

Shine A Light Awards Criteria

Category	Early Years Setting of the Year Award
Eligibility	<p>This award is open to all early years' settings in the UK, working with children from birth to 5 years old, including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nurseries/preschools • Child Minders • Playgroups • After school and breakfast clubs • Holiday play schemes • Children's Centres
Guidance	<p>Winning settings will be those who use their chosen application method to provide the judges with quantitative and qualitative examples, and or case studies to clearly demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How they have prioritised speech, language and communication development in their setting. • The measureable impact that their practice has for children with SLCN. • Evidence to support the difference they are making. • Evidence of involving parents/guardians in the development of children's communications. • A long term commitment to maintaining and developing their communication strategy and developing their team.
Application questions	<p>All applications for the Early Years Setting of the Year Award must address the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How do you prioritise children's language and communication development in your setting? (max 250 words) 2. What do you do to support children with SLCN? (max 250 words) 3. How do you work in partnership with others to support children's speech, language and communication development? (max 250 words) 4. What is the impact of your work on the development of children's speech, language and communication? (max 250 words)