

Warwickshire 'time to talk'™ Evaluation 2015-2016

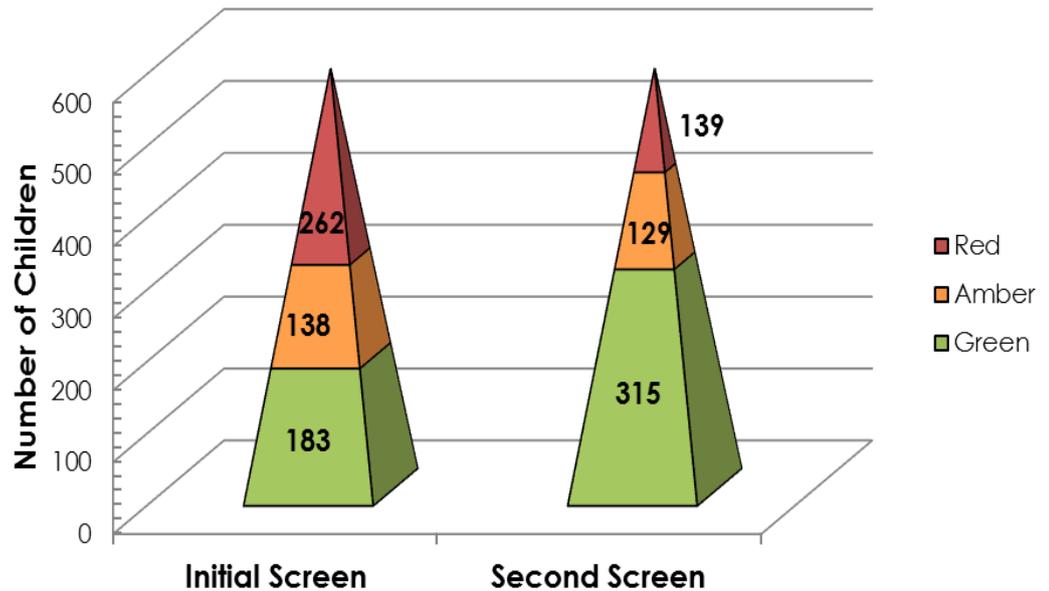


'time to talk'™ collects annual data from speech and language champions across Warwickshire to monitor the impact of implementing the strategy. Speech and Language Champions from settings sustaining the 'time to talk'™ strategy were asked to provide WellComm screen information at two points across the academic year, before and after they had provided intervention or support. The children reported on were identified by champions as being at risk of language delay.

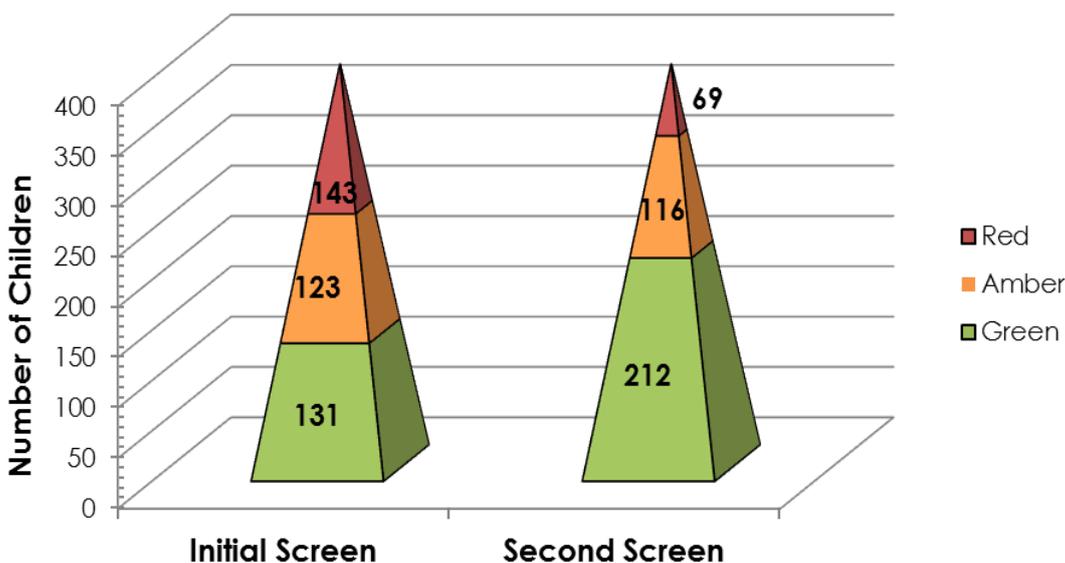
The WellComm data (from initial and follow up screens) was analysed for 583 children from 49 settings.

