



Hampshire Children and Families Forum

Gosport Branch, Haven Early Years Centre,

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Gosport Branch Meeting Minutes Tuesday 15th January 2008

1. In attendance:

Jane Parker (HCF Area Manager South and Chair for meeting),
Caroline Devlin (PALS),
Lou Coles (PALS)
Rosellen Lambert (Bridgemary School)
Jacky Morriss (HomeStart Fareham & Gosport),
Emma Macnally (Bridgemary Community Services Coordinator),
Zandra Ranger (Brune Park Community Services Co-ordinator),
Rosellen Lambert (Bridgemary Community Services Co-ordinator),
Jenie Macindoe (Bay House),
Pam Hosey (Lee Children's Centre)
Jane Smith (Gosport & Fareham Library Service)
Sally Pratt (Pre-school Learning Alliance)

Apologies:

Karen Brotherton KIDS
Georgette Purches Business Link – Work 4 Yourself
(project come to an end, 601 taken part in less than
2 years.)
Barbara Cooke Parent Development Team
Sue Wing NCMA
Jackie Lewis Gosport Discovery Centre
Ann Carnell Behaviour Support Team
Mary Jones Early Years Co-ordinator
Janet Wildman SEARCH – see email
Angela Tyreman Health Visitor
Nicola McLaren Teenage pregnancy Connexions Advisor
Tracey Wood Pre-school Learning Alliance
Katherine Marsden-Broad Portsmouth Under Eights Forum
Wendy Madgewich Oral Health Educator
Sue King Heathfield School
Wendy Redman SEARCH
Janet Wildman SEARCH

2. Welcome and Introductions:

Jane Parker (HCF Area Manager South) was chairing the meeting as Karen Brotherton was unavailable and Rachel Ralls in currently on a Sabbatical until April. All members were welcomed.

3. Minutes of last meeting and any matters arising:

Nothing arising

4. Update on HCFF Workplans:

October to December 2007:

HCFF AGM took place at Littleton in December and very well attended and enjoyed. The speaker was Not Just Talking which helps those who struggle with non-verbal communication. Those who had attended the AGM said that wished to find out more. Since the meeting Not Just Talking have announced that they will be running some workshops due to the level of interest received.

*Following the success of the talk by Sioban Boyce, Not Just Talking, at the HCFF AGM on 27 November 2007, Not Just Talking has arranged **non-verbal communication difficulties training at KIDS Family Room, Fareham on 4 April 2008 at 10am – 12.30pm**. Refreshments will be provided.*

This training will include:

- *The role of non-verbal skills in communication*
- *Why these problems are more prevalent today*
- *The problems that a child with non-verbal communication issues might face*
- *A workshop highlighting interpretation difficulties as experienced by the child*
- *A workshop highlighting the role & difficulties of a speaker/listener as experienced by the child*
- *Strategies for dealing with behaviours*

The cost will be £75 for professionals and £30 for parents/carers/voluntary/community/charities organisations. Places are limited so please contact Not Just Talking on 01962 852007 to book your place. If you can't make this date call Not Just Talking and your name can be added to a list for other training dates in May, June and July.

Childcare Sufficiency Consultation – on behalf the EECU. At the request the focus was New Forest rural areas so co-ordinators from other branches including Gosport were helping with that. However, locally we did attend the Teenage Pregnancy Consultation Events run by Teenage Pregnancy Partnership at Oak Meadow and BrunePark School in October to obtain their views. Analysis and report being completed by EECU.

Continue to support Extended Schools and Children's Centres

Family Learning around Gosport (FLAG) – Beyond Horizons (Big Lottery project)

Hampshire County Council have secured 3 year funding to support Family Learning in 5 areas in Hampshire – Gosport is one of the 5 areas. It is targeted at the very early stages of learning, seeking to engage families in fun events (eg a sport that it is hoped will be a stepping stone to other types of family learning and self development.

Gosport Children & Young People's Plan Launch Event

The Plan has been broken down into a series of themes each of which has been further broken down into areas of action. At the launch event people were invited to sign up to those areas of action. In view of the HCFF current involvement with the CAP Project HCFF have signed up to the Improving Safety Awareness action point.

Children's Workforce Development Training

The Voluntary Sector Alliance (known as The Alliance) has arranged FREE training for voluntary sector groups and organizations. Leaflets were given out. There are 5 events across the county with Gosport one being 19th March in Gosport. The training offers Child Protection, Common Assessment Framework and Safe Recruitment and more. For many of the voluntary sector groups be they large or small (eg scout groups) it is a chance for their volunteers or paid staff to receive free training.

