

Aireborough Children's Centres

Approach	How parents / carers have a voice and influence	What works well	Challenges faced
<p>At the end of each of our play and stay sessions and courses we gain short feedback if the CC facilities and how the parents found it useful. This is to help us shape future services. This also happens from trips and fun days to help go toward our annual activity plan. This is in the form of a small written feedback slip.</p> <p>We also have a 'parent's forum' which has recently been formed where we have 5 parents presently running it. They have had some fabulous idea's so far which the CC has already actioned some of them with plans to support with more.</p> <p>We also have 2 parents on the CC advisory board and have an active Facebook page, which is our most popular communication tool.</p>	<p>Very simply they engage with the meetings and along with the staff team set actions to be met for the future meeting. They had a valuable discussion at the last forum about their experiences of the CC, and what they found difficult about engaging. One parent suggested a 'Buddying system'. I am currently looking into the policies etc. around this and hope to have it in place asap. Each of the parents on the forum want to access the HENRY Volunteering programme to become mentor's which is fantastic. We are just awaiting training dates for this.</p> <p>The parents also have set up a 'What's on at Aireborough Children's centre Parent's forum page' which they are admin for along with ourselves. We are going to review this in the near future.</p> <p>The parents have helped organise Family feasts throughout the holidays as they brought to us the fact that some families they know were worried about how they were going to feed the children throughout the holiday's. The CC has facilitated a weekly feast day throughout the summer to try to bring the community together.</p>	<p>The face to face works very well for us and is still building presently we have our third meeting planned so hope for continued positive involvement from the parents.</p> <p>Facebook works extremely well for us for getting word out for our fun days and fundraising events.</p> <p>Parents have felt empowered having a little autonomy. This has shown with regards to fun days and fundraising sessions they wish to do as they have some great ideas!</p>	<p>Policies and procedures are slowing progress down slightly, and rightfully as I need to ensure the parents whom may become CC buddies have access to safeguarding training are fully aware of confidentiality etc. This will be discussed with ES manager.</p> <p>Another small challenge is some of the ideas are fantastic but I do not always have the resources or staff to meet what they wish to happen.</p> <p>So far onwards and upwards it's quite an exciting time for us!!</p>