



**PRIMARY LAC HUBS PROJECT
STOCKTON-ON-TEES
2016 – 2017**

AIMS

To establish networks of events in which Stockton Looked After Children can come together through their Primary Schools

To collect the views of these Looked After Children Young People around a range of issues that affect them

End of Year 2016 - 2017 Report

Pupil Voice

Section 176 of the Education Act 2002 requires Local Authorities and schools to have regard to any guidance given by the Secretary of State about consultation with pupils in connection with the taking of decisions which affect them.

The 2014 Statutory Guidance paper entitled **Listening to and involving children and young people**, recognises that whilst the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has not been incorporated into national law, the Government reiterates its commitment to pay 'due regard' to the convention when new policy is made and legislation proposed. Through this, the Government strongly encourages Schools and Local Authorities to also pay due regard to the convention.

Article 12 of the United Nations Conventions on the Rights of the Child states

1. Parties shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child.
2. For this purpose, the child shall, in particular, be provided the opportunity to be heard in any judicial and administrative proceedings affecting the child, either directly, or through a representative or an appropriate body, in a manner consistent with the procedural rules of national law.

The Statutory Guidance states that 'Pupil Voice' refers to ways of listening to the views of pupils and/or involving them in decision-making.

And that the Government believes that children and young people should have opportunities to express their opinion in matters that affect their lives.

The guidance recognises that one of the benefits of involving children and young people in decision making is:

It contributes to achievement and attainment – young people involved in participative work benefit in a range of different ways. Increased confidence, self-respect, competence and an improved sense of responsibility have all been reported by young people who contribute in school. Schools also report increased motivation and engagement with learning.

The guidance also reminds us that a feature of effective leadership is engaging pupils as active participants in their education and in making a positive contribution to their school and local community.

Summary of Hub Activities during Academic Year 2016 – 2017

In September 2016, the newly appointed EDA LACYP was requested to initiate and lead a project that would support the Local Authority in collecting Primary Looked After Pupil Voice.

During the Autumn Term, Designated Teacher colleagues were asked to volunteer for the role of Hub Champions to support the EDA in the role out of Activity sessions for which Key Stage Looked After Children would come together. Three Champions were recruited:- one for the North Hub (Billingham area), one for Central Hub (schools located close to town) and one for South Hub (Thornaby, Ingleby Barwick area).

In the Autumn Term, three half day Hub Activities were held around the theme of Christmas, one session in each of the Hubs. Pupil voice was collected through a variety of ways, one questionnaire and a thought cloud sheet.

In the Spring Term, two half day Hub Activities were held in the North and Central Hubs around the theme of Easter. Pupil voice was collected through a questionnaire which the pupils completed. Due to unforeseen circumstances a session was not held in South Hub.

In the Summer Term, a bespoke trip was held for the North Hub to Roseberry Topping. This trip was in response to Pupil Voice. Pupil voice was collected through a proforma devised to suit the trip.

A second Hub event was held to which all Schools and Pupils were invited. This event was the result of the EDAs successful application to Booktrust to hold an Author Event. The event took place at Preston Park Museum, with the Children's Author John Dougherty's visit and a free book for each child funded by Booktrust. Pupil voice was collected through a proforma devised by the EDA LACYP.

In total, seven Hub activity sessions took place during the year for Stockton KS2 Looked After Pupils. These sessions were organised and led by the EDA LACYP who was supported by the Hub Champions and other Stockton Colleagues. Pupil voice was collected and the MOMO App was promoted at all of the events.

Participation in Hub Activities during Academic Year 2016 – 2017

In total twenty four of the thirty four eligible schools participated in at least one Hub activity during the year. This equates to 71%

In total fifty five of the eligible seventy pupils participated in at least one Hub activity during the year. This equates to 71%.

