



Children and Young People in Our Care HUBs Project STOCKTON-ON-TEES Academic Year 2020-21

AIMS

To continue to embed the networks and events in which the Children in our Care come together through their Schools.

Hub events to provide an opportunity for CIOC to meet new peers who have similar experiences to themselves.

Primary Hubs with a relevant focus each year.

Secondary Hubs with a focus on extending experiences of new FE and HE environments.

Claire Hart
EDA CYPIOC



Hub Events and Covid-19 Pandemic

Due to the on-going Covid-19 situation which had disrupted the Spring and Summer 2020 events for both Primary and Secondary, it was decided that Virtual School would hold Primary Online Hub Events for the academic year 2020-21.

It was felt due to the logistics of the larger Secondary schools, it would not be viable for Secondary colleagues to arrange multiple bubbles of pupils to attend.

The focus for the Primary Hub events this year was Healthy Minds and Healthy Bodies, chosen specifically due to the impact of the pandemic on well-being and on-going restrictions which affected clubs and sporting activities.

Events were held via Zoom and were supported by colleagues from MSLTP, Holly Gallagher and Dawn Brown.

As previously, school colleagues were invited to join the events via email. Those that responded were sent an updated Risk Assessment which reflected that the events would be held online, an invitation to give to pupils and consent forms for carers/parents to sign.

Materials for the event that would not be readily available in school, were sent via email to print or delivered to school prior to the event.

Following the event, colleagues were sent two evaluation forms, one for the adult and one for the pupils involved. Colleagues were also asked to send photographs of the art work via email.

As always Virtual School are grateful to school colleagues who ensured that their CIOC pupils were given the opportunity to participate, especially this year which has presented many challenges for schools due to the pandemic.

Autumn Term 2020

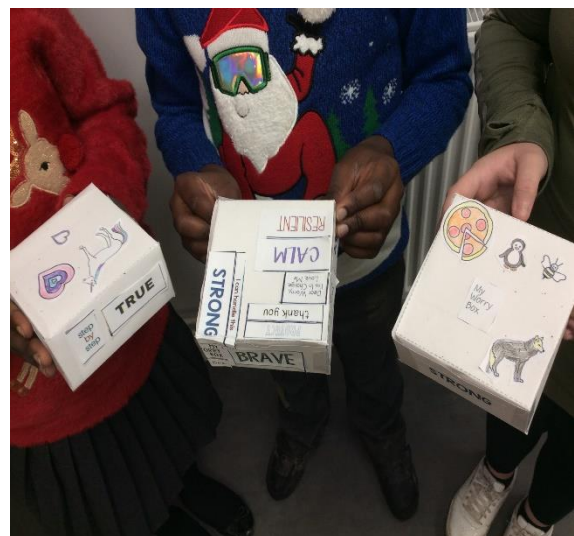
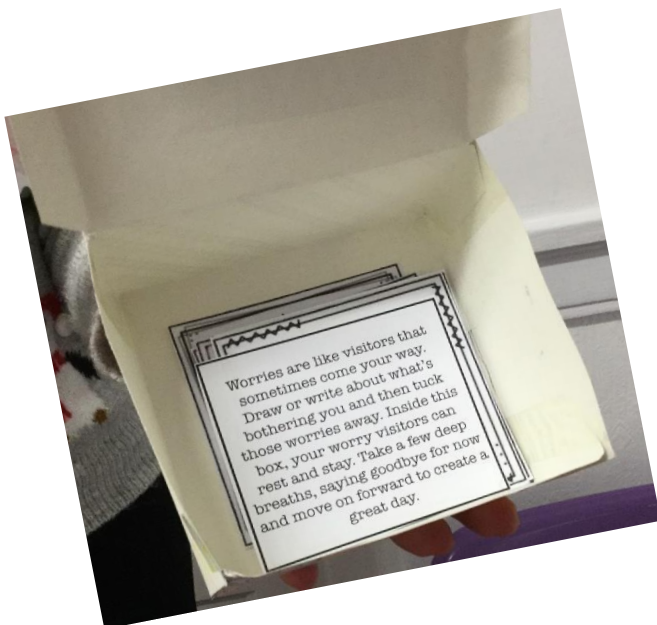
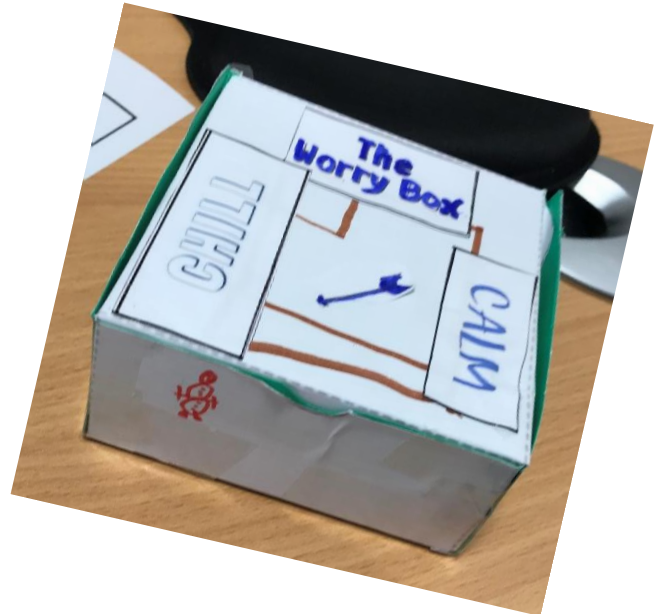
The event was held on the 11th of December.

