**Table 8.3**

Extract from a PVI nursery’s improvement plan

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| Our objective: to improve the way we listen to children and have conversations with them |
| Actions:  1. Whole-staff training on children’s communication, focusing on increasing practitioners’ understanding of how communication develops (September 2020).  2. Key strategies we will all work on: (1) spend more time at child-level, listening to children and then developing conversations with them that last for three turns or more; (2) use interactive book reading strategies with children (September 2020–July 2021).  3. Implementation: this will be led by Jasmin, who will have half a day every fortnight to focus on this. Jasmin will monitor how often and how well the two communication strategies are being used. She will model strategies to staff who need further support.  4. Monitoring: Jasmin will carry out ITERS-3 and ECERS-3 audits focused on communication in September, January and July.  5. Planned outcomes: (1) cores in the ITERS-3 and ECERS-3 audits improve and reach 5 or more by July; (2) monitoring shows that all staff are consistently using the two strategies; (3) children’s Special Books show that, over time, they are saying more (longer sentences and more turns in conversations).  6. Evaluation: Mandy will evaluate this improvement objectively by meeting Jasmin and discussing her reports and the ITERS-3 and ECERS-3 audits. If improvements are not seen, then Mandy and Jasmin will revise and refocus the plan. In January, when the LA advisory teacher is present, she will work with Mandy to observe the provision jointly and check that our evaluations are accurate. |