Pupil Voice collected during Academic Year 2016 – 2017

Autumn term - three events, 34 Stockton LACYP

Questionnaire – South hub

Statements all 8 pupils agreed on

The Headteacher knows my name – Yes

I have friends I can be at lunch with – Yes

It is important to follow rules – Yes

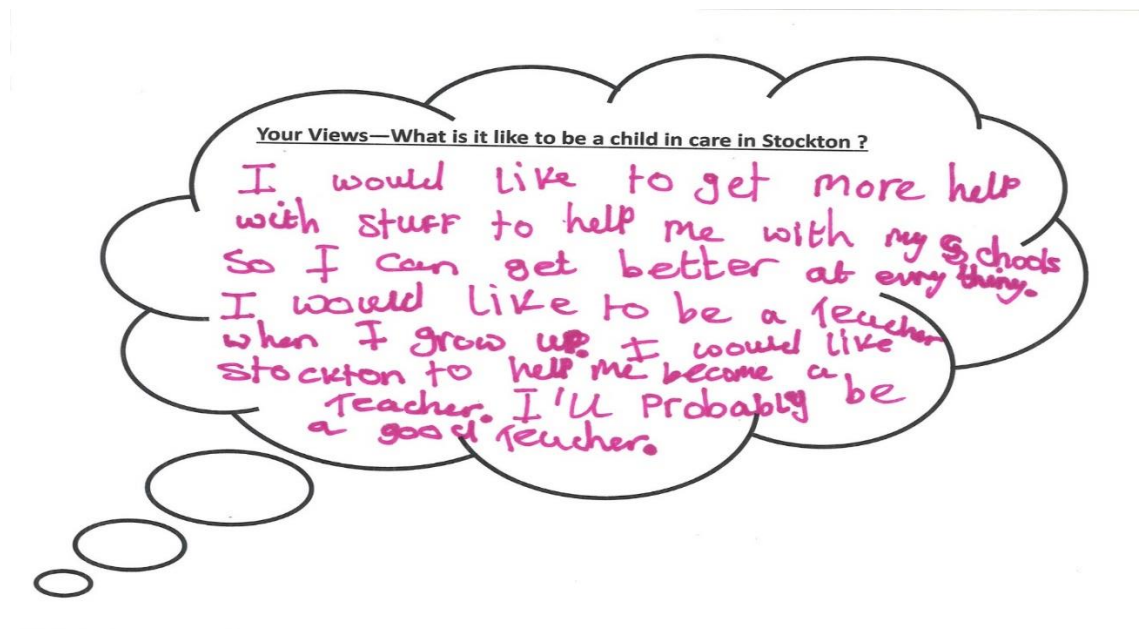
Statements 7 out of 8 pupils agree on

Other pupils are kind to me – Sometimes

My teacher cares about me – Yes

Teachers respect pupils – Yes

Pupil response to thought cloud



Spring term – two events

39 Stockton LACYP (1 child = 3%)

3 OOB LACYP (not included in statistics below. Their feedback was left with staff to give to Social Workers)

There were overwhelmingly positive responses to the questions set in the questionnaire:-

All the children 100% answered yes to the following questions

Do you get the right type of help to make sure you are happy and have friends?
Do you feel safe and secure at school and home?

38 of the 39 pupils (97%) answered yes to the following questions

Do you feel you have adults who care about you?
Do you feel you have adults that you can trust?
Do you have adults who you can talk to about the things that are important to you?
Do you think the adults listen to what you have to say?
Do you think you get the right amount of help with your learning?
Do the adults make sure you get enough fun activities to do?
Do you know who to talk to if you are unhappy about something?

37 of the 39 children (94%) answered yes to the following question

Do you feel your opinion matters when there is a meeting about you?

The pupils gave the following responses to the next two questions

What are the best things about being Looked After?

- You get to spend time with the Carers
- Everything because it is a happy nice house
- You have fun
- You are safe x 2 That there's people caring for me
- Get loads of food
- Go nice places
- Cuddles and kisses
- You get holidays
- I live on a farm
- Keeping an eye on me
- Contact x2
- Everything x2 All of it
- Extra School Trips
- Being spoilt/Getting lots of things

Is there anything more the adults could do to help you?

