



## Evaluation for Investing in Children membership

### Newbiggin Hall Library

On my first visit to Newbiggin Hall library, I was told I could visit any time during the afternoon because there are always children and young people in using the library. For the purpose of writing this report, I made a number of visits to the library and had the pleasure of speaking too: Jess, Corey, Matthew, Jack, Conner, Chelsea, James, Brad, Kelvin and Kennedy. All of the time I visited, the children were busy doing activities such as: colouring in, playing on the computers, James was writing a love letter to his girlfriend and learning how to download music onto an mp3 player.

Jess said that she comes to the library most days but she tries to come every day. The children and young people said that they enjoy doing the following in the library:

- Playing on the computers
- Socialising
- Reading books
- Doing the activities

#### **Evidence of dialogue with children and young people:**

The young people's library club had a suggestion session where they met with staff and talked about:

- more computers – achieved
- improve magazine selection and have a PS2 – achieved
- Young people were very keen for the “No mobile phone” signs to be removed – Janice Hall is looking into removing these from all libraries
- Soft seating area – achieved
- Plasma television – no funding or licence.
- Some young people said they didn't like the signing in procedure and others said it didn't bother them – the procedure is only for young people and not adults. The library has said they will review the situation during summer 2007. The one thing the children really didn't like was having to write down their address when they sign in.
- Sessions have been taking place during the summer holidays including: arts and crafts, music making, painting posters, nail art, jingle making and decks and a Batik sampler.
- During December, posters were put up around the library advertising a session where people could come along and give ideas and opinions about the library.
- The young peoples library group also have a Myspace page which is: [www.myspce.com/yp\\_library\\_group](http://www.myspce.com/yp_library_group)

**Recommendations by children and young people:**

- Have a party
- Change signing in procedure
- Make a castle
- Have Playstations available in the library (coming soon!)
- Have a sky digi box to watch TV
- Have more art and craft sessions
- Get a plasma TV
- TV with DVD player so we can watch films
- Snacks available or a vending machine
- Stay open later
- Stop blocking so many websites

Newbiggin Hall library have made a number of changes to their library, the way it is run and also what is on offer in the library. This shows that they are listening to children and young people and the comments that they have made show that the children and young people feel listened too and respected. It is important that this dialogue continues between the library and the children and young people to develop what has already been achieved.

On that note I would like to recommend Newbiggin Hall Library for Investing in Children membership.

All the children and young people involved in this report have agreed the content and agreed the recommendations.

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**Investing in Children**  
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