



‘Plate spinner, conjuror, matchmaker or dream-catcher? Hampshire’s special schemes help children & young people unlock their potential’

Summer 2005 was a brilliant success story for Kids and the Children’s Fund. Working together, they provided hundreds of places for young carers, children and young people with all sorts of disabilities, and young people from ‘Yisp’.



(The photo shows) children making memory jars with coloured sand – a fun activity which encourages the child to treasure happy moments and special memories.

The Children's Fund draws on expertise like this from across Hampshire, to make a difference to youngsters aged 5-13, and improve their chances of success. This child-driven, family-friendly, collaborative approach, cuts the ice with children, families, carers, and practitioners, and supports Hampshire's 'Change for Children' programme. Hampshire's investment in preventative services cuts the cost of crime and exclusion, and it helps many disadvantaged families to get the help they need.

Young people from the summer scheme told us:

“I enjoy it because you are allowed to just play. If you didn't come here you would just be watching videos at home and get bored..... I like playing games and meeting other friends”

“It’s a nice place to be and I feel happy when I’m here”

"If I wasn't here I would be playing on my computer on my own in my bedroom. I like coming here because you have a laugh with your mates..... I think I come here because my mum needs a break from me because I have ADHD" **more...**

Notes/Quotes/Links

Kids

Kids is a national charity for disabled children currently supporting approximately 600 families in Hampshire each year.

Weblink: www.kids.org.uk

Liz Morley-Smith, Asst. Director, Kids told us:

"For some YISP young people who have been excluded from schools and community activities, Kids has been the only place where they have felt happy and settled and can feel valued for who they are".

Yisp

'Hampshire Yisp' work one-to-one with children who need help. Listening, befriending and mentoring young people who really need it.

Yisp (Youth inclusion & support panels) is a preventative scheme being piloted by the Children's Fund in Gosport, New Forest and Rushmoor.

The scheme brings together young people, their families and other agencies to look at their behaviour, and help them to make changes, so they can stay out of trouble, and achieve their potential.

Yisp Manager- Liz Johnstone says "Just give them a friend, someone they can rely on, who will help them to achieve their personal goals".

web-link: www.childrensfund.hants.org.uk/yisp

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