

Community Consultation Feedback Newsletter – Retford Central Children’s Centre

What?

Nottinghamshire County Council’s (NCC) Early Childhood Service recently carried out a community consultation to gather views from local families and workers on possible changes to the use of Retford Central Children’s Centre building.

“Thank you to everyone who took part.”

Why?

Following the closure of Tall Trees Pre-school, the Council is keen to make better use of the Retford Central Children’s Centre Building.

Nottinghamshire County Council is proposing developing Family Hubs for families with children aged 0-19 and young people up to the age of 24 if they have Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and using some Children’s Centre buildings for this purpose.

Whenever any changes to Children’s Centre buildings are considered, the County Council has a “duty to consult” with the local community to find out their views.

When and Where?

The consultation took place during October 2021, links to the survey were advertised on the Bassetlaw Children’s Centre and Families Information Service Facebook pages, details were also shared with local Early Years Providers, Schools, Healthy Families Teams, Bassetlaw District Council, Doncaster and Bassetlaw Hospital Trust, Retford Library and other local support organisations, hard copies of the survey were also made available. Support to promote and complete the survey was provided by Children’s Centres, Youth Services and Healthy Families Teams.

Who?

86 people in total completed the questionnaire.

- 77% of responses were from parents/carers (58)
- 41% from professionals/volunteers working with children and young people (31)
- 12% from young people (11)

(this includes multiple category responses)

What was said by these people?

- **Most parents and stakeholders** (70%) said they would prefer the Retford Central Children's Centre to become a Family Hub.
- 64% of **Young People** said they would prefer the building to be a Family Hub.

"The Retford Central Children's Centre is in the ideal location to be accessible to families from across the area with its close proximity to the bus station"

- **Most parents and stakeholders** said they would find child development, play and early learning sessions, parenting groups, managing children's behaviour and local access to specialist service to be most useful if they were made available at the Family Hub.

"It will complement the work in the Young People's centre"

"I think Family Hub in Retford is a great idea"

- Access to Health services, (including Midwifery and Healthy Families Teams) and activities for young people were also felt to be useful

"I do feel the family support is invaluable to make connections with families and signpost"

- **Young people** would like to have their own space.

"I want the youth club to stay separate even though I don't mind my family visiting next door. This is my space"

What next?

Thank you for your comments, they have given us lots to think about.

Next steps: We will work with partners, parents and young people to develop the Family Hub in Retford Central Children's Centre building.

If you would like further information, please contact earlychildhoodservices@nottsc.gov.uk