

## 'time to talk' training and support Spring Term 2015

Tier 1

Tier 2

Tier 3

Chattermatters™  
Cluster Meetings

**'time to talk'** is Warwickshire's strategic approach for Children's Centres and targeted Early Years and Childcare settings. It aims to 'Improve outcomes in Language and Communication for Children'.

The strategy includes a significant tiered training element which:

- raises awareness of the importance of communication as the foundation for all learning,
- enables practitioners to demonstrate an understanding of how speech, language and communication develops,
- enables practitioners to accurately identify children's skills in the five areas of speech, language and communication,
- enables practitioners to identify when a child needs additional support and at what level through observation and screening
- enables practitioners to support this development including creating communication-friendly environments

*Working for  
Warwickshire*

## **The trainers**

**Melanie Packer** has always demonstrated an interest in communication. After graduating from Goldsmith's College, University of London, in 1994, Melanie spent a number of years working for television companies based in Birmingham, before taking time to focus on being 'Mum'. In 2000, Melanie's interest shifted from the communication arts to human communication. Returning to work, Melanie was employed within a local secondary school and later by the NHS. During this time she worked with adults and children with additional or complex needs. By 2006, Melanie had retrained and qualified as a Speech and Language Therapist at Birmingham City University and was working specifically within Early Years, supporting children and families in clinics, nurseries, Children's Centres and in their homes. In 2009, Mel joined Alex Williams as a founding member of the 'Time to talk' team and has been supporting the implementation of the 'Time to talk' strategy ever since, primarily within children's centres. Melanie continues to express an interest in video, but this time for therapeutic & training purposes!

**Deborah Powers** worked as a nanny for a bilingual family in Copenhagen before training as a Speech and Language Therapist at University College London. She worked for four years in Redbridge (East London) nurseries, child development centres and clinics with pre-school children with a wide range of speech, language and communication needs, but particularly those with social communication disorders. Deborah then worked for five years as a locality team co-ordinator and clinical lead Speech and Language Therapist for Hackney Children's Centres, where she combined universal work and a clinical caseload in one of the most diverse areas of the UK. Deborah relocated to the Midlands in 2011 with her family and worked as a trainer for children's communication charity I CAN before joining 'Time to talk' in 2013.

**Alex Williams** began her speech and language career in 1987 after graduating from Manchester University, working with a varied caseload of children and adults. Based in Warrington she began to specialise in working with pre-school children with additional needs and was involved in the establishment of a child development centre, working as part of an early years multi-disciplinary team. Following relocation to Warwickshire, Alex continued to work with pre-school children with special needs until a career break in 2001. In 2005 Alex took the role as Speech and Language Therapist for the Leamington and Warwick Children's Centres, during which time she developed the 'Time to talk' strategy. Since 2009 she has been working as the strategic lead for SLT in Children's Centres and early years settings across Warwickshire.



## **'time to talk' Tier 1- Core Offer Training**

This training provides practitioners with an understanding of the importance of developing excellent early speech language and communication skills in babies and young children. It explores the different aspects of speech, language and communication and gives practitioners strategies to support these effectively in their settings. Practitioners will consider observation and monitoring of the development of speech, language and communication and how to identify and plan for children who need additional support. Emphasis will be placed on the role of the practitioner and the environment in early speech and language development. Practitioners will receive a copy of the communication monitoring tool

As a result of the training you will be able to:

- recognise and understand how the development of early speech, language and communication skills is dependent on the places children go and the people they spend time with.
- understand the importance of developing good early communication skills in babies and young children.
- understand what the 5 aspects of speech language and communication are.
- have some awareness of how to support each aspect of speech language and communication.
- recognise the importance of observation and monitoring to inform the planning of speech and language support.
- feel more confident in planning the next steps for supporting children's speech language and communication development.