By the follow-up screen, children achieving their full language potential (green level) had risen from 31% to 54%. The number still needing 'red' level of support has almost halved. This data follows the expected trend from previous years, showing that the support and intervention provided by champions has made a positive impact on children's language skills.

WellComm Data 2015-2016 (583 Children)



**Attention and Listening Data 2015-2015
(397 Children)**



Champions also reported on children's levels of attention and listening skills at each screen for 397 of the children. This is included because there are some children who might not change colour bands on the WellComm screen, but who do make significant progress in the foundation skills of attention and listening, crucial for developing good understanding and spoken use of language over time.

Targeted Work - Closing the Gap

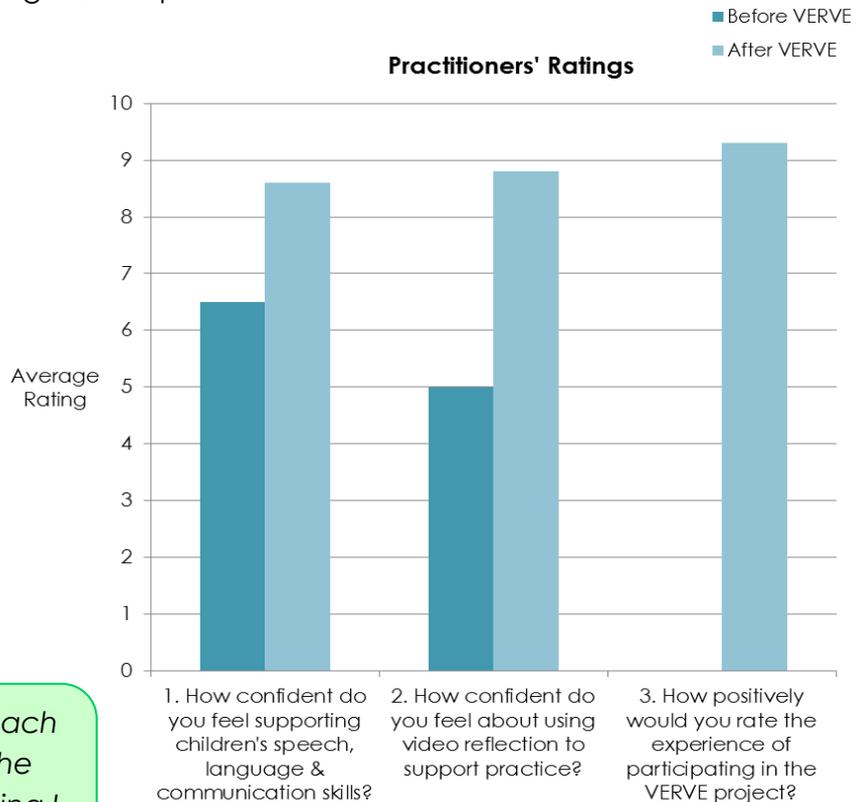


Project Summary

16 settings (10 schools, 5 pre-schools & 1 nurture nursery) 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 training and VERVE child interaction therapy for whole teams (over 100 staff) and Tier 2 and 3 Training for 6 new Speech and Language Champions.

