

What is the Learning Language and Loving It programme?

Learning Language and Loving It—The Hanen Program® for Early Childhood Educators.

During the Learning Language and Loving It programme, you will learn practical strategies for helping children in the classroom to build language, emergent literacy and social skills, no matter what their learning and communication styles are, and even if they have special needs.

The strategies can be easily woven into everyday activities. Each strategy is designed to engage and maintain the interest of the child, making language and literacy-learning a fun and natural part of their day.

The programme will provide you with ample opportunity to practice each strategy with the children, and to receive feedback from your Programme Leader to help you adapt the strategies, as needed.

These strategies include encouraging children to initiate and engage in conversational interactions, encouraging extended individual and group conversations between adults and children, and supporting adults with how to model more sophisticated language to expand children's oral language.

About the training

Participants will access 8 group workshops (each 2.5 hours) interspersed with individual coaching sessions where participants use videos of their interactions with children to reflect on their practice.

Training will include 5 face to face workshops and 3 virtual workshops, plus the individual coaching sessions and reflective practice video reviews. We will also be holding a virtual manager's/school leader's briefing session for settings who have expressed an interest in the programme on the 9th and 16th June.

Training will begin on the 26th October 2023 and will conclude in May 2024. Two practitioners from each setting will be required to take part in the programme.

Please see the attached delivery timetable. **Deadline for sign up for this programme will be the 27/05/2023.**

For those who receive the training, you will benefit from:

- Funded CPD opportunity for staff who work with children in your setting
- 1:1 personalised coaching from speech and language therapists and early years experts
- High quality and internationally researched training that provides guidance for Early Years practitioners in promoting social, language and literacy learning in Early Years settings.
- An approach which enhances the everyday language learning environment for every child in the setting, including children with speech, language and communication needs, those with or at risk of delay, second-language learners and typically developing children.
- Opportunity to inform practice in a national evaluation of what works in early years.

To be eligible for this programme, you must:

- Have onsite access to a computer with an internet connection as well as a device, such as a tablet. This technology is required to record videos of all staff-pupil interactions and upload onto a secure online access point for video review sessions.
- A computer or laptop with webcam and microphone, as well as email access to take part in the online live workshops.
- Nominate a senior member of staff (such as the nursery teacher or room lead) to take part in the training who can support other colleagues with the programme
- Complete and return a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

