

<b>Project</b>		Family engagement and opportunity project	
<b>Lead delivery partner</b>		Sure Start Children's Centre/Warsop	
<b>Theme</b>	<b>Adult and Family learning</b>  <b>Reducing barriers to training and engagement</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Training and development</b>
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Training and personal development opportunities</b>	<b>Budget code</b>	
<b>Project outcomes (from SLA)</b>  Improved knowledge and skills  Improved life opportunities			
<b>Reporting period dates</b>	<b>August 2018-</b>  <b>December 2018</b>	<b>Nr and age of people benefiting from the project during the reporting period</b>	<b>180 engagement</b>  <b>5 childcare and transport</b>  <b>13 families (approx.) at Stay and Play sessions</b>  <b>Family Support-15 families</b>

### **Introduction**

This covers the period August 2018-December 2018

It has been a time of creativity, trying new ways to support local communities and additionally fit engagement opportunities into the current menu of interventions. The changes to Children's Centre services resulted in changes to service delivery and new work models began with parents requesting training and personal development.

The funding allowed different kinds of engagement interventions for parents and their families locally. It helped support parents to attend parenting programmes and especially a new course called "Being a Parent". They travelled from Warsop and Church Warsop to attend the sessions run at Mansfield Woodhouse Children's Centre and provided mobility (taxis and bus fares) for parents dropping children off at school and then having to travel for the course to start at

9.30a.m. and return before school pick up times.

The funding helped provide childcare for parents to attend parenting, adult learning courses and childcare to reduce barriers to them moving on with their lives. Parents were able to use local nurseries and then go into training sessions.

Parents feedback:

"It made me think what to say and what not to say"

"I'm not to label my girl"

"It's nice that I am not the only one"

"Shared what I've learned with husband, parents and in laws (who look after B often)"

"Peers been really good"

"Learning I'm not alone with struggling with my child's challenging behaviour"

"Parents course run by parents is great. Better than people who don't have kids"

Many parents commented about the benefits of meeting new friends and new parents

The main impact parents continued to comment on were about peer support, making friendships and being supported locally.

One parent received a huge amount of support from staff and other peers, including Volunteers. Other parents offered toys and equipment to the family and the staff were also able to contribute with nappies, creams and baby resources.

Her comments were "I've never been anywhere where people have been so kind"

I am now more confident in helping my child's learning

Numbers	Yes	10	No		Not Sure		N/A		Total Responses	10
%	Yes	100%	No		Not Sure		N/A		Total Responses	

I am feeling more confident at putting effective family routines in place

Numbers	Yes	100	No		Not Sure		N/A		Total Responses	10
%	Yes	100%	No		Not Sure		N/A		Total Responses	100%

I am now more confident in setting boundaries and managing my child's behaviour

Numbers	Yes	9	No		Not Sure	1	N/A		Total Responses	10
%	Yes	90%	No		Not Sure	10%	N/A		Total Responses	100%

*(please note that not all attendees were from Warsop but were inclusive comments)*

Parents moved onto access further training more local and more recently attended Footsteps Volunteering training. Others helped provide Volunteer support to other sessions.

The funding supported an agency worker for eleven weeks at Meden Vale Bungalow to provide services, assist and to help parents and local children. The centre was going to be taken over by other services but their start date was prolonged. Without the funding the sessions wouldn't have run so well and met the needs of local families in a rural community.

Parents commented:

- 1. It has been great coming back to group at the bungalow, lovely for the children getting together to join in with activities. We especially enjoy the sing time. The staff have been great! Thank you*
- 2. Both my children love playgroup because there is lots of fun activities for them to do suitable for their ages. They also feel comfortable around the staff. I hope it continues to stay running in the future.*
- 3. Been coming to playgroup a few weeks now with my 4 month old and 4 year old. We love how suitable the group is for different ages as it means both my children can attend. The staff are brilliant and make us feel welcome every week. Would like to have scales available to weigh my 4 month old but other than that we love the group and will continue to keep coming.*
- 4. Would like you to have some baby weighing scales as I can bring by 5 month old as well. Boys love to come to play group, it helps them to learn and share. Singing is lovely, the girls work very hard and are brilliant with the kids, especially B\*\*\*. More messy play would be nice, kids get very spoilt. Love it*

It has been a good use of the base, contacts with the school and furthermore linked really well for those with higher level needs at Christmas and being able to distribute gifts and toys to local families.

*"I can't thank you all enough for the kindness and thoughtfulness that you have given me and my children this year. We have something to smile about. A little less deflated and a little more 'can do this' attitude, I'm determined to get on my feet, and replay the kindness next year"*

### Engagement sessions

The funding, along with other shared pots of funding, have contributed towards Volunteer engagement at local level, supported by the community development worker.

Despite changes to services, the funding helped 55 people to attend Chatsworth House for their "Once Upon a Time" Christmas sessions. With the help of local Volunteers and parent-helpers a successful trip was enjoyed and parents commented:

*"Chatsworth was magical. Made memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you for making today happen."*

*"Thankyou for such a brilliant day out together which would have otherwise been too expensive at this time of the year. The children have had a fabulous time seeing the animals and the Xmas decorations"*



*"We have had a wonderful day, wouldn't have been coming if had to pay normal price for us, thankyou."*

*"Had an excellent day and thank you for organising"*



### Oaklands Party

The Christmas party, attended by 133 people was also a chance to engage with families, grandparents and carers. This again was a joint funded opportunity and the parents raised money to regenerate funds for later in the year.

ROLO contributed towards Santa's gifts and the Volunteers and parents did a tremendous job of providing the party, disco, games and food and especially our thanks to Santa.

Family Action, Gem Radio and Thorntons also helped make the event a success.

#### Comments:

- *My little girls and grandma came home having had a lovely time, telling me how they loved dancing and meeting Santa*
- *Well done to everyone involved and for all your hard work, merry Christmas.*
- *We have had a great time.*
- *Kids are all asleep, think the kids had a great time!*
- *Just wanted to say thank you to those who organised the party. It was brill. Great event with lots of fun for the kids*
- *"A" absolutely enjoyed the party and seeing Santa, he joined in with dancing and the others. The food was fantastic*
- *Well done, especially to everyone, thank you.*
- *Kids have had a brilliant time at Sure Start Christmas party. Thank you to all the parents that was involved to make it happen, you did amazing.*

Engagement opportunities are an essential support mechanism for families to receive additional information and support and link to services still within the Children's Centre remit. They also provide community empowerment and engagement opportunities, personal development and also the satisfaction of seeing a successful project being led and enjoyed by others.



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Local Trust

