

Warwickshire 'time to talk'TM

Evaluation Summary 2016-2017

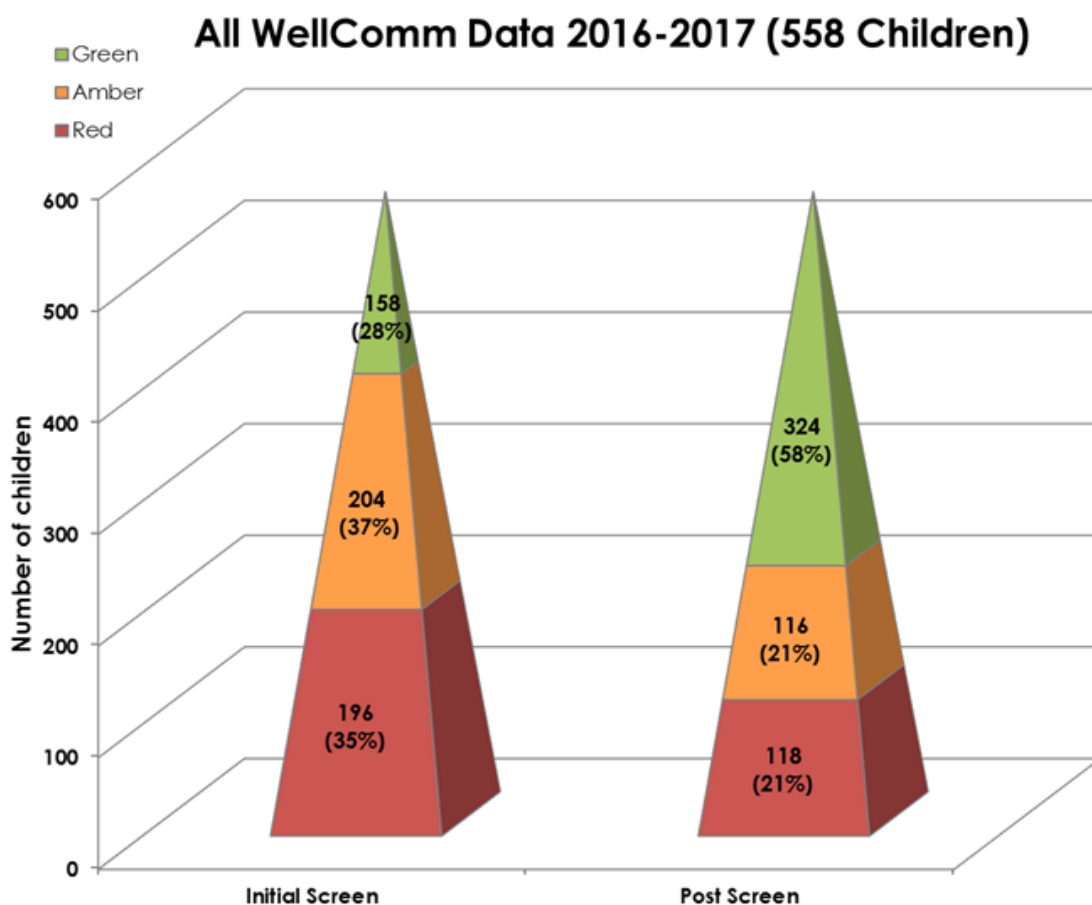


Our vision: to create and celebrate opportunities for all children to achieve their potential in speech, language and communication, working together with, and in response to the needs of local communities.

The Academic Year 2016-2017 marks the sixth year in which 'time to talk'TM has collected annual data from speech and language champions to monitor the impact of implementing the strategy. Champions from early years settings, including children's centres, were asked to submit data at two points within the year, before and after providing intervention or support. The children reported on were identified as children at risk of language delay.

WellComm data was analysed for 558 children who attend settings that sustain the 'time to talk'TM strategy. By follow-up, the proportion of children achieving their full language potential (green level) had increased from 28% to 58%. The number still requiring a 'red' level of support decreased from 35% to 21%.

NB. Outcomes from Warwickshire's Closing the Gap project are not included in these figures (see page 2).



Training Delivered

- Almost 200 practitioners attended Tier 1 training
- 46 Speech and Language Champions trained to Tier 2 & 3
- 19 Practitioners were trained to deliver '**chatter matters**'TM for babies and toddlers
- 15 termly cluster meetings were held across five localities

Targeted Work - Closing the Gap



Project Summary

21 settings (12 schools, 9 pre-schools/nurseries) took part in the project, aiming to support school readiness by ensuring that practitioners are knowledgeable and confident in delivering strategies which are known to help children develop effective communication and language skills. This included Tier 1-3 training for 24 new Speech and Language Champions and VERVE child interaction therapy for 21 selected practitioners. All of them reported confidence in the subjects covered and were able to identify changes in their practice across the training.