**This training consists of 2 x 3 hour sessions.  
Practitioners must attend both sessions and complete gap task activities in between.**

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Trainer</b>
EY14-1030/01	29 Jan 2015	5 Feb 2015	The Willows Primary, Stratford CV37 9QN	1.30 pm – 4.30 pm	Alex Williams
EY14-1030/02	4 Feb 2015	11 Feb 2015	Camp Hill EY Centre, Nuneaton CV10 9QA	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Deborah Powers
EY14-1030/03	26 Feb 2015	5 Mar 2015	Wolston Community Centre CV8 3PD	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Melanie Packer
Ey14-1030/04	12 Mar 2015	19 Mar 2014	Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa CV32 5JQ	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Deborah Powers

**£75.00 per delegate**

**'time to talk' Tier 2 training**  
**5 half day sessions completed over a 5 -10 week period**

**Attendance criteria: Must have completed Tier 1 – Core Offer**

Tier 2 training provides practitioners with an in-depth understanding of the 5 key aspects of speech, language and communication development and support in babies and young children. Practitioners will have a greater understanding of how these aspects typically develop and will be given opportunities to explore what happens when development is not progressing as expected. Strategies which optimise the development of excellent speech, language and communication skills will be explained and reinforced through practical activities and reflection tasks. Practitioners will be provided with knowledge and tools to identify and support speech, language and communication difficulties. Alongside the formal training, practitioners will be offered adult-child interaction sessions which include video reflection within their own setting to ensure they are providing excellent interaction opportunities with the children in their setting.

As a result of the training you will have an understanding of:

- how speech, language and communication skills develop in babies and young children.
- how to identify children in need of additional support.
- strategies which optimise the development of excellent speech, language and communication skills.
- planning for supporting the development of excellent speech, language and communication skills.
- the development of excellent practitioner skills.
- the role of practitioners in supporting young children's communication skills.

Tier 2 training consists of 5 x 3 hour sessions, spaced across a term. Practitioners must attend all sessions within a block and complete reflection activities between the sessions. Two video reflection sessions will be arranged by the Time to talk team to coincide with the start and end of the training where possible.

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Day 4</b>	<b>Day 5</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Trainer</b>
EY14-1031/01	15 Jan 2015	22 Jan 2015	29 Jan 2015	5 Feb 2015	12 Feb 2015	St Michael's Children's Centre Bedworth CV12 9DA	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Alex Williams Melanie Packer Deborah Powers

**£150.00 per delegate**

## **'time to talk' Tier 3 training**

### **2 short day training sessions**

#### **Attendance criteria: Must have completed Tier 2 training**

Tier 3 training builds on and develops practitioner knowledge of speech, language and communication development through the use of a formalised screening tool – the WellComm. An understanding of the observation and assessment tools available and when to use them will be provided. The training encourages and develops confident practitioners who are eager to engage parents and share information effectively with both parents and other professionals. Specific information will be provided to support practitioners in identifying children who require additional support including children who stammer. Practitioners will be supported in developing communication-friendly spaces within their setting and also to cascade what they have been learning with others in their team.

As a result of this training, practitioners should:

- be able to confidently use the WellComm screening tool to identify a child's language level and plan the next steps of support.
- be aware of the observation and assessment tools available to them and have an understanding of when to use each.
- be able to create a communication-friendly environment and know how to apply interaction strategies.
- be able to identify those in need of additional support including children who stammer.
- have an understanding of how to engage parents to support their child and know how to refer a child to the Speech and Language Therapy Service.

Tier 3 training consists of 2 days of training and practitioners must attend both days. Reflection activities will be provided between the training days.

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Trainers</b>
EY14-1032/01	14 Jan 2015	28 Jan 2015	St Mary's Church, Leamington Spa CV31 1JW	9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Alex Williams Melanie Packer

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Session 2</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Trainers</b>
EY14-1032/02	27 Feb 2015	13 Mar 2015	The Chase Hotel, Nuneaton CV11 6AG	9.30 am – 3.30 pm	Melanie Packer Deborah Powers

**£150 per delegate (without Wellcomm tool)**

**£300 per delegate (with Wellcomm tool)**

## Chattermatters™ training sessions for Nurseries

### **Attendance criteria: Must have completed Tier 1 – Core Offer**

Chattermatters™ is a programme developed by speech and language therapists. It is based on the principles of effective early intervention with specific focus on the strategies which support the development of speech, language and communication from birth. This training enables practitioners to offer language enrichment sessions for babies, toddlers and young children based around singing, storytelling and play. The training programme has been updated and extended and includes a new manual and session plans.

