

# Talk4Meaning

Supporting children with communication and learning needs

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**‘Talking to learn... talking to succeed... talking to be happy!!’**

## **An inspirational talk for fathers by Michael Jones**

The aim of this talk is to inspire fathers, grandfathers and other male relatives to reflect on their role in children’s language development.

### **Areas for discussion:**

Successful communicators on the world stage: what makes a great communicator? How children learn language. How some children learn language quicker than others. The role of parents and parental responsiveness. Questions adults ask children and questions children ask adults. Questions at school to develop ‘enquiring minds’. Questions at home to develop enquiring minds. Developing children’s word power. The gift of bilingualism. Language is power!

### **What some people have said about this talk:**

“Wow! I had three of the dads queuing up outside my office door the next morning, all dying to know when they can have you back.”

“The dads talked about how the important role of being a dad is often not recognised, and how they have seen the impact of poor father involvement.”

“The over riding buzz was that they enjoyed the experience and want to repeat it.”

“A big ‘thank you’ and well done from us all. Not only can you influence women, but you work wonders with the men too!!”



**Michael Jones MRCSLT, MSc., PGCE, ADES**  
Early Language Consultant for Luton’s Every Child a Talker initiative

## **LEWSEY CHILDREN'S CENTRE**

### **COMMENTS FROM CHRISTMAS STORYTELLING MORNING FOR DADS, with Michael Jones from Luton's Every Child a Talker project**

- "It's nice to do something with just me & Kyle".
- "Very good. All the kids seemed to enjoy it a lot".
- "Very good and enjoyable. Makes a change to involve Dads for once! Very friendly storyteller".
- "I wanted to spend quality time with my daughter to join in fun activities".
- "Wrapping the presents was the most enjoyable part as it was fun to do and Eilish enjoyed it".
- "Very enjoyable, organised, inviting. I was made to feel welcome and comfortable. My anxiety disappeared by the time I was inside the classroom and I was able to relax. Many thanks for your kind support and reassurance."
- "Excellent day! All the staff were brilliant. Thank you".
- "Very, very, good!!"