schools-Census/Pupil-Level-Annual-School-Census/Special-Educational-Needs>
3 National level results, by subject, year and type of ALN/SEN (Additional learning or special educational needs) (gov.wales)
<https://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Education-and-Skills/Schools-and-Teachers/Examinations-and-Assessments/Key-Stage-3-Core-Subjects/nationallevelresults-by-subject-year-sentype>
4 Babylab - Social Distancing and Development (brookes.ac.uk)
<https://babylab.brookes.ac.uk/research/social-distancing-and-development>
5 <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/early-years-toolkit/communication-and-language-approaches>