**Meeting Notes from 29th April 2020 – Using Talking Mats Remotely**

A big thankyou to all who joined the Zoom meeting. We had over 40 people attend from the UK, Norway, Japan and Australia. It was wonderful to see the energy and enthusiasm to explore how to use Talking Mats remotely. As we said this is very much a journey and we all need to help each other learn the most effective ways to do that. You were keen for a follow up meeting in 6 weeks so I have set that up for 11th June at 10.00 am to 11.am GMT.

These zoom meetings work best if we share experiences so, I would really value it if, you would let me know in advance if you have tried Talking Mats remotely, in whatever situation and mode. It is as important to share times when things have not worked as well as times when they have. We learn from both and it is a very friendly and supportive group to discuss your learning with.

So to some practical resources

1. The blog has instructions of how to access Talking Mats via a web browser in particular how to manage flash , link to Teams or Zoom and how to get your reduced priced Covid Digtial Talking Mats resource <https://www.talkingmats.com/using-talking-mats-remotely/>
2. Here is the link to the how to video showing using the digital talking mats through Zoom <https://zoom.us/rec/share/4c9QLbHN1nFOedbf-GTvfqwFANvlT6a81nMW__oMyEhLBqdRT-C0Gav_pzVPlZMI>
3. You asked for some videos to show ‘thinkers’ what Talking Mats is about so here are some links. This arose out of the discussion about whether you can do Talking Mats remotely with someone who has never done it before. There was a comment that some orientation videos be helpful. Here is a selection
   * A video that explains the Talking Mats process in some detail <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fmyt1fE-_U8&t=13s>

* With a young person using the digital Talking Mats <https://youtu.be/SzAgGmLYpE0>
* With a person who has aphasia using the digital Talking Mats <https://youtu.be/GIIv17eTgFI>

Hopefully, we will have a bit more experience to share on this topic next time we meet.

1. We had a discussion about using on a iPad and or tablet – this is proving more problematic – thankyou to the people who have sent us ideas and are helping us look at this after the meeting – we are still testing some things out and will be back in touch if we have anything more to add

**Training**

These seminars are designed for people who have attended the Talking Mats foundation course, we do not go over the principles and practice of using Talking Mats effectively. We would stress if you are going to use Talking Mats remotely that you should have completed a Talking Mats foundation course. Till September we have a 30 percent discount operating on that training contact [info@talkingmats.com](mailto:info@talkingmats.com) for details