



Warwickshire 'time to talk'TM is an award-winning programme supporting EY Practitioners in Reception, Nursery and younger with children's speech, language and communication needs. The model has been highlighted as an example of best-practice in the recent **Bercow: Ten Years On** report - an independent, national review of support for children with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).

We offer high quality, engaging training (Tiers 1 - 3) supporting EYFS practitioners to:

- accurately identify and track children's needs using formal and informal tools
- provide high quality interactions and interventions
- promote and support early speech, language and communication skills for all children

We offer ongoing support for trained champions, maintaining their skills and confidence through:

- an annual conference and termly CPD meetings
- networking and liaison
- online resources

We evidence the impact of the programme

Each year we demonstrate that the programme achieves significant improvements in children's speech, language and communication skills, as measured using the validated WellComm screening tool.

How you can be involved

- Identify a member of staff to be your speech and language champion(s)
- Enable champions to attend tiered training
- Enable your champion to access ongoing support e.g. Cluster CPD sessions

To find out more, please visit our website: www.timetotalkwarwickshire.wordpress.com or contact Deborah Powers on **07713 093 967** or deborah.powers@swft.nhs.uk

Courses are booked via: www.warwickshireearlyyears.co.uk

"We have a high number of EAL children and children with additional needs. We have always known that language and communication is the key to all learning. Until 'time to talk' came along we did not have a common language, a metalanguage to understand exactly how language development could be talked about and improved for our children. We have two members of our Nursery team trained to Tier 3, and some to Tier 2 both in Nursery and Reception. Our bi-lingual support worker in school has embraced the WellComm screen and uses it in school to build language leaning.

The WellComm screen helps us to identify gaps and provide short, regular, language interventions that are outlined in The Big Book of Ideas. There are ideas for parents too. The 'time to talk' strategies to support communication help enormously - all staff are aware of them and use them throughout their practice. We have parent meetings to explain the strategies. Parents are on board and find the information useful. It also helps us to explain the importance of play - where communication will happen naturally and can be built on. We all enjoy the 'chatter matters' week together with children and parents. It is always fun and raises the awareness with parents.

We can now signpost parents to more information if they are worried about their children's speech and language. We have regular information and support from the 'time to talk' team which is invaluable as there is always something new to learn. Regular cluster meetings enable practitioners to exchange ideas and keep up with 'time to talk' news.

Once the 'time to talk' strategies become embedded the impact spreads through school so it is cost-effective. 'time to talk' has made a enormous difference to our Nursery and throughout school."

Nursery Teacher