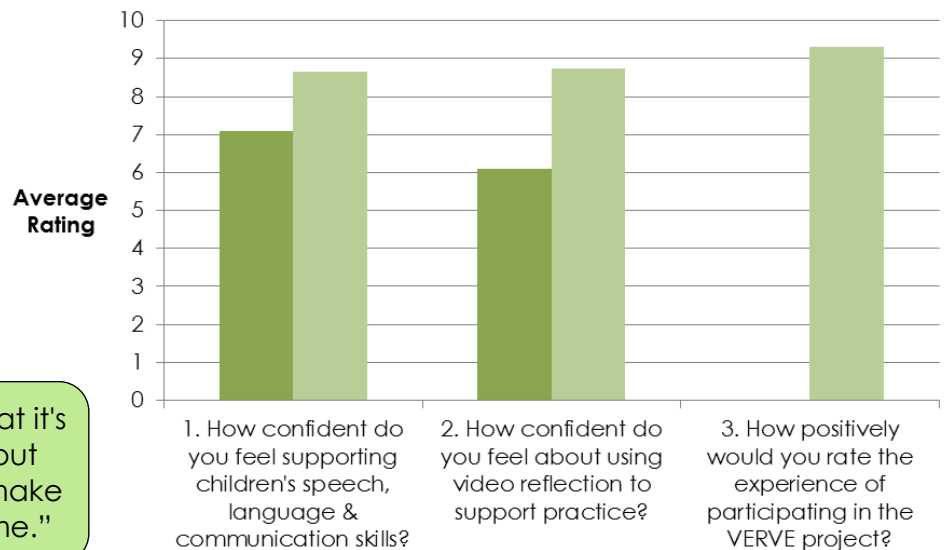
Outcomes

All of the Key Performance Indicators set have been met and evidenced. Practitioners who took part in VERVE have demonstrated their knowledge, understanding and application of strategies (evidenced on video) that support speech, language and communication.

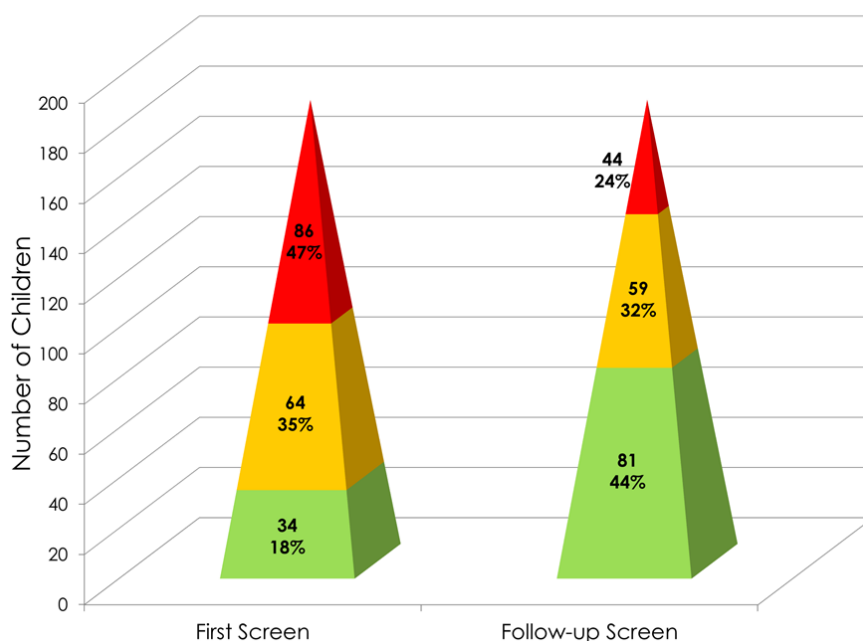
"Doing Verve has helped me see that it's not about me talking all the time but waiting for the children to want to make communication of some sort with me."

■ Before VERVE
■ After VERVE

Practitioners' Confidence Ratings



Closing the Gap WellComm Data 2016/17 (184 Children)



Practitioners have been able to reflect on their own practice, develop new skills and have enabled the progression of the children who they support.

