

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

If you would like further information,
please contact:

Elinor Williams
Advisory Teacher-Speech Language &
Communication
Building 2, Parc Dewi Sant,
Jobswell Road
Carmarthen
SA31 3HB

Tel: 01267 246500

Lynne Watkins
Speech & Language Therapist
Glangwili General Hospital
Dolgwili Road
Carmarthen
SA31 2AF

Tel: 01267 227425

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

**ChATT to Your
Child**



Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

What is the Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service?

The Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service has been developed by Carmarthenshire Local Education Authority and Hywel Dda Health Board to support the Speech, Language and Communication Needs of all children who live in Carmarthenshire.

Who are we?

The Service is made up of a range of professionals who all have first-hand experience of supporting children facing difficulty with Speech, Language and Communication. Included in our team are Specialist Teachers, Speech and Language Therapists, Educational Psychologists and Specialist Teaching Assistants.

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

Ideas for talking with your child:

In the Park

- Point out things of interest to your child and name them
- Talk about what your child is doing
- Discuss what your child would like to do

In the Kitchen

- Discuss what you are making
- Ask your child to find the items you need
- Talk about favourite and disliked foods

At Bedtime

- Look at a book together and discuss the pictures
- Talk about your child's bedtime routine
- Sing songs together

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

A good speaker:

..uses good
vocabulary

..speaks in a
clear voice

..uses facial
expression
& gestures

..gets down to
the level of
the child

..models correct
sentence
structure

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

What Do We Do?

We give advice and support to
Parents, Children and Schools.
We assess children in a variety
Of contexts and provide advice
And support strategies to help
Children develop their Speech,
Language and Communication
Skills.



Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service



Speaking and listening are at the heart of children's learning. Children need to be confident communicators and active listeners in order to learn about the world they live in. Language skills are crucial, and children begin to develop these skills from birth.

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

Here are some ways to help develop your child's speaking skills

Make time to talk

Encourage your child to talk

Listen patiently

Give your child a wide range of experiences

Encourage longer conversations

Talk and question throughout experiences

Be a good language role model

Ask questions

Take Time to Talk!

From the very earliest stages parents are teaching their children to communicate. Through playing, chatting, singing, commenting and questioning parents are modelling speaking all the time.

At school children are taught to:

- Think about what they say
- Choose the right words
- Listen to others before they speak
- Talk to others
- Share ideas

'Listening and Speaking are the roots of reading and writing'
(Ofsted 2005)

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

Parents and carers play a crucial role in developing children's communication skills. From the moment of birth parents are a child's first teachers and provide a powerful example of good communication.

Research shows that even very tiny babies understand the rules of conversation and can 'take turns' in communicating with an adult, by, for example, copying facial expressions

Carmarthenshire Communication Support Service

Conversation with parents has been found to be one of the most important factors influencing children's achievement.

