

Abstract No. 3.1

Wednesday 6th September 2017 at 11:00-11:45

**Title: TMIC: a fine tool to create social connectedness**

Presenter: Damie van Vianen, Kentalis Rafael, The Netherlands

Co-presenters: Amanda Buijs

Main focus: Mainly practice, Congenital deafblindness

Abstract:

Summary

At the conference in Lille, August 2013, we first came across the topic of three-party communication by Eija Lundqvist. We could see the potential for the further development of our children with congenital deafblindness at Royal Dutch Kentalis Rafael school, and for giving them even more opportunities to participate in the world that surrounds them. We started working with conversations with multiple partners in the tactile modality and presented our findings during the World conference in Bucharest, May 2015. Since then, we broadened our way of working with this fine tool. Seen in the light of the given workshop of May 2015, which was mainly focused on linguistic development, you'll find out that our approach in making Tactile Multi-Partner Interaction and Communication to good use, is much bigger these days.

Workshop

Our school, Kentalis Rafael, is a school for students with congenital deafblindness in the ages up till 20 years. A group of great cognitive diversity.

During our presentation we'll show the participants some striking examples from the practical field in which two competent partners making TMIC to good use, can set the stages for development regarding topics as building trust by listening in, sharing and naming emotions, bringing a person to a higher level of communication, making choices, leading by example, I-positions, joint attention, overcoming feelings of anxiety.

One of the main characteristics of multi-partner conversations is that when people are sharing experiences and/or information, a fellowship emerges; connectedness. A condition which induces a sense of safety, by itself of positive influence on learning and developing.

Sharing by showing

By showing these examples, we hope to illustrate the diverse possibilities of the use of Tactile Multi-Partner Interaction and Communication for development. We profoundly believe our experiences in the practical field can be considered practice based evidence. We are keen on hearing comments and suggestions from our international colleagues about our efforts and hope to hear their experiences on this matter.