The session involved the pupils in making a worry box. Pupils were asked to think about positive thoughts to decorate the outside and then were asked to write any worries they had on cards to place inside.

The event was attended by 3 schools (Billingham South, Bowesfield Primary and Norton Primary) with a total of 6 pupils.

The pupils appeared to enjoy the event, however apart from one school, conversations were limited, with the pupils appearing to be quite shy about being on camera.

Photographs were received from all three schools, below is a selection.





Feedback

Comments were received via the emails of the photographs

Thank you for the lovely session, the children really enjoyed themselves.

That was a lovely hour spent with J. He was keen to take his own photos so here they attached.

Only one Pupil Feedback form was received. The pupil reported that he didn't like being on the screen and being the only pupil from his school.

Only one Staff feedback form was received.

What went well at the Event today?

The activity was well matched, planned and resourced. My pupil enjoyed seeing familiar faces. He was really interested in the fact that all the children were in care

Were there any ways in which the event could have been better?

Technical issues – but think we managed really well. More children

How effective was the session being organised online due to Covid-19 restriction?

Very well organised – Thank you

In what ways do the pupils or school benefit from Hub events?

Sense of identity

Meeting other children in care

Keeping a connection with Virtual School

1 to 1 time

Although my pupil wasn't a 100% sure about being on the screen, he did enjoy the activity.

Any further comments

Thank you – being involved is so really important to our school.

The session outline and photographs were shared at the Spring Term Designated Teacher Meeting.

Spring Term 2021

The event was held on the 25th of March.

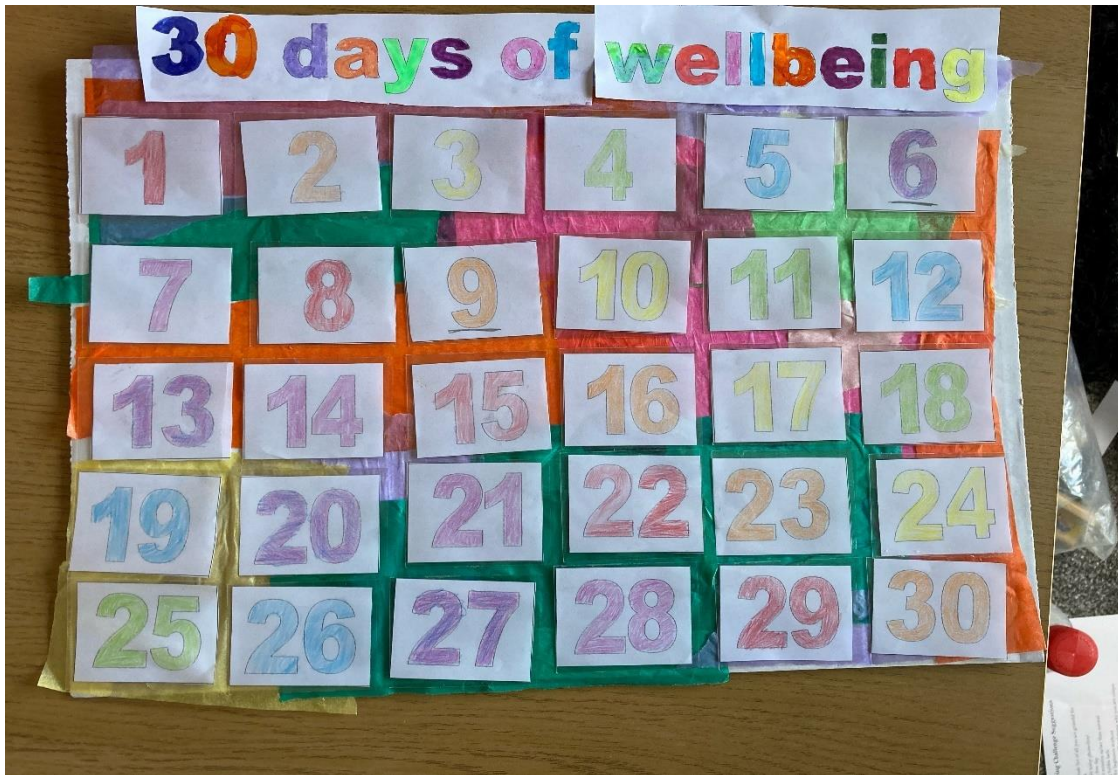
The session involved the pupils making a well-being calendar. This involved creating a background, using templates given to set up a 30-day calendar and then using some suggested activities or creating their own activity for each day that focussed on keeping their minds and bodies healthy such as, not eating sweets for one day, going for a bike ride, completing a random act of kindness.

