



# Program Profile

<b>Program or project name</b>	Smalltalk
<b>Location/s</b>	Moe, Morwell, Traralgon
<b>Client group</b>	Children aged 0-5 and families
<b>Internal stakeholders</b>	Team Leader, Senior Practitioners, Family Support Specialists, Child Development Specialists
<b>External stakeholders</b>	Program delivery partners, Council, Schools, other community service agencies, Government funders
<b>Program or project description</b>	<p>Via supported playgroups and in-home Support, Smalltalk introduces parents of children aged 0 to 4 to a small number of parenting essentials that, based on evidence, lead to optimal child outcomes. Smalltalk helps parents to become aware of the importance of the everyday interactions they have with their child.</p> <p>There are currently five Smalltalk Supported Playgroups which are delivered across the Latrobe Valley. They operate on the basis that 8-10 families are enrolled in each Supported Playgroup each term.</p> <p>The playgroups feature parenting interventions which aim to create positive home learning environments by supporting families to facilitate their children's learning. The interventions build on existing parenting strengths, enabling parents to be more knowledgeable and confident in their own abilities to meet their parenting responsibilities. The interventions also incorporate strategies that help parents meet their own needs, both individually and as a parent.</p> <p>The parenting strategies incorporated in the program are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• encouraging parents to interact with their children in a warm and gentle manner</li> <li>• tuning in to their child by giving them their full attention frequently and promptly</li> <li>• attending to whatever their child shows an interest in</li> <li>• listening and talking to their child more frequently</li> <li>• using teachable moments when they arise</li> <li>• shared reading.</li> </ul>
<b>Additional information</b>	