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REGISTERED CHARITY 210031



## **EARLY INTERVENTION: SPEECH AND LANGUAGE**

### **VALIDATED LOCAL PRACTICE, KENT**



C4EO Training Workshop

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# Language – **THE** Foundation Life Skill

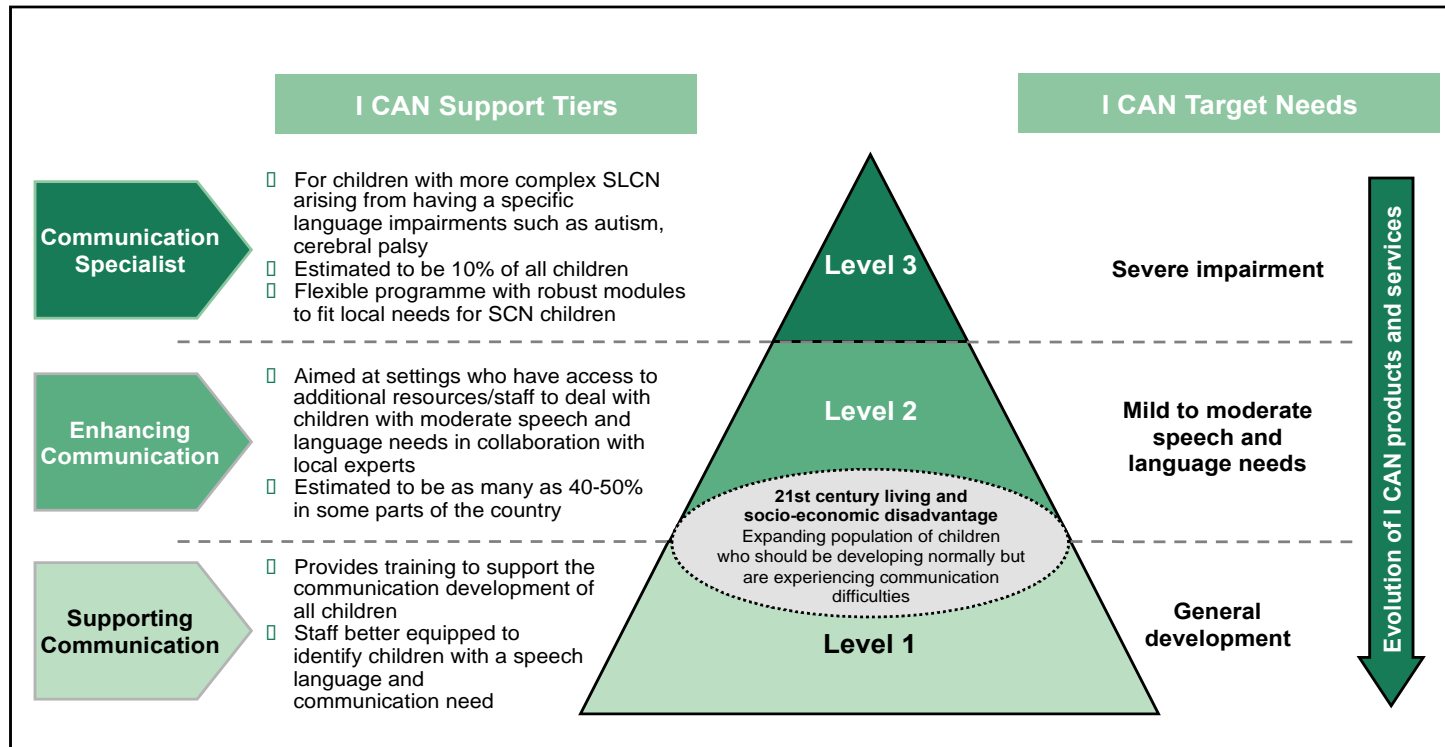
# Language skills impact on:

- Attainment
- Behaviour and wellbeing
- Narrowing the gap

# Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) predict poor life chances

- Only 25% of children with SLCN reach expected levels for English and maths at age 11
- Only 6% get five good GCSEs including English and Maths
- Two thirds of 7-14 year olds with serious behaviour problems have language impairment
- Two thirds of young offenders have language difficulties

