



## Re- Evaluation for Investing in Children membership:

### South Moor Library

Since my last evaluation Trace has been joined by Hayley a new member of staff working on a part-time basis. It is hoped that another part time librarian i.e. seven hours will soon complete the team. Hayley is also quite crafty so both librarians now work with the children and young people who use the library. Children and young people still participate in a variety of group work and activities and the library continues to be a welcoming environment

**Evidence of dialogue and change continues** to be provided by children and young people who use the library on a regular basis. From the discussions that take place groups happen depending on the wants of the children and young people.

Since my last evaluation the groups have continued to meet on a Monday and have created many different things:

#### ❖ **The Cross Stitch Club**

'The local children asked if they could have a cross stitch club, they even did the poster to advertise and many came to the first meeting. We had nine sessions in May, June and July with fifty eight attending' - taken from information prepared for liC re-evaluation.



The group requested this and they all signed a sheet to give to Trace. Please see attached. As well as some small samples prepared by the group.

#### ❖ **The Craft Group**



This group has continued with different children joining as older members leave. The group continue the on-going dialogue with Trace choosing activities for holiday times and different occasions. Since last year the children have enjoyed learning how to juggle. This was a special month of activities with circus theme.

Other activities during holidays include a treasure hunt, which was organised by Hayley. Clues were hidden in and around the library in books, on the shelves and even stuck on the photocopier. The children had to find one clue before they could move on to the next. As part of their adventure they stopped to make masks in the middle.

Parties are organised to celebrate special occasions, apart from the reading challenge celebration the children also enjoyed a Christmas party. More certificates! Please see attached. Trace and Hayley designed special certificates for the children who won the silly games.

## ❖ The Reading Group



Last summer lots of the children who attend South Moor Library completed a reading Challenge, a mission set by cultural services, where children and young people are challenged to read a certain amount of books during their holidays.

As stated in the re-evaluations for Stanley and Annfield Plain libraries a joint celebration was organised for all the children. The photograph shown here is of the South Moor Group receiving their certificates.

At the moment there is no reading group running due to a lack of children and young people. However Trace and Hayley have been collecting names and Trace is currently advertising in the local schools for new members. It is hoped that this group will start again quite soon.

South Moor Library also facilitates sessions for younger children; because of their involvement from such an early age most of the younger children become involved in the other groups, as they get older.

## ❖ Under 5's

This work is on-going and different events and activities are organised for the young children. Baby Rhyme Time continues to be offered to local parents and their children on a Monday. Some of the younger children also completed their own reading challenge. The age range was under eight for this mission. Here we see the children having their very own celebration - a Teddy Bear's Picnic



This year I visited the craft group on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of April where they were creating collages. I chatted with the group as they worked away and they told me what happens and how they can, and do ask for the craft and activities they take part in. Infact the collage was asked for by Iona. **Iona told me how the group sat down with Trace and talked about what they had done in the past, what they enjoyed and what they wanted to do.** Please see the attached list for the craft club which has been organised out of the children's requests.

Iona and her brother Harris have been coming to the group for a long time. Lisa and her sister are really new they have just moved here. Lisa told me that she came in to get some books about pets and Trace told her about the clubs so she started coming. Lisa also said 'the club things are really interesting and the staff really help you.'

**Harris** said 'I think it's really good and fun'

**Toni** is another new member who recently moved into South Moor and she said 'its good cos I have met some of my old friends and made some new ones.'

**Iona** went on to say 'The staff are always supporting you, saying you can do this even if you think you can't they will come and help you, they give you tips.'

**Amy** told me that 'the staff are kind and helpful.'

**Rachael** said 'I like reading books so it gives me a chance to read new ones.'

**Annalise** told me the group is fun, Carole-Anne also added that the staff are friendly.

All of the group agreed that you can ask the staff anything, if you can't find a book they will order it from a different library and get them delivered so you don't have to go anywhere else. Whilst we were sitting Amy got her books renewed. Staff encourage the group to be involved and Keagan showed me a poster she asked if she could make to put up in the library to tell everyone what was available and who can help you. Please see attached.

There are still lots of board games and jigsaws available for the children and young people to play with, and they often do. The games are accessible just at the front of the office. The computers are still well used by children and young people often booked out all evening.

As always when I visit South Moor library it is a hive of activity. Children and young people are always welcome and always there. The children and young people have a say in what groups happen and feel able to come and go as they please. South Moor Library is a valuable resource to the local children and young people and year after year the staff team continue to involve children and young people in dialogue and because of this I would really like to recommend that South Moor Library remains an Investing in Children member.

With a big and special thank you to Trace and Hayley from me and all the children and young people.

**Helen Mulhearn**  
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**Investing in Children**

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