

**Annual Conversation - Children Centre Report 2013**

<b>Children Centre</b>	Children Centre
<b>LA Officer</b>	Principal Adviser 0-11 Early years Development Adviser
<b>Date</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> March 2013
<b>Date of last Ofsted</b>	Awaiting inspection
<b>Current Inspection Outcome</b>	Not applicable
<b>Present at Visit</b>	Cluster Manager Principal Adviser 0-11 Early years Development Adviser
<b>Focus</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Verification of the children centre's self- evaluation evidence against the Ofsted schedule;</li> </ul>

**Audience for record:**

Cluster Manager  
Borough Manager  
Head of Children Services

**Judgements made in this document are based on impact evidence held by the centre which is limited due to the short time that have had access to E-Start (June 2012) and the limited historical data which is available for the new reach area.**

### Appendix 3

Key Factors	Children Centre Current Data
Number of children registered in total	413
Number of children registered from 30% area	-
Number of children from 30% area accessing services	-
Number of children registered from 70% area	413
Number of children from 70% area accessing services	109
% children being breastfed at 6 to 8 weeks	29.9% August to November 2012 (Nat: 47.7%)
% children in Reception year who are obese	16.5% (borough) (Nat: 9.5%)
% of mothers stopping smoking in pregnancy	Not avail.
Healthy weights for children	67.7% (borough)
Number of children and adults with learning difficulties and/or disabled	Not avail.
Number of children and young people with long term health related conditions	Not avail.
Number of children aged 0-5 with visual and/or audio impairment	Not avail.
Number of children aged 0-5 accessing Speech and Language sessions	40
% of children immunised	Not avail.
Rate of emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries	Not avail.
Home Safety Advice and equipment	0
No of children subject to Protection plan.	2 children in reach area.
The achievement of children gaining 78 points across the EYFSP scale and at least 6 points in each of the scale for PSED and CLL	80.1%
% gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the EYFSP and the rest	
Number of parents accessing Adult Learning programmes	0
Number of parents accessing Evidenced based parenting programmes	0
% of children aged 0-4 living in households dependent on workless benefits	6.62%
% of eligible families benefitting from the childcare element of Working Tax Credit	30.4%
% of teen parents accessing services	5 number
% of teen pregnant parents accessing services	3 number
% of lone parents accessing services	5 number
% of children living in workless households accessing services	
% of children within minority ethnic groups accessing services	10.89%
% of fathers accessing services	11 number
% of priority groups accessing services	Not avail.
% of families who are satisfied with the services accessed in the centre.	100% (35 of 35 consulted)

## Appendix 3

### Section 2 Children Centre Context/Updates.

Please consider any pertinent issues related to your children centre as related to the headings below.

#### Staffing

The centre has five staff members:

- One manager who covers four children centres
- One full time Support Worker
- 3 full time Outreach Workers: working across four areas
- In addition there are 2 Crèche Workers who work within the cluster, in response to need

#### Celebration

- The centre has strong partnerships with parents, Homestart – Teesside, and the Primary school on the same site.

#### Challenges

- The centre has limited delivery time due to sharing the space with the Out of School Club.
- Although the centre has had access to E-Start since June 2012, it has not been able to access accurate, historical data. There has also been a change to the reach area with some of the previous reach area now in another children centre reach.

#### Site

The centre is on the site of Primary School and has a shared entrance with the Primary school and the onsite day care, which is also provided by. It is based in a new, purpose built extension to the school, which is mindful of its environmental impact as evidenced by features including a wind turbine, the energy generating/usage display board and under-floor heating.

The Children's Centre services operate from a shared office, a shared health room to provide midwifery services and one large Early Years' room which operates as a delivery room as well as the day care's Out of School club.

#### Training – staff and Advisory Board

Staff training is seen as an integral part of professional development procedures.

Training staff have accessed includes:

- CAF: staff who have accessed CAF training in other local authorities attend Stockton CAF training to ensure that they are familiar with Stockton's CAF procedures.
- Oral health
- E-Start
- Perspective (software program to support SEF writing)
- Safeguarding: Babies
- Child development for under twos
- Paediatric 1<sup>st</sup> Aid: all appropriate staff have received this training; the Support Worker and Outreach Worker are about to attend refresher sessions as part of the cycle of training.

#### Safeguarding with respect to local and national developments.

All staff follow the local authority's safeguarding procedure and policy.

Volunteers are appointed using recruitment process; providing two references, CRB clearance and safeguarding training.

### Appendix 3

#### Section 3 Progress against previous agreed action

Not applicable at this time, please leave blank.

