

Children Our Ultimate Investment (UK)

Presentation for C4EO



Children Our Ultimate Investment (UK)



- Founded in 2001 to address high teenage pregnancy rates and social exclusion via the youth development programme – Teens and Toddlers
- Giving disadvantaged young people the skills, knowledge and attitude they need to keep them in education, training and employment
- Delivered in 20 LA's, reaching 3,500 young people & 3,500 small children

*To inspire young people
to be everything they can be*

What is Teens and Toddlers?



- Early Intervention Programme that supports two sets of vulnerable children, teenagers and small children
- Targeted Youth Development and Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Programme for vulnerable groups
 - Increases educational attainment, self esteem and aspirations
 - Prevents NEET
 - Develops emotional literacy and interpersonal skills
 - Improves sexual health knowledge and behaviour
 - Shows young people that they have choices



What is Teens and Toddlers?



- Endorsed by DSCF, DoH, PM Strategy Unit
- Addresses all five outcomes of 'Every Child Matters'
- Proven track record with multi-levelled youth development outcomes
- **Supports two sets of vulnerable children, teenagers and small children – early intervention**

“Teens and Toddlers is a well-evaluated, targeted intervention and youth development programme. It has shown an impact not only on reducing teen pregnancies, but also on increasing self-esteem, aspiration and educational attainment” DSCF

How does Teens and Toddlers work?



- **Weekly one-to-one contact between the adolescent and a small child in a safe nursery setting, who they are a mentor and role model for**
- Young people experience that: they have something to contribute, can make a difference in another's life, can positively engage with their community

How does Teens and Toddlers work?



- Classroom time focussing on child development, parenting skills, sexual health, life skills such as relationships, communications and assertiveness, and the realities of young people's lives today (drugs, alcohol, peer pressure)
- Life coaching for all teens and counselling for the young people most vulnerable and in need.



Who do we work with?

- At risk vulnerable young people ranging in ages from 14 to 16
- **Paired with 3 to 5 year olds in nurseries who are challenged in some way, such as autism and refugees.**





Provides gateway to employment with NCFE Level 1 Interpersonal Skills Award



100% of Teens
choose the
opportunity to
achieve the NA

98% Pass rate

C4EO priority: Increasing the engagement of young people in positive activities so as to achieve the ECM outcomes and contribute to the achievement of Youth PSA 14

Impact Evaluation



Three Independent Studies

- Annual Retrospective tracking of past participants for conceptions
- Focus Groups on main learnings from project
- Toddler Impact Study

Impact Evaluation



Annual Retrospective Tracking Evaluation Programme Impact:

- 97% of graduates from Teens and Toddlers programmes did not become pregnant under the age of 18 years.
- COUI achieves an average of 3.15% conception rate working with 'vulnerable' teenagers in comparison with the Government national average of 4.2% for a 'average teenager' within the UK
- 92% of T&T graduates remain in education, employment or training (NEET)

Impact Evaluation



- 92% said that they learnt that having a good education can give more choices in life
- 88.2% said that doing T&T made them more determined to achieve their goals
- 91.4% said that it helped them understand the need to have financial security and a stable relationship before having a child
- 87.5% said “20 or above” would be the right age to become a parent”
- 82.2% said that they felt more confident in themselves

Outcome results: Impact on nursery children



Statistically significant positive change in development:

- Personal, Social and Emotional
- Communication, Language and Literacy
- Physical Development

“It worked brilliantly. The young people all made a real difference to the children and we appreciated it!” Nursery Teacher

Case Study

Start of Teens & Toddlers

Case study, Male “C”, 3 years

Rating Comments: Personal, Social and Emotional Development Skills

- **Rated 1**, Much less than other children
- Very, very quiet. Can hardly hear him speak. Talk quiet, not able to relate and make friends
- Very shy and not forthcoming with adults
- Really ‘blossoms’ when praised
- He is willing to share and take turns. Nervous about using our toilet
- Not assertive - doesn’t stand up for himself

Case Study

Start of Teens & Toddlers

Communication Language and Literacy Skills

- **Rating 1** (lowest rating)
- Much less than other children
- Enjoys looking at books and does so quietly. Will quietly say what he wants to do – ‘I want to do painting’.
- Is beginning to approach adults although still very shy and quiet. Very attentive at story time but constantly looks nervous.

Case Study

Start of Teens & Toddlers

Physical Development Skills

- **Rating 2**
- Generally less than other children
- Tends to struggle with physical activity
- Quite good with small construction sets, makes lovely small models
- Not confident in boisterous games such as football
- Does ride the bikes well
- Sometimes switches hands

Case Study

End of Teens & Toddlers

- **Personal, Social and Emotional Development Skills**
- **Rating 3** (5 is highest rating)
- A little less shy and much more confident with other children
- Has built a strong relationship with his teenager. Has said 'I cry when you are not here' and wanted to draw her a picture before she went
- Able to say what he wants and doesn't want. Has made attachments to members of the group
- Will approach adults for help. Independent with clothing

Case Study

End of Teens & Toddlers

Communication Language and Literacy Skills

- **Rating 4**
- Looking slightly less nervous.
- Becoming more assertive about what he wants and talking to people known to him e.g. when he saw his teenager he called 'come here'.
- Loves books and looks at them carefully.
- Engages in role play with his friends.
- Talks about what he wants to do.
- Takes part in circle time.

Case Study

End of Teens & Toddlers

Physical Development Skills

- **Rating 4**
- Still no hand preference – swaps from left to right.
- Now making very good models.
- Has good control with bikes and is quite competitive in football games with other children.
- Enjoys using graphic tools and makes simple people pictures.
- Independent with shoes and socks and coat.

Nursery Teacher Comments

- *It worked brilliantly. You all made a real difference for the children and we appreciated it. If I'd imagine that you'd go on to working with young people it would be wonderful*
- *Its so important to have men in the nursery so the children learn about men as role models, the boys*
- *Helped to give such a positive role model. Helps to breakdown an the assumptions and thoughts about boys - challenge the belief that men can't make good models for children*
- *It was a real privilege to have you (teenagers) with us - At the beginning I said that as an adult in the nursery you are all role models and that the children will learn from your behaviour. They did and you were wonderful role models*

The Future



- **Sustainability through training local people in their local communities to deliver the Teens & Toddlers project OR**
- **Delivery model, COUI delivers**





Young Leader Programme



- Requested by Teens and Toddlers graduates & fully funded by COUI UK
 - Continued personal development and sexual health education
 - Leadership skills
 - Work experience
 - Make a difference in their communities
- Youth-led – allows teens the chance to be involved in development projects they chose and direct

Contact Us

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