



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 vulnerable young people the skills, knowledge and attitude they need to keep them in education, training and employment.

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

What is Teens and Toddlers?

- Early Intervention Programme.
- 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 DfE, 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” DfE



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

- Retrospective tracking of past participants for conceptions.
- Focus Group 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.



Proven 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**





Success Story: Tameside



Tameside have had the vision to do something significantly different and as the evidence proved Teen & Toddlers successful outcomes.



Teens & Toddlers in Tameside



A Local Success Story

Michelle Farrell
Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Manager



Teens & Toddlers in Tameside



A Brief History:

- In Tameside since 2007
- Conception rates
- A need to do more
- Prevention better than cure



Getting Stakeholders on Board



- Teenage Pregnancy Board
- Children's Services Managers
- Frontline Staff
- Schools
- Young People
- Children's Centres



Funding The Programme



- 50% COUI
- Working Neighbourhoods Funds

- Identifying young people through risk assessment tool.
- SLA with schools & nurseries.
- Pre Project Meeting.
- Meet with young people – explain what the programme is about.
- Mid Project Meeting.
- Post Project Meeting.

Results

- 197 Young People on the programme so far.
- 2 Conceptions.
- Early indications suggest a reduction in TP rates for 2009.

Quotes from Young People...

"I learnt how to control my anger because I couldn't control it before"

"It was great, I just want to say thank you to everyone"

"I loved T&T, if only it was longer"

"This group was wicked, I want to do it all again!"

"Learning about children will really help me in my future"

"I learnt how to communicate with toddlers properly"

"I have learnt so much, especially anger management, safer sex and how to cope and play with children"

Quotes from Colleagues involved In the programme.....

"It's the best programme I have ever worked on"
Youth Worker

"The children get a great deal from spending time with older children"
Children Centre Manager

"This has been great experience, and great career development. I would recommend being a facilitator"
T&T Facilitator

"This programme is a terrific example of multi-agency working to best meet the needs of those young people most at risk of engaging in risk taking behaviour"
Teacher



Further details are available from
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Also worth having a look at:

<http://www.c4eo.org.uk/themes/youth/vlpdetails.aspx?lpeid=222>