



Helping to make it **Child's Play**

Tamsin is four and has cerebral palsy. She can't talk, move her body normally or pick things up with her hands. She gets immensely frustrated when she sees other children playing with toys or computers.

The ACE Centre's Toys2Talk project can loan Tamsin a toybox containing switch-accessible toys and communication materials, as well as access equipment that allows her to control a computer.

Just imagine the difference it could make...

Toys2Talk 

enabling communication through play



Play is the biggest cornerstone of communication development in the pre-school years. But for young children with severe physical difficulties, playing with conventional toys is a huge challenge. Many of these children have no speech, and for them the opportunities for enjoyment and communication through play are extremely limited.

Unless these children are enabled at a young age to have control and enjoy themselves at home with their families they are in danger of falling behind their able-bodied peers when they go to school. The earlier a child learns to communicate and play, the more positive their future will be.

Toys2Talk is an inspirational new service from the ACE Centre. Working with families and early years professionals, our specialist Toys2Talk team can offer the loan of a box of adapted toys, access devices for early computer play and individually prepared communication resources. We'll also give advice as to how the equipment can be used most effectively.

Subject to funding, the Toys2Talk service will initially be based in Oxfordshire, so if you're interested in a loan or you just want to chat about how this new service could help a child, contact Rachel Moore (Toys2Talk SLT) on **01865 759800**. You can also email her at toys2talk@ace-centre.org.uk



What's in the Box?

The contents of a typical Toys2Talk box might include a couple of suitable switches with their mounting equipment, several switch-adapted toys, items of access equipment to allow the switches to be connected to a computer, and communication charts to support the toys. Guidelines on the most effective use of the equipment will also be supplied.