As a result of this training practitioners

- will understand the principles which underpin Chattermatters™
- know how to run a Chattermatters™ language enrichment session
- know what strategies support early communication development
- know how to model and share strategies with parents
- understand how to share stories and songs with babies and young children
- receive a NEW and updated Chattermatters™ training manual

The training manual includes

- background and basics to running Chattermatters™
- Chattermatters™ CD containing all the session songs
- Chattermatters™ songbook
- symbol prompt cards
- strategies poster

Course Code	Date	Venue	Time	Trainers
EY14-1034/01	26 Jan 2015	Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa CV32 5JQ	9.30 am – 1.00 pm	Alex Williams
EY14-1034/02	19 Mar 2015	*Claremont Children's Centre, Rugby CV31 2LU	9.30 am – 1.00 pm	Melanie Packer

**\*NB – please allow extra time for parking at Claremont Children's as places are limited**

**£125.00 per delegate**

## 'time to talk' cluster meetings

We will be continuing to support practitioners who are implementing '**time to talk**' within their settings. Cluster meetings will be held across 5 locations throughout the year with the aim:

- To provide up to date information and ongoing professional development.
- To showcase good practice and share ideas.
- To provide opportunities to network with other champions and problem solve challenges together.
- To provide specific support and advice where necessary.
- To empower champions to share what they have learned with their teams in effective ways.

### Format

The cluster meeting will last 3hrs with a short break in the middle. Practitioners have told us they value time to meet with the time to talk team to discuss practice and ask questions which they have around implementing the time to talk strategy. To support this, each session will have a 1 hour informal question/answer session with the '**time to talk**' team, which will take place over lunchtime. Champions are invited to bring a packed lunch & encouraged to join us for part or all of the lunch hour.

**Any setting wishing to complete the requirements of the 'enhanced setting' award must enable their champions to attend cluster meetings and the conference.**

Course Code	Date	Venue	Time	Trainers	Cost
EY14-1033/01	9 Feb 2015	Camp Hill EY Centre, Nuneaton CV10 9QA	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Alex Williams Deborah Powers	FREE
EY14-1033/02	11 Feb 2015	Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa CV32 5JQ	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Alex Williams Melanie Packer	FREE
EY14-1033/03	25 Feb 2015	St Michael's Children's Centre, Bedworth CV12 9DA	9.30 am – 12.30 pm	Melanie Packer Deborah Powers	FREE
EY14-1033/04	26 Feb 2015	Wolston Community Centre CV8 3PD	1.30 pm – 4.30 pm	Melanie Packer Deborah Powers	FREE

# **Booking Arrangements and Charges**

**All 'time to talk' courses are offered at a subsidised cost**

## **Booking System**

All courses should be booked by completing and returning the attached booking form to:

- EMAIL [wccearlyyearstraining@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:wccearlyyearstraining@warwickshire.gov.uk)
- POST Saltisford Office Park, Building 3, Ansell Way WARWICK CV34 4UL
- FAX 01926 742020

Alternatively, you can book by telephone 01926 742534 / 742098

**More Information available at <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/eyfstraining>**

## **Charging Policy**

In the event of a cancellation, 2 weeks' notice is required, otherwise the full cost will be charged, and charges are non-refundable and non-transferable. If a delegate is unable to attend you will be able to nominate a substitute to attend the confirmed place at no extra charge. In the event of non-payment Warwickshire County Council's Legal Department will undertake the process of full cost recovery.

**You will be invoiced at the time of booking with payment due within 28 days**

**EARLY YEARS TRAINING 2014/15**  
**COURSE BOOKING FORM**

<b>Setting Name:</b>				<b>Contact Person:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>					
<b>Telephone:</b>		<b>Fax:</b>		<b>Email:</b>	

<b>Course Code</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Name of delegate/s attending</b>	<b>Fee payable</b>

These bookings are authorised by ..... (signature)