#### Section 4 Evaluation against OFSTED schedule September 2011

Outcomes for families. <i>Please briefly address: Being healthy, Staying safe, Enjoying and achieving, Making a positive contribution, Economic &amp; social well-being</i>											Children Centre Grade		LA Grade	
											3		3	
	CC	LA		CC	LA		CC	LA		CC	LA		CC	LA
Being healthy	3	3	Staying safe	2	2	Enjoy & achieve	3	3	Making a positive contribution	2	2	Econ & social well-being	3	3

#### Comment:

The Centre judges **Outcomes for Families to be Satisfactory** and the LA Officer **agrees**. The centre judges that although some elements are already good and planned actions will rapidly move other judgements to good, on balance the best fit judgement for Outcomes for Families is currently satisfactory; the PA confirms this.

The percentage of mothers who continue to breastfeed their baby at six-to-eight weeks is 29.9%, which is below the National Average of 47.7%.

Latest data on the percentage of Stockton children in Reception Year who are obese at 16.5 % is above the Ofsted reported national average of 9.5%. The centre ensures that children have access to the outside area of the Children's Centre and the school field in order to access physical activities.

The Manager reports that the centre has a positive relationship with health visitors and the co-location of services enables the centre to reach families to contribute to positive health and well-being outcomes.

The centre provides a hub for antenatal and post-natal healthcare within the community.

All children centre staff and volunteers complete Child Protection training in line with policy. The centre follows safer recruitment practices and all staff, including volunteers, have enhanced CRB disclosure. All staff complete safeguarding training which is updated regularly. Key staff have undertaken first aid training and the appropriate staff have paediatric first aid training that is updated regularly.

Children attending activities are given the appropriate support and opportunity to explore and develop their own assessment of risk, both indoors and outdoors. The centre carries out daily checks of environments and equipment and maintains a log of responses to any issues arising.

Home safety advice is offered during the last week of the centre's Baby Massage course raising parents' awareness of home safety during the early stages of their child's life. The centre track the parents' understanding of how to ensure the safety of their families through the Family Tracking system.

Overall achievement of children in the reach area is good at 80.1% of five year olds gaining 78 points across the EYFSP scales and at least 6 points in each of the scales for PSED and CLL (NI72). This figure is above the local authority and national averages. Data regarding the gap between the lowest attaining 20% and the rest in the reach area is not yet available.

The centre uses Progress Wheels to track the children's learning across the EYFS in sessions. The Stay and Play sessions reflect the format of the school nursery to support the transition into the school nursery. The centre plans to introduce school transition groups in the near future to further support transition. The centre works with the on site Primary school when organising pre school events and supports transition visits to the school nursery. The manager is aware of the challenge of providing Adult Learning courses and is actively seeking providers to support adult learning.

The centre currently signposts parents to Adult Learning courses and Evidence Based Parenting programmes at other centres within the local authority. Parents are given a home safety advice

### Appendix 3

session during the baby massage course. The LA officer feels that, whilst the available EYFSP data and partnership with the school indicates a Good judgement for the centre in Enjoy and Achieve for the children, the provision for adult learning is an area for focus.

Users are consulted as to their satisfaction rate; 35 families responded to the Summer Term consultation and 100% of the responses said that users were satisfied with the services offered.

The centre supports volunteering opportunities and has appointed several volunteers. Case studies are produced to track student placements in their next steps to employment.

						Children Centre Grade	LA Grade	
<b>Quality of the provision.</b> <i>Please briefly address: Services, activities &amp; opportunities, Learning &amp; development, Care, guidance &amp; support,</i>						<b>3</b>	<b>3/2</b>	
	CC	LA		CC	LA		CC	LA
Services, activities & opportunities	3	3/2	Learning & development	3	2/3	Care, guidance & support,	2	2

**Comment:**

The Centre judges the **Quality of Provision to be Satisfactory**; the LA Officer **feels that an overall judgement of Satisfactory with good features** best reflects the current position of the centre but that this judgement can rapidly move to good.

The centre uses data from Stockton Borough Council, E-Start, DWP data, NHS and Public Health and also local knowledge in making decisions regarding the range of activities and actions it takes. The centre consults with parents across schools, toddler groups and libraries to ascertain any barriers to accessing the centre and takes action to overcome the barriers. This is reflected in the centre's decision to offer sessions on a Saturday to allow fathers improved access to services and the provision of services in the remoter geographical areas of reach.

The centre has a Family Tracking system to monitor impact of services on families; this includes contacting the family after sessions to request feedback to inform future planning. The centre has sound systems in place and this judgement will move rapidly to good when the impact of recent actions is seen in increased access from targeted groups.

