

Housing Leeds

Approach	How parents / carers have a voice and influence	What works well	Challenges faces
<p>Leeds Parent Champions Positive Families Scheme, now being delivered Citywide over a 2 year period and Winner of the Family & Childcare Trust Parenting Programme of the Year Award.</p> <p>We now have 9 Active Parent Champions on the back of our Parenting Courses which have been delivered in The East, West and South of the City, Parent Champions now have their own Facebook Page and engage other Parents in their communities and Gala's, 'Fun Days, Coffee Mornings, School Gates, Supermarkets etc, The Parent Champions are now linked in to our YAGI (Young Adults Getting Involved) Group to deliver key messages to our Younger Target Audience.</p>	<p>Through the Programme we have enlisted volunteers to our Housing Advisory Panels, Represented Groups and they have their own Facebook Page , Twitter Account etc. Parent Champions can now access the Council's Involved Groups Training Programme to help them build confidence and engage their communities.</p>	<p>We have found that Parents who attend our Programme are more likely to open up and engage as a Group of Friends rather than talk to officers in Authority, Confidence is built they have a Goal to aim for and Training is provided to improve their skills, Once they become Parent Champions they are supported by ourselves and the Family & Childcare Trust to deliver key messages and signpost to services within their own communities.</p>	<p>The biggest challenge having the time to facilitate the Course now it has gone citywide, We have linked in with the local Children's centres and are hoping to deliver a joint programme that links in Children's Services and Housing going Forward. As it takes 3 months to deliver in each area our biggest challenge is how to develop the programme so we can run separate ones in different parts of the City this of course has resource and financial challenge in our current Financial budget position across the Council.</p>