The event was attended by 5 schools (Billingham South, Bowesfield Primary, The Glebe, The Village Primary and Frederick Nattrass) with a total of 11 pupils.

Two pupils from two different schools were self-isolating but were still able to participate. One was in a residential home and one was at home in the care of her Mum.

The pupils again appeared to enjoy the event, there was more discussion between the pupils, with one pupil being very confident around the use of the chat function and the hands up signal.

There was only one photograph received following the session, however, all the boards were seen during the session on the screen.



The session outline and photograph were shared at the Spring Term Designated Teacher Meeting.

Feedback

One comment was received via the email

My two children were very excited and enjoyed the activity. We had to leave at 2.15 to see children out at home time but have put extra time in tomorrow to finish them. Was lovely seeing them enjoy it.

Two pupil and adult forms were received.

Pupil Feedback via form

What did you enjoy about the Hub Event?

Seeing and talking to everybody

I enjoyed the atmosphere. Everybody was really kind and friendly

Was there anything that could have been better?

If it was longer

I wouldn't say so, no

This was an online Hub Event. Did you enjoy it?

Prefer the online events.

Yes

Adult feedback via form

What went well at the Event today?

Links worked well, well organised and good fun for the children

It was engaging and kept my daughter's attention.

Were there any ways in which the event could have been better?

No

Face to face if there were no Covid restrictions

How effective was the session being organised online due to Covid-19 restriction?

Organised well, would like more. Online was better as it reduced any travelling. Easy to sort in school.

In what ways do the pupils or school benefit from Hub events?

Interact with others, be creative, allows them to have a voice.

This was my first experience of these events, but it seemed to work very well.

Any further comments

My daughter enjoyed socialising with some children she wouldn't usually meet.

Summer Term 2021

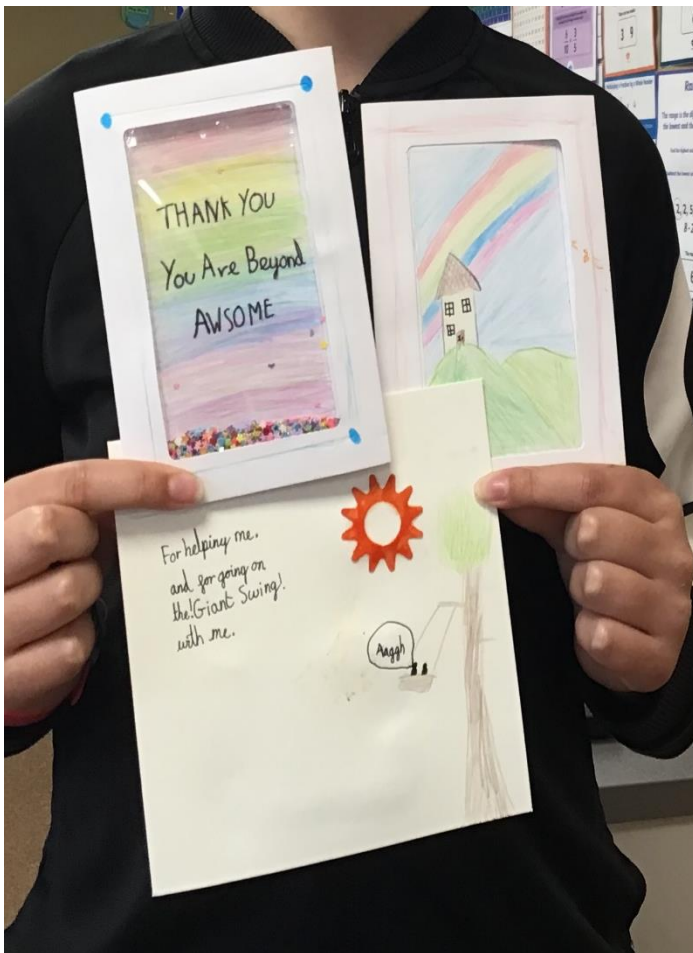
The event was held on the 30th of June.