The judgement for Learning and Development is satisfactory because, although Learning and Development of children is good, the activities for adults are not yet developed. Once this is in place this judgment will move to good.

The quality of care for families provided by the centre is good. In a consultation during summer 2012, 35 families from 35 who completed audits reported themselves satisfied with the services accessed in the centre. The centre ensures that advice on benefits and job vacancies are available in the centre. The centre offers a range of leaflets and displays posters giving guidance on key issues and signalling opportunities to access support. The Centre tracks the number leaflets taken in order to identify areas which may be of concern to the reach community and subsequently to inform planning.

						Children Centre Grade	LA Grade				
<b>The effectiveness of leadership and management.</b> <i>Please briefly address: Governance &amp; accountability, Evaluation, ambition &amp; prioritisation, Value for money, Equality &amp; diversity, Safeguarding, Partnerships, User engagement,</i>						<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>				
	CC	LA		CC	LA		CC	LA			
Governance & accountability	3	3/2	Evaluation, ambition & prioritisation,	2	3	Value for money	2	2	Equality & diversity	3	3
	CC	LA		CC	LA		CC	LA			

### Appendix 3

Safeguarding	2	2	Partnerships	2	2	User engagement	2	2			
<p><b>Comment:</b></p> <p>The Centre judges the <b>Effectiveness of Leadership and Management to be good</b> and the LA Officer <b>agrees</b>.</p> <p>The centre has a clear management structure and cycle of performance management, as per policy, that supports the improving outcomes for families. The centre is challenged through the variety of partners who sit on the centre's Advisory Board to ensure the effectiveness of the centre.</p> <p>There are links between the strategic planning and service provision. The centre's Development Plan outlines realistic and challenging targets to address gaps and so improve outcomes for families.</p> <p>The resources of the centre, including staff who work across three other centres in addition to this one, are well-managed. Professional Development objectives are designed to have a positive impact on families.</p> <p>The centre has a clear policy of equality of opportunity and has the expectation that all groups which access the centre do so without fear of discrimination. The centre is aware of and has plans in place to develop work with Ethnic Minority groups within the reach area.</p> <p>Safeguarding training for all staff is carried out regularly and all training is up to date. All staff and volunteers are CRB checked and policies regarding safeguarding are in place.</p> <p>The centre's relationship with key partners is well established, has clarity and is effectively managed. Partners are involved in the Advisory Board and in supporting the development of the centre.</p> <p>Families have opportunities to be involved in shaping the services of the centre through consultation. The Family tracking system allows for evaluation of the impact of services on families to inform future services. The Development Plan reflects the centre's awareness of any gaps and how the centre plans to address these.</p>											
								<b>Children Centre Grade</b>	<b>LA Grade</b>		
<b>Capacity to improve:</b>								<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>		
<p><b>Comment:</b></p> <p>The Children's Centre judges its Capacity to Improve as <b>good</b> and the <b>LA Officer agrees</b>. The centre's targets are based on analysis of families in the reach area. The Cluster manager is focussed on improving outcomes for families and addressing gaps to improve outcomes. The centre's systems are becoming embedded which will enable the centre to continue improving.</p>											
								<b>Children Centre Grade</b>	<b>LA Grade</b>		
<b>Overall Effectiveness: the effectiveness of the children's centre in meeting the needs of and improving outcomes for families.</b>								<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>		
<p><b>Comment:</b></p> <p>The Centre judges its <b>Overall Effectiveness to be satisfactory</b> as all key judgements are at least satisfactory with some that are good.. The LA Officer <b>agrees</b>.</p>											

#### **Section 5 Children Centre Priorities for the year**

Please consider/identify key priorities and evaluate their appropriateness and alignment with the present Improvement Plan.

### Appendix 3

**Priority 1**

To provide and record impact of increased opportunities for adult learning.

**Priority 2**

To increase the engagement of BME families in both activities and governance.

**Priority 3**

To contribute to reducing the gap between the lowest 20% and the rest. (NI 92)

#### Section 6 Interim actions agreed against the priorities

Action agreed	By whom	By when
1. To consult with families and ensure availability of robust data to inform future planning.	Consultation: Support Worker, Data: Manager Cluster.	End of May 2013.
2. To prioritise BME families in regard to Customer Care contacts and consult on services which will engage this group.	Cluster Manager.	End of May 2013.
3. To ensure access to robust gap data (NI 92) and plan actions to address any identified challenges.	Cluster Manager.	End of May 2013.

#### Section 7: Additional support to be considered by the children centre

Joint session with the second cluster manager to familiarise staff with New STEPS in order to support transition.

Contact BUSI in regard to access to centrally held data.