

Press Release

'chatter matters'TM - it's in our nature

'chatter matters'TM week 7th - 11th March 2016

Seeds need sunlight, water and food to grow. Give them time and they can transform from tiny specks into big strong trees – trees to admire – trees that offer so much to so many – food, wood, shelter, clean air, beauty... it's the same for our children.

When our children are born, they are full of potential. They look at our faces, and listen to our voices. We look back and we smile. We copy their funny faces, their noises too. Our responses to children, from the moment that they are born, as their parents and educators, ensure that they grow into strong communicators.

We often hear stories in the press that families need more support with raising children. Research shows that many children struggle when they start school because they are not able to communicate to their full potential. Teachers have noticed that it is getting more difficult to give every child the attention that they need. (from Save The Children's Teachers' Poll 2015)

'time to talk'TM enables children to achieve their potential by supporting early years practitioners and parents to develop their skills in communication. They learn how to respond to children, how to nurture their emerging communication skills and what to do if they need more help. And it works. Year on year, children's communication skills improve thanks to the skills of the **'time to talk'TM** network using the **'chatter matters'TM** approach.

Parents notice the benefits of **'chatter matters'TM** for their children and they benefit too:

'she's started to communicate with other children - she never used to join in with others'

'chatter matters has helped me strengthen my relationship with my child'

'chatter matters has given me confidence to sing at home with my baby'

Every year, **'time to talk'TM** celebrates **'chatter matters'TM** week, sharing strategies and raising awareness of the value of children's communication across the community. The Big Red Party Bus will be touring the County, welcoming children and families to come and play and to hear more about the nature of communication. We'll be encouraging children to plant a seed, to go for a welly walk, or simply to have a chat outside. See website or facebook page for timetable.



www.timetotalkwarwickshire.wordpress.com



'time to talk' is a partnership project with Warwickshire County Council & South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust