

TALK Derby – speech, language and communication (SLC)

A group of service providers has now been appointed to provide an extensive programme of SLC support for the next 18 months. This programme offers a supported process to help early years' settings improve their SLC provision, and this extends to targeted nurseries, PVI providers, Children's Centres, childminders as well as school's with Foundation Stage classes (hence the circulation message above). All participating settings/schools are asked to identify a **TALK Derby Champion** who will be well placed to communicate, co-ordinate and lead their engagement. All of the organisations that are contributing to this programme have agreed to use xyz@talkderby.org.uk email addresses and a website is being developed as a single portal for all activities at this same address. Please watch out for a new stream of communications from TALK Derby partners. The first set of opportunities will include:

- The first **TALK Derby Network Meeting** will be held on **Monday 20th May** (afternoon or evening options) at the Derby Conference Centre, DE24 8UX. This will be first of a series of regular network meetings for TALK Derby Champions and other colleagues that will provide support, training and share good practice. Direct invitations have already been sent to early years providers, but please email hempalls@talkderby.org.uk if you need to know more.
- There will be support for many settings to use the **Balanced System® to improve SLC practice**. This uses an overarching set of outcomes, processes and outcome measures across five strands: supporting parents, young people and families; enhancing and adapting the environment; developing the workforce; identifying need; and providing appropriate intervention.
- **Training** will be provided for both **front-line practitioners and early years' leaders** by the Elklan organisation. More information and first booking details will be shared soon.
- There will be a programme to train and support schools and settings to **work effectively with families** around speech, language and communication.