

# Leeds and Bradford Early Years Together: EYFS quality improvement in partnership



**Noctua**  
Teaching School Alliance

# Today's programme

1. Introductions
2. Bradford and Leeds Together:
  - the project in outline
  - The four interventions
  - Our approach to quality improvement
  - Measuring impact and progress
3. Key colleagues
4. Centres of excellence and linked schools
5. Timeline of the project and key dates
6. Reporting, monitoring and evaluation



# Introductions

# Key Colleagues

- Kirsten Finley: Strategic Lead, Noctua TSA, Leeds
- Christian Bunting: Strategic Lead, Bradford Birth to 19
- Laura Greaves: Noctua Project Administrator
- Sarah Alderson: Noctua EYFS SLE
- Marie Bryne: Noctua English SLE
- Angelique O’Gara: Noctua English SLE
- David Owen: Noctua English SLE
- Lucy Patrick: Noctua EYFS SLE

# Easy Peasy App

- A series of video vignettes; modelling simple, home-based activities that parents can try alongside their child.
- ‘Push notifications’ to prompt parents to continue to use.

# Fifty Things

- Smartphone app, sharing simple activities to engage parents and children in active learning and conversation
  - Woodland wandering
  - Trip Trap, Trip Trap...
- Print resources; poster for parents, card packs for teacher/Practitioner
- Two half days training for PIWs (or similar)
- Data on downloads and usage, including push notification prompts

# The Nuffield Early Language Intervention

- An ELKLAN approach, delivered by teaching assistants
- The Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) is designed to improve listening, narrative and vocabulary skills.
- Three to five weekly sessions are delivered to small groups of children with relatively poor spoken language skills.
- The 30-week programme starts in the final term of nursery and continues in reception year.
- The 20-week programme is delivered in reception only.

# An approach to EYFS QFT in the Early Years, targeted at children with multiple disadvantages

- High Risk Children Self Regulation and ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences)
- Public Health England and EEF publication - Early Language Development: Needs, provision, and intervention for preschool children from socio-economically disadvantaged backgrounds (October 2017)
- EEF - Preparing for Literacy: Improving communication, language and literacy in the early years Guidance report (Summer 2018)



# Project Methodology

- Lead and supported school terminology
- Expectations of the bid & non-negotiables
- Joint practice development and cluster-based collaborative approaches
- Training, train the trainer approaches and sustainability
- Outreach to support your leading of collaborative improvement
- Network events for cluster leads, and for cluster schools
- Quality assurance visits and support.



**Explore**

**Prepare**

**Deliver**

**Sustain**

# Project Timeline

- Autumn 2018 - Spring 2019
  - Training
  - Auditing / benchmarking
  - Establishment of school partnerships and clusters
- Spring 2019
  - Completion of training
  - Four 'interventions' commence
- Autumn 2019
  - Continued work on the project
- Spring 2020
  - Continued work on the project
  - Auditing, benchmarking, impact evaluation
- Summer 2020
  - Concluding conference

# Key dates

## **Autumn Term**

- ECERS training for SLEs – 16<sup>th</sup> November
- Leuven scale training for SLEs – 6<sup>th</sup> December
- Incremental coaching training for Headteachers
- CELF benchmarking by S&L Therapists – into Spring 1
- Fifty Things support for schools continues

## **Spring Term**

- Fifty Things training for SLEs, and further support for schools continues
- Easy Peasy Training for schools
- NELI training through ELKLAN for schools
- St Edmund's Oracy QFT training for SLEs

# Measuring progress

1. Pre and post intervention baselines
  - CELF assessment - sample
  - ECERS audit – setting
  - Leuven scale
2. Quality of teaching and learning – measured in partnership and by Ofsted
3. Quality of school and phase leadership – measured in partnership and by Ofsted
4. GLD outcomes and relevant ELG outcomes - 2019 and 2020 dataset
5. Phonics outcomes – 2020 dataset
6. Other pupil-level data
  - Attendance
  - Punctuality
7. Data produced by Easy Peasy app & Fifty Things

# Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS)

This comprehensive assessment tool measures environmental factors as well as teacher-child interactions that affect the broad developmental needs of young children.

It also emphasises the role of the teacher in creating an environment conducive to developmental gains.

ECERS is designed to predict child outcomes with greater accuracy and precision. It also provides a stronger means of distinguishing between quality and higher-quality programs.

# CELF Language Assessments

## CELF Preschool – 2

- A Speech and Language Therapist – led diagnostic tool.
- Used for children aged from 3
- Standardised assessment - allows for comparison of a child's skills with other children the same age
- Consists of 2 or 3 subtests exploring different areas of receptive and expressive language skills.
  - Sentence Structure – evaluates a child's ability to interpret spoken sentences of increasing length and complexity
  - Word Structure - evaluates a child's knowledge and use of grammatical rules in a sentence completion task
  - Expressive Vocabulary – evaluates a child's ability to label pictures of people, objects and actions
- Possible inclusion of The Squirrel Narrative Assessment (qualitative measure of progress)

# Reporting, monitoring & monitoring progress

- Our paperwork and processes
- Benchmarking and due diligence
- Notice of Visits
- QA and additional support visits
- North Yorkshire Coast Research School
- Reporting through the DfE-led quality assurance
- Expert Board Governance
- Governors briefing
- Interest from the University of York, OUP and EEF
- Newsletters, good practice-sharing

# SSIF and the bigger picture for primary school improvement

- SSIF 1, 2, 3 and the future
- Opportunities for extension into other areas related to the word gap
- OA Funding Streams
  - Intensive School improvement schools
  - Parent Partners in Literacy
  - Literacy support programmes
  - *New to Headship, Research, Careers, Essential Life Skills, Bradford for Teaching*
- English (and Maths) Hubs
- EEF
- Other DfE funding streams
- Charitable funding



# Finance Claims

- Allocation of money is per cluster
- Some flexibility in your spend, but bear in mind ineligible spends
- Payable a term in arrears to the budget-holding school
- Fortnightly, rolling Notices of Visits (NOVs), supplied by the lead school
- Payments will be matched to NOVs