

## **Buttercup Children's Centre, Worcester**

Dawn has been involved with her local Children's Centre since April 2003 (it was SureStart Worcester back then) when she attended a Stay and Play group with her youngest child. As with many parents, Dawn was lacking in confidence and would struggle to make eye contact. Attending the Stay and Play group helped to build up her self-confidence.

When her daughter became eligible for funded nursery places Dawn attended courses available at the Children's Centre eg. pottery. Being involved with the Children's Centre also encouraged Dawn to improve her literacy skills and in time attended a Family Learning course when her daughter started school. During this time Dawn showed an interest in becoming more involved with the Stay and Play group taking on a key role. This led to CRB checks and Children's Centre volunteer training.

Dawn is now a volunteer who runs a Stay and Play group at the Children's Centre twice a week and is a valued member of the team working closely with the staff. Dawn's involvement with the Children's Centre has improved her understanding of child development, given her good experience and provided her with good references when required.

Dawn's comments on being involved with Buttercup Children's Centre are:

"It has given me a lot of confidence and I have achieved things that I never believed I could do."

"The most important thing I have learned is that children are fun, good fun and I enjoy spending time with them."