



“Watch Your Language”
**Working with Young People with Speech, Language and
Communication Impairments**

- Did you know that there are 2-3 children in an average classroom with speech, language and communication impairments, (SLCI)?
- 50% of those will present with behavioural difficulties
- 30% of young people with behavioural difficulties have SLCI
- 10% of young offenders have significant SLCI
- Early language difficulties is also a predictor of later difficulties e.g. mental health problems

Research suggests that young people with speech, language and communication impairments are some of the most socially excluded young people in society. Their communication impairments often go unrecognised, or they may not be immediately obvious. They may have difficulties in social interaction, and manifest odd behaviours. Some of these young people will suffer from mental health or addiction problems. Without appropriate support they may more easily be led into crime or suffer abuse.

Do you have sufficient knowledge of what speech, language and communication impairments are, the impact they can have, and what strategies you can use to work with young people or young adults in your care more effectively?

Afasic, the national charity representing young people with these impairments has trained 3 Tigger Trainers to cascade this training for parents and volunteers.