

Spoken Language Entitlement

Poor communication impacts on...

EXAM
Educational achievement

- 30-50% of children with persistent SLCN go on to have reading difficulties
- Only a fifth of children with SLCN reach the expected levels for their age in English and Maths at age 11

Behaviour/vulnerability

- 2/3 of 7-14 year olds with serious behaviour problems have language impairment
- Children with SLCN are more likely to be bullied

Mental health

- 40% of 7 to 14 year olds referred to child psychiatric services had a language impairment that had never been suspected

Employability

- communication skills are the most important employability skills and a lack of them in a candidate is a deal breaker... for many employers" (Sir Michael Rake, BT)

Criminality

- 50% of young people in young offender institutions have communication difficulties

Disadvantage Cycle

- Children from low income families lag behind high income counterparts at school entry by sixteen months in vocabulary
- vocabulary at age 3 has been found to be the best predictor of whether children who experienced social deprivation in childhood were able to 'buck the trend' and escape poverty in later adult life

Three elements of language

- Receptive Language:** What we understand from the language of others
- Expressive language:** how we talk with others through increasingly sophisticated language structures and expanded vocabulary
- Pragmatic language:** how we interact and have conversations with others, adapting what we say for different audiences