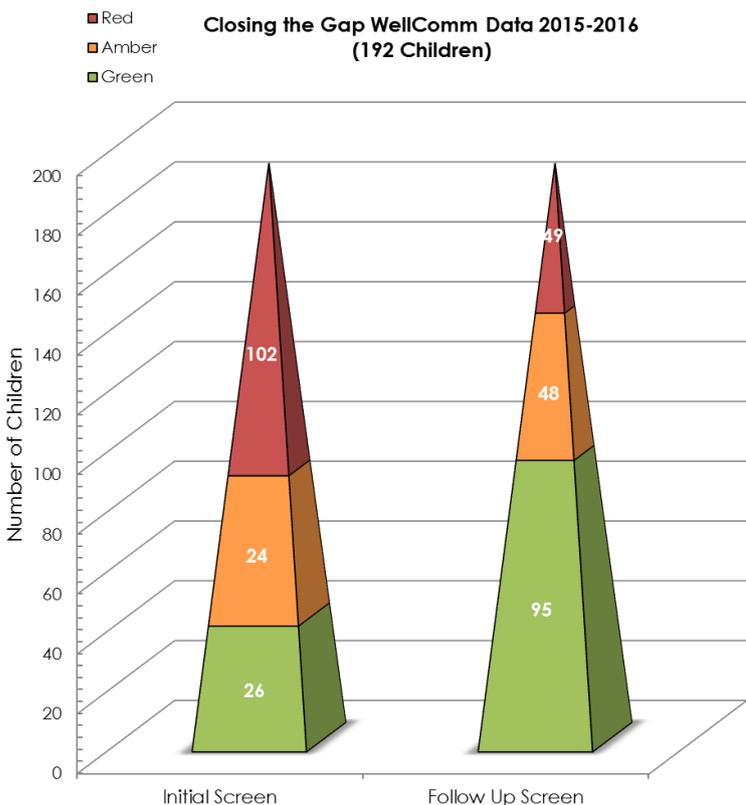
Outcomes

All performance indicators were met and evidenced. Tier 1 trained practitioners reported confidence in identifying children's speech, language and communication needs. Tier 2 practitioners identified change in their practice, also evidenced through video interaction. Tier 3 practitioners reported confidence with using the WellComm tool to screen and monitor children's progress and to plan intervention where necessary. VERVE practitioners reported significant increases in their confidence and use of video reflection.



"I have been able to reflect on my approach to a quiet child and I know it works. It's the perfect approach for every child, something I know we will always use when we can."

"It makes you think about your own practice... how much you talk, when and whether it's useful to the child or whether it's just for the sake of talking. Reducing questions leads to more speech."



WellComm data demonstrates that children working at 'green' level i.e. in line with age expectations increased from 14 - 49%. Those working at 'red' level halved.

"VERVE should be available for all practitioners in 'time to talk'™ early years settings. The strategies have proved invaluable."

Practitioner evaluations, case studies and video evidence all demonstrate that the underpinning skills of confidence, interaction, attention and listening have been enhanced, providing a solid foundation for verbal language to continue to develop, vital for school readiness.

Sustaining and Extending 'time to talk'™



Highlights of 2015-2016



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.

Training

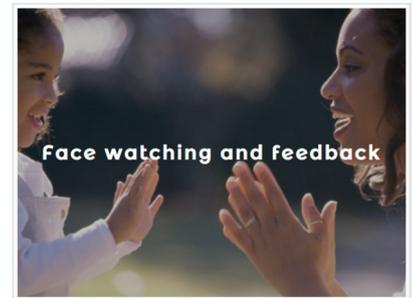


Tiered training and cluster meetings

- **351** practitioners attended Tier 1 training
- **45** Speech and Language Champions trained to Tier 2&3
- **15** termly locality cluster meetings held

VERVE child interaction therapy

- Delivered to **19** settings and schools
- **133** practitioners coached through video interaction
- Evidenced improvements in adults' practice
- Measured gains in children's skills



www.vervechildinteraction.org

Campaigning

In the community

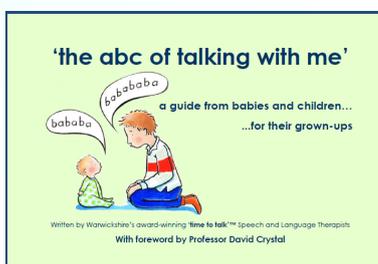
- 'chatter matters'™ week celebrated in March 2016
- Champions organised activities around the theme 'it's in our nature'
- The 'chatter matters'™ bus toured the county welcoming **175** parents and **314** children across the week



Online www.timetotalkwarwickshire.wordpress.com



- Website expanded with an average of **234** users per month
- 'time to talk'™ facebook page offers updates to champions and the community



Printed resources

- 'the abc of talking with me' second edition published
- Copies supplied to settings and practitioners within Warwickshire and around the country

Sustaining and Extending 'time to talk'™



Highlights of 2015-2016



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

Partnership working

Smart Start



- A new programme funded by Smart Start, '**chatter matters**'™ parent ambassadors and bilingual '**chatter matters**'™.
- Accessible information and resources to support early interaction between parents, carers and children are being co-produced with parents, Children's Centres and libraries.

Integrated working

- Monthly drop-ins supported by '**time to talk**'™ and Community SLTs were accessed by 538 families.
- **23** library staff were trained by '**time to talk**'™.
- **73** Health Visitors and Community Nursery Nurses were trained to use the WellComm.

Celebrating

Annual 'time to talk'™ conference

- Over **60** champions and managers attended.
- Professor David Crystal, (linguist, writer, editor, lecturer, broadcaster) educated and entertained on the topic 'The Fascinating First Year'.
- Anne Wood, Creative Director of Ragdoll TV Productions spoke about how her programmes are crafted with communication in mind.
- Workshops from Warwickshire practitioners on sensory play, media talking tubs and 'The Image of the Child'.
- A day of learning, networking and celebrating outstanding practice.



Enhanced Certificate

- **13** settings achieved or renewed their '**time to talk**'™ enhanced award completing a detailed portfolio demonstrating the impact of implementing the '**time to talk**'™ strategy.