The session involved the pupils in making Thank You cards as it is well known that being grateful and being thankful is good for our well-being.

The event was attended by 8 schools (Billingham South, Bovesfield Primary, The Glebe, The Village Primary, Mill Lane Primary, Oak Tree Primary, Prior's Mill Primary and St John the Baptist Primary) with a total of 14 pupils.

The pupils again appeared to enjoy the event. Due to the number of rooms included in the Teams meeting pupils were asked to mute their microphones due to the volume of background noise. Pupils were chatty with the hosts but less so with each other. They talked about who they were going to send their cards to – school staff, parents, carers and what they were using in their designs.

Photographs were received from one school following the session.



Feedback

Four Pupil and five Adult feedback forms were received.

Pupil Feedback via form

What did you enjoy about the Hub Event?

I know now that other people are the same with feelings
Enjoyed making the crafts
Looking at other people's work
Meeting people from other schools

Was there anything that could have been better?

No
I don't think so
No improvements – good for what you can do because of Covid
That we could make a card for family and friends. I liked the bits I was given in the bag.
No, I enjoyed it.

This was an online Hub Event. Did you enjoy it?

Yes – I am not camera shy anymore. I saw people I know. I liked it.
It was very fun creating things
Yes!
Yes.

Any further comments

Thank you
No
It was really good to sit with my brother and see other schools so we could see other people in foster care.

Adult feedback via form

What went well at the Event today?

All of it – really enjoyed the session.
Lovely to see so many other pupils taking part.
The children being able to see each other on screen and the quality of the materials available was brilliant. All children were engrossed in the activities and enjoyed the whole session.
It was well organised.
The children enjoyed making the cards.
They had everything that they needed to complete the session.
It was nice for the children to still be able to see each other on Teams.
The children were interested in the craft supplies and became creative when making the cards
The children really enjoyed the practical side of the task.

Were there any ways in which the event could have been better?

No x 2

Face to face would have been better but understand this is due to Covid.

No. It was a lovely event.

No, it was well organised.

How effective was the session being organised online due to Covid-19 restriction?

Very effective

Very effective. The children did not seem to be phased by the screens and enjoyed sharing their creations. Everything was provided in time for the session.

It was lovely to still be able to interact with other children and still be able to all do the same activity without having to leave our school.

Very effective, all precautions were in place.

In what ways do the pupils or school benefit from the Hub events?

Pupils get to meet other CIOC pupils

Pupils have 1:1 time with key adult

They realise they aren't the only ones that don't live with their parents and it gives them a feeling of belonging, being part of something.

To spend time with other teachers and children that they don't normally spend time with to attend the events. It is also nice for the children to talk to each other about what they have been doing in school whereas they wouldn't normally get this opportunity with COVID bubbles.

Something around the subject of socialising after being in an environment of isolation and distance for a very long period of time.

Pupils really enjoyed having time doing something different. I think having an event for them made them feel special and important.

Any suggestions for a theme for 2021-2022

Sports

Nature

Transition (secondary)

Nurturing healthy hearts and minds. Mackenzie Thorpe (artist from Middlesbrough) collaboration. Create Artwork with hearts – nurturing healthy hearts and minds. Clay – making air dry clay models or creating artwork with hearts.

Hopes and Dreams - Make sun catchers to hang in a window or garden. Make dream catchers.

The children enjoyed the craft session and getting messy and creative.

Maybe a seasonal craft for later on in the year.