Communication environments have been enhanced, particularly the quality of adult child interactions, but also the physical environments (evidenced in case studies)

The children attending the Closing the Gap schools and settings have made great gains in their understanding and use of spoken language as measured by the WellComm screen. Results show significant improvements in communication skills, with 81 of the children tracked (44%) ending the year with an age appropriate (green) score (a rise from 18%). The number still scoring red was almost halved.

"The child has become more vocal and will now choose to speak in front of others. He also has become more confident to speak to adults."

The newly trained Speech and Language Champions are now able to support continued implementation and support the strategy across their settings. They will be able to access continued support from the 'time to talk'™ network.

Project Summary

June 2016 - May 2017, 'time to talk'™ worked in partnership with families, Children's Centres and libraries within the Leamington and Rugby areas. The Smart Start funded project had two avenues for development. Firstly, to nurture and develop a network of 'chatter matters'™ parent ambassadors and secondly, to develop 'Being Bilingual', a bilingual 'chatter matters'™ group for parents, babies and young



children. Where possible we worked directly to co-design and deliver activities and resources with parents. As the project progressed it became clear that there was a high demand for training for parents (monolingual and multilingual) and practitioners. Parents from bilingual families and practitioners from EY settings across the county welcomed and supported the arrival of guidance for supporting Communication, Language and Literacy for children with EAL.

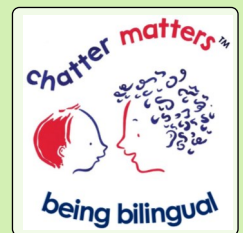


By the end of the project:

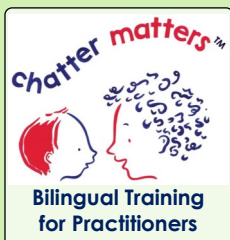
- 38 families attended 'Being Bilingual'. All reported that the group was beneficial. 89% of the families reported that they felt able to support their child using their home language and would recommend this group to other bilingual families.

"Very friendly and warm group. Lots of good strategies to help you raise your child bilingual."

- 'Being Bilingual' leaflets and posters were co-created and translated into Polish, Punjabi, Portuguese and Latvian - see the new 'time to talk'™ families webpage: www.timetotalkwarwickshire.wordpress.com



- 6 'chatter matters'™ short films were co-created with parents. The videos can be viewed online via our website, youtube or facebook.



- 98 parents attended workshops across the county and 74 of these parents received resources that they agreed to share with family and friends.
- 141 practitioners from early years settings across the county attended 'Bilingualism' training.



"It has allowed me to see how being bilingual is an asset for children and how to support them when learning a second language."



Sustaining and Extending 'time to talk'™



Our principles: prevention • early identification • early intervention • integrated and holistic services • effective training • easy accessibility • communication friendly environments

Partnerships

- **Spark** was a pilot partnership programme with North Warwickshire Children's Centres nurture nursery, funded by Warwickshire Smart Start, providing *adult/child interaction therapy* (known as VERVE). Parent, practitioner and child language measures all showed this to be an effective approach. ***"It worked so well because parents could view their interaction with their own child. It's an amazing project, which could help so many families."*** (Practitioner feedback)
- Hill Close Gardens are working with **'time to talk'™** to create **'chatter matters'™** in the garden.
- Thank you to the Family Information Service (FIS) and Smart Start for sharing **'chatter matters'™** videos and for supporting **'chatter matters'™** week.
- The Community Pre-School and **'time to talk'™** SLT teams continued to work together to provide regular drop-in sessions for families to access informal advice and support in 36 community venues. Of the 482 children referred to drop-ins, 71% were under 3 years of age.
- **'time to talk'™** participated in Warwickshire Libraries' annual conference and in addition 25 library staff running 'Rhyme Time' sessions, came along to bespoke **'time to talk'™** training.

Campaigning



- **'chatter matters'™** week saw a social media campaign called **#singasongofsharing** aiming to raise awareness of the importance of supporting early interactions from the moment children are born through singing. EY practitioners shared videos online to teach families five nursery rhymes - all supporting early communication.
- Facebook - the **'time to talk'™** page has over 900 'likes'.
- Website development - Graphic Design students from Coventry University worked with **'time to talk'™** to further develop the website to include some new pages specifically for families.



Celebrating

- The **'time to talk'™** Conference welcomed practitioners from across the network to hear speakers and take part in workshops from 'The Baby Room Project', 'Seven Stories', Warwickshire EMTASS and more.
- 16 settings completed portfolios to achieve their **'time to talk'™** Enhanced Awards
- **'time to talk'™** was shortlisted as a finalist for the 'Advancing Healthcare Awards' for contribution to public health as well as 'The Communication Trust Shine a Light Awards' for innovation.

