

Children's Centre

Children's Centre Governance Meeting
January 2023

Parent and Child's Voice



RUTLAND
family hub

– We ended the year with a great Christmas Party with the Library.



Parent Champions/ Volunteers



Our Parent Champions and Volunteers ended 2022 with a get together and some Christmas wreath making. It allowed us to celebrate and thank them for all their hard work in 2022.

We have Parent Champions and volunteers in a range of roles now supporting weekly groups and courses, supporting admin tasks and attending meetings and events.

We are all excited about how these roles will develop in 2023 and already have our sights on some new recruits!

You said..... We did.....

Parents that attend our Young Parents Group reported that they were struggling to attend due to the timing of the group. We talked this through with them and have quickly implemented a new time to the group, which started at the beginning of January.



During our last Survey Monkey we had some feedback about parents wanting more information about teeth cleaning for babies and children. Since then we have increased the amount of information we provide about this on our social media and our website and are also planning to involve both parents and children in fun activities to promote teeth cleaning in some of our groups.

We had really positive feedback about our Saturday Dad's sessions and more are being planned. We also had feedback that both Mums and Dads would like some opportunities on Saturdays, for working Mums and opportunity to enjoy a session as a family. We plan to put on some Saturday family sessions this year.



Survey Monkey feedback

Since we last met, we have been collecting parent feedback for our Pen Green Study. We are now the second year into the study and from our learning from last year we have developed our methods of gaining the information to ensure we get the most out of it. There are three parts to gaining this information, a survey monkey questionnaire, 1:1 interviews and individual and group filming sessions of parents.

We are in the process of collating all the information gained for Pen Green to then work on it and create video clips and a report. However, these are some of the highlights from the feedback we have received from parents:

One of the parents who previously attended and now attends our holiday sessions said:

“Whenever we walk past my daughter will say: “remember when we went there mummy and played with that nice dolls house and read the ‘Lester put your vest on’ story.”

“I don’t drive, so having a place to come and meet my friends and meet new people. I made friends at the antenatal session who I am still friends with now, over 10 years later”.

When talking about What’s in the Box:

“It helped my child communicate with new people, before he wouldn’t do that. It helped him going into nursery, which he has just started”.

When asked: What do you think the impact of not having the service from would be?

“It would also mean feeling more isolated/less support and not being able to form new friendships for both my children and myself”.

“I wouldn’t have met my best friend. I would have felt alone in Oakham”.

“We would have just stayed at home, We would have been completely isolated”.

“I think I would still be in a toxic relationship. I definitely wouldn’t have had anymore children. Coming to the Children’s Centre helped me see the fun sides of being a parent, not just the crying and sleepless nights”.

“Great service and I feel very lucky that these classes were available to me and they were free. Maternity leave can be lonely and isolating and these really saved my mental health and provided somewhere where me and my baby could go, learn and meet other likeminded people”

When asked: How could this service be made better?

Myself and my partner attended Antenatal sessions prior to having our first child which was helpful. These session may be beneficial to other first-time parents.

When asked how happy are you with the overall service provided by Visions Children’s Centre?

93% felt the listed groups/courses were good or outstanding, the figure for overall satisfaction was 82% from the last time we reported it.

Our learning

Although we haven't had the finished video clips or report yet, it feels like we have again received feedback about parents feeling isolated and that attending the Children's Centre has helped decrease this. Isolation was a theme from last years report. Using this benefit of attendance and some quotes from other parents may encourage families that aren't currently attending to give it ago.

We know ourselves and parents are telling us that the Antenatal group and support is important to starting their journey in parenthood. We are starting a new course before the end of February to meet this need.