- Maybe later on in life x 2
- No x 25
- No because they need a rest
- No not at all
- Yes x 3
- Yes see my mam more
- More cuddles and more kisses
- Not shower (!)

Summer term – two events

7 pupils participated on Bespoke trip and 32 Stockton LACYP (1 child = 3%) at Author Event

3 OOB LACYP attended Author Event (not included in statistics below. Their feedback was left with staff to give to Social Workers)

What is difficult for you?

Activity (football) clashing with contact

Tests x 2 SATs x2

Spellings

Moving to Secondary School x 2



What is going well for you?

Maths x 4 English

Friendships

Deciding which secondary school

Living with Nana



What would you like to shout about?



I made it up Roseberry topping in the rain and fog!

I'm looking forward to Secondary School.

I cannot believe I made it although I don't like heights I am happy.

We made it to the top of the mountain and I'm really proud!

We succeeded to climb up Roseberry Topping! We did it!

We made it successfully and I conquered my fear of heights.

Author Event Pupil Voice

This year in school I have felt

Okay, happy and a bit sad
A bit confident, worried, excited, happy
Happy because I have full marks on my practise tests
Happy, excited
Confident, worried, excited, happy
Happy, kind, worked well
Happy I get help with everything
Awesome
Lots of happy only comments

In school I would like more

Playtimes and lunch times – to have more time with my friends
Art
Help Help in Maths, Literacy Attention and help help with work
Help when I go to my school
Sports/ PE/ Swimming
Maths and English Science
Chocolate
After School Clubs
NOTHING!

I would like help with

Maths English Spellings Reading Reading comprehension French RE Art Lessons My subjects
Homework
Being more confident
Being more kind to others
Organisation
Friends
Nothing

When I grow up I would like to

Travel
I don't know
Help people with disabilities
A footballer x 5
A vet x2
A Foster Carer A carer A social worker x 2
A Police Officer x 5 A teacher x 4
To be a dancer A singer An actor
A farmer with animals and to grow things
A technical expert

An Author x2
An electrician
A You Tuber
A doctor

I wish

I could be the perfect daughter
To be a better person
I could see my sister
I had more friends
To be successful
For the world to be a better place
I was good at Maths
To keep working with (Teaching Assistant name) For Mrs Hart to keep working with me in
Secondary School
No one will die
Everyone was nice to each other That everyone is happy
I could help people horse ride I could have a horse to ride I could do horse riding
I could have more swimming lessons
I was a super star at maths
I could be a footballer.... I could be in a football club
For a lock-screen laptop
To ride on a dolphin
To be the best You Tuber
We could have more playtime

Things that make me happy

Friends Seeing my friends Playing with friends My friends come cheer me up
Going on trips with (Headteacher's name)
When I get attention and praise
I make my brothers and sisters laugh
Seeing family/Dad Spending time with my family
Living with my Carers
Swimming
Playing with toys Drawing Colouring
Football
Food
Jokes and Funny things
Listening to Elvis

Next steps Academic Year 2017 – 2018

The Hub activities have provided the Local Authority with a wealth of Primary Pupil Voice.

So what next?

The EDA LACYP feels this report needs to be shared with the Designated Teachers in the Autumn term 2017, in order to reinforce their duty to ensure that Pupil Voice is high priority on an individual basis through the PEP and LAR meetings and paperwork.

The EDA feels that the young people should receive some feedback on their opinions and views that were collected during the year and that they should be consulted on the continuation of the Primary Hub Activity sessions.

Should it be decided that the Primary Hub Project continue next year, the EDA would propose that the project is underpinned with the focus on empowering the pupils to have their voice heard.

This would enable the project to collect data around pupil attendance at PEP and LAR meetings, look at evidence for how pupil voice influences educational provision and support and would also link with the work of the Lets Take Action Group and an idea around a Creative Writing project, sparked by the poem written during the Summer Author Event.