Jan – March 2008

Fareham & Gosport Child Accident Prevention (CAP)

There are plans to obtain funding to employ a co-ordinator. Anyone whose role touches upon this is welcome to attend.

Childcare Consultation

The report from the Autumn consultation should be available from the EECU and HCFF will ensure it is circulated as widely as possible.

Database of Information

HCFF continues to add to its database of information on services for families and hopes to work with others locally with the same aims.

5. Autumn Term Newsletter: Please ensure any articles you would like to submit are sent to gosport@hcff.org.uk on or before 4th February. Newsletters will be distributed at the beginning of March.

6. Information Exchange:

Caroline Devlin – PALS (Partnership for Active Leisure)

PALS is a charity that helps young people (aged 6 – 18) with physical disabilities to get out and enjoy life through a varied programme of leisure, sport and recreational activities. Referrals come through health professionals and schools. Examples of events have included bowling, cinema and pantomime. Involvement leads to increased confidence, independence and social skills of the young people. Volunteers (aged 16+) are needed (enhanced CRB checks carried out.) There has been a big response from the Gosport area to engage disabled young people with the PALS programme. Funding is an ongoing need (a very small amount is received from statutory sources such as local council.) The Extended Services co-ordinators from the various schools expressed an interest in working with PALS. Posters and leaflets were distributed.

Jacky Morriss – Homestart

Homestart have a new logo and a leaflet describing how they've refreshed their

look was handed out. Referral books are closed at present but it is hoped that they will be opened again soon.

Homestart are looking to run 3 group support sessions that will be open (closed groups are run for those their volunteers are supporting.) These will be similarly run to parent & toddler groups, but specialist support such as Job Centre Plus will be brought in.

Zandra Ranger – Brune Park

Offering Free Healthy Eating after Half Term (25/2, 6.30 – 8.30, 5 week course with Hands on activities.) the course is accredited. Sally (PLA) offered to drop leaflets off at groups and with some letters to parents that she will be sending.

Zandra gave more information on the Beyond Horizons project. The aim is to achieve 1581 attendees over the 3 years. The framework they have been considering is to start with some coffee mornings for ideas. Some of the learning events could be 'How to put on an [eg football tournament] event' which then culminates at a later date with an actual [football tournament.] Anyone who could offer any kind of activity is encouraged to get in touch.

In order to respond to the influx of eg polish, the schools are hosting an Open session, with refreshments, at the Discovery Centre on Mon 28th January with the hope of bringing together a BME (Black Minority Ethnic) group. Leaflets are being translated. As well as an opportunity to provide support, meetings and workshops, it is hoped that long term the families will be able to provide mutual support.

A large musical event (with fireworks) is being planned for the evening of 19th July.

Extended Services are now up and running and a stakeholders meeting is planned for early March.

Rosellen Lambert – Bridgemary

SPOT (Supporting parents of Teenagers) courses – Parent Development Team held one last term and hoping to run another one in March (or failing that in May.) Please refer anyone interested to them in the meantime.

A Triple P programme is also being planned. Other courses include Healthy Eating, ICT, Jewellery making (family learning) and (once training completed) school transition sessions for parents.

Carnival has been set for 19th July. Volunteers have formed an association that meet monthly on the 1st Wednesday at 6.30 at Holbrook. The Carnival theme is 'The Great Outdoors.' The Gosport Carnival Factory has been brought in to help. Family learning can be built in eg costume making. The community are being encouraged to be involved in other ways eg decorating their gates.

Jenie Macindoe – Bay House

Jenie (based at Lee Infants but role is mobile) is new and is currently getting to know the clusters and what's happening.

Pam Hosey – Lee Children’s Centre

Pam is still exploring the role and how it can be developed. Lack of operational budget may require creative ways of working. No email currently provided (but Jenie can receive and pass on information).

Jane Smith – Library Service

SEARCH

Unable to make meeting but sent a reminder that they are always keen to develop hands-on workshops for anyone wanting a good formal or informal learning experience in a lovely secure setting. They are willing to tailor sessions to what is required.

9. Date of next meeting:

Tuesday 29th April 2008, Haven Early Years Centre, 10.00am – 12.00am in the Training Room.



**Supported by the Early
Education and Childcare
Partnership and Hampshire
County Council**

