



Re-evaluation for Investing in Children membership

Home and Hospital Support Service

For the purpose of this years re-evaluation I met with Jane Moore and Jan Blair to talk about developments over the last year, which have involved children and young people in dialogue.

Evidence of dialogue and change is provided directly from young people who have received teaching from the Home and Hospital Support Service teaching staff.

Advisory Teachers co-ordinate with schools, young people and teaching staff to decide what is possible in home schooling. Consideration is given to what each young person feels is important for them to keep up their school work and achieve the results they need. The way forward is agreed at the young persons review.

Evaluation – Home and Hospital always ask every party involved for their views on the service provided. Please find attached the forms that are used by the team. However this year the team talked about how to evidence the views of young people that use the service over a short-term period rather than long term - how to capture their views in order for them to be included in the evaluation process for Investing in Children.

Please see attached evidence written by Michelle Oswald, Terri Harrop, Clare Armstrong, Elizabeth Wigham, Craig Skinner and Michael Hoyle over the last year. These young people provided their own views and expressed them in their own way. Other young people gave their views via a questionnaire, which in some instances was filled in for the young person by the teacher. Although young people have expressed their own views, the feedback in itself is slightly more specific, also attached.

A recurring theme which comes across is the amount of teaching time young people are given. Unfortunately, this is one aspect of the service that the team cannot change. However discussions do take place that explain the reasons why teaching time is set.

I rang and spoke to Craig about the comments he made. Craig said that “Tom explained why it wasn’t possible to have more time,” and said he was quite happy with that.

Prime Time – Education for pregnant schoolgirls

Prime Time is group education provided within the facilities of Priory Court, Annfield Plain. I met with Hayley and Chelsea on Thursday 6th March 2008 to talk about their experience with the Home and Hospital Service. Both girls were happy with the service that Home and Hospital provide at Prime Time. They also told me about what benefits they have by coming to Prime Time rather than attending school.

Hayley – **“It’s easier to come here; I am doing my exams too”**.

Chelsea – **“You get tired at least you don’t have to do full days”**.

“It’s easier to talk to Paula than normal teachers”.

Chelsea also goes into school for some lessons and told me **“I will go in and finish my exams”**.

Both girls told me **“work gets sent up from school”**. We chatted about the service in general and both girls agreed that they feel comfortable at Prime Time. Hayley said, **“I enjoy coming up here its nice”**. Hayley is not sure what she will do after she has her baby but told me that young mums **“can continue to attend the group until the baby is three months old”**. Chelsea said that she is going to do hairdressing at college and it’s all sorted. I revisited the group in April to check out my evaluation and both girls agreed with it. Two other young people Chelsea and Gemma read through the report and agreed and said that they had nothing more to add, both girls were happy with the service they receive.

As highlighted in last years evaluation Home and Hospital ensure that the girls are able to access other service providers in the safe environment of Priory Court.

Leaflets – Following on from the young people with CFS/ME redesigning the leaflets for Home and Hospital, please find attached the final draft of the leaflets. There are leaflets for children, leaflets for young people, parents/carers and schools.

It is clear by the evidence provided that there is an ongoing dialogue between the team and young people who use the service. All aspects of dialogue and change highlighted in previous evaluations continues to happen and with the new evidence provided for this year’s evaluation, I am more than happy to recommend that the Home and Hospital Service continues to be an Investing in Children member.

Helen Mulhearn
Investing in Children
April 2008