

Talk 4 Number

Giving a voice to mathematical reasoning!

A new ECC small-group intervention that develops mathematical language and communication

Talk 4 Number is a very effective mathematics intervention, delivered by a specially trained teaching assistant or teacher to small groups of:

- pupils mainly in Years 3 or 4 who need support and encouragement to use and understand mathematical language or to talk fluently about their mathematics; and
- pupils in Year 3 or above who are in the later stages of learning English as an additional language.

It is an Every Child Counts programme, developed by Edge Hill University. Expert training enables teaching assistants to deliver it effectively and to strengthen their support for mathematics across the school.

"Where programmes such as ECC . . . were used effectively, pupils overcame their misconceptions and the school used information about its pupils' misconceptions to adapt teaching for subsequent cohorts."

Mathematics: Made to Measure, Ofsted, 2012

How does it work?



Talk 4 Number comprises 24 sessions, each lasting about 30 minutes. The sessions help pupils to understand and talk confidently about numbers in a wide range of contexts and to strengthen their reflective and metacognitive skills.

It is delivered to a group of 4 pupils by a trained teaching assistant or teacher, about 3 times a week, for 8 weeks. It is delivered outside the classroom, in addition to pupils' daily mathematics lessons. The teaching assistant is supported by a Link Teacher within the school.

"Talk 4 Number equips teaching assistants with the strategies to help pupils find their mathematical voice and express their mathematical ideas."

Willow Tree Primary School, Ealing

How effective is it?

Over 1,500 pupils in Years 3 to 10 have been supported by Talk 4 Number in 350 schools.

- They made an average **Number Age gain of 12 months in only 3 months** – 4 times the expected rate of progress
- 94% of them showed more confidence and interest in mathematics lessons after Talk 4 Number.

Training and support

"Many head teachers took an interest in the training and reported that it was the best they had ever seen."

Independent Evaluation of ECC, DfE 2011

Local group training is delivered by an ECC Trainer accredited by Edge Hill University. The training runs alongside the delivery of the intervention and includes:

- one day and two half days for the teaching assistant
 - how to deliver Talk 4 Number
 - mathematics subject knowledge to enhance delivery
 - a resource pack of detailed session plans and photocopiable masters
- a school Link Teacher attends two of the half days:
 - how to manage Talk 4 Number for maximum impact
 - running a staff meeting to share its lessons with colleagues

Schools also receive a one-year support package that includes:

- online guidance and downloadable resources
- telephone and e-mail support
- access to the ECC online data system, providing detailed analyses of pupils' progress to help schools to evaluate and demonstrate the impact of Talk 4 Number
- an optional visit to the school by the Trainer to support the delivery, management and evaluation of Talk 4 Number
- opportunities for Every Child Counts accreditation



Training and support for all ECC programmes are available from local ECC Providers accredited by Edge Hill University and from the University itself.

To book support for your school, please complete the form overleaf.



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