# I CAN EARLY TALK MODEL

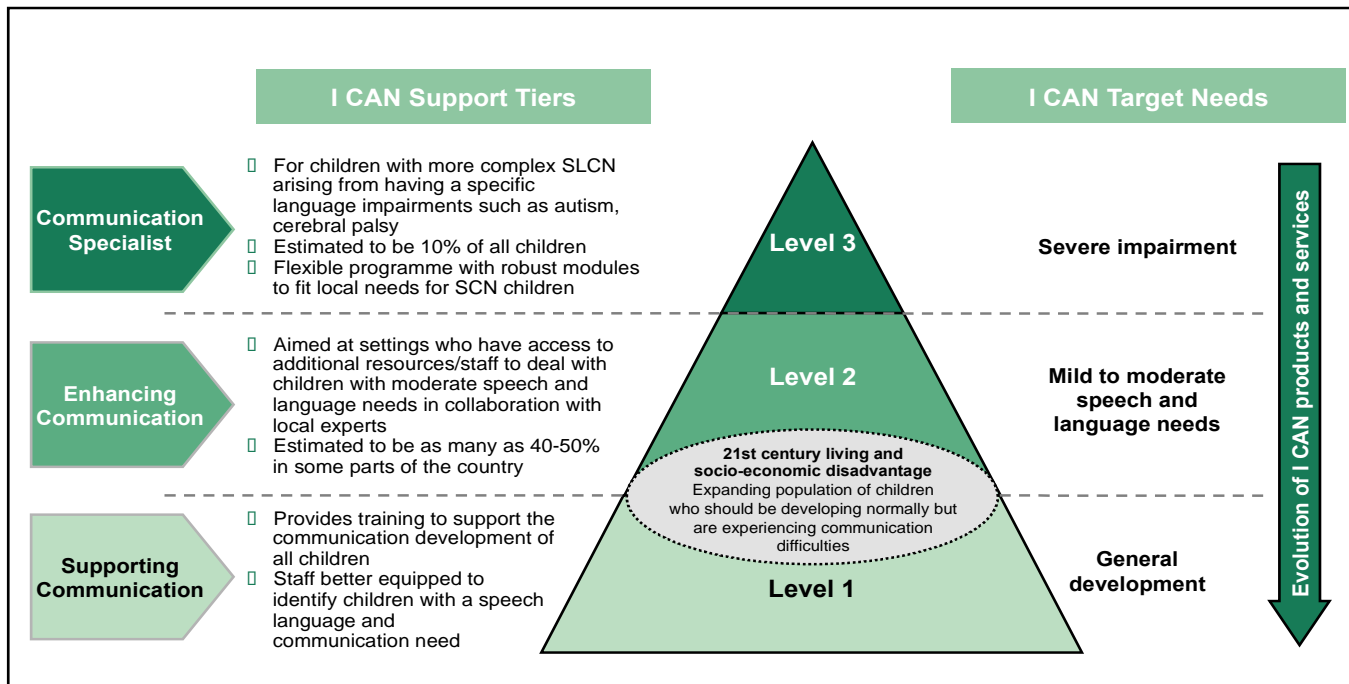


# I CAN Early Intervention

## Case Study: Kent

- Developed flexibly in partnership with Kent County Council and PCT
- Targets children under 5 with SLCN
- Parents as co-educators
- Kent services accredited by I CAN
- Positive Social Return on Investment
- Part of I CAN's wider 'Early Talk' programme

# I CAN Early Talk



# I CAN Early Intervention

## Case Study: Kent

Two models:

- Ashford Better Communication (ABC)
- Thanet peripatetic service in East Kent

# I CAN/Ashford Better Communication

- Sparked by concerns about children who needed to attend a specialist language unit on school entry
- Realisation that conventional speech and language interventions ineffective
- Aim: a more cost effective service that providing smooth transition to local primary schools through early intervention

# I CAN/Ashford Better Communication

- Multidisciplinary steering group of parents, SLTs, specialist teacher commissioner and I CAN advisor
- Service targeted at 2-5 year olds
- Parents as co-educators
- Two terms in a specialist nursery linked to a Children's Centre – home nursery place kept open

# I CAN/Ashford Better Communication

## Results in 2008/9:

- 92 % able to attend their local primary school – making good progress
- 70 % marked increase in comprehension
- 80% increase in their use of language
- Only 1 child out of 12 needed a Statement of SEN
- Both parents and home nurseries increased their confidence and knowledge
- Overall progress across EYFS

# I CAN/Ashford Better Communication

## Cost effectiveness of early intervention

- £35,000 savings per year when compared to specialist alternatives
- Over the longer term £150,000 savings per child

# I CAN/Ashford Better Communication



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*“I am the only one who knows my son and I was an integral part of the decisions. In the past I thought ‘I wish you would listen to me’.*

*With this intensive input everything clicked. Within a few weeks he ‘unlocked’ – he found his voice.*

*The service is great, it helped him to calm down with his behaviour. It was a key for many things.”*