

# YOUNG PERSON'S FORUM

We met online Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

I read Sarah response to last month's meeting.

Hi everyone and thank you for the points you have raised in your meetings. It is great to hear that you are having these discussions and raising lots of points. Also that you are working through some of questions yourselves as a group to find solutions and answers. I had started writing down some answers to the things you had raised in your May meeting but then saw that you had already found some great suggestions and solutions yourselves in your June meeting! For example the activities at the safari park and could there be a mix of activities for different ages, and have different spaces within the marquee with some chilled areas, and this might help to ensure that there is something for everyone. You also said about having a table or space to say more about the YPF 😊

The Fostering Panel would love to hear from you but I agree that this would be something that would take some time to prepare for and we would look to support whoever is happy to do this, including what you feel is important to raise. This is perhaps something we could look to work with you over the coming months and have a time to meet with the panel at their next development session in December?

It is great that you recognise that this is your voice you are sharing and that we could be doing more to hear from other young people about what they feel is important. If there are particular questions or areas you feel are important we could look to support with this and the SSWs and TFWs are always in contact with young people so can certainly explore things with others. and gather views.

We have different ways of keeping in touch with our families, mostly through the foster carers, and have newsletters that go out each month, along with a summary that I share of things that are happening, and the SSWs and TFWs all keep carers (and children) up to date when they meet up, whether at home or at groups. We also have the website, so if there are messages you would like to get out, we can look at supporting this and we can have a think about the best way to do so - it will be good to hear more about what you would like to communicate.

You mentioned some ideas for other activities or clubs you would like to try out and it will be good to hear more, but we will need to ensure that we have the money and people available to support these and that there will be something that works for lots of young people in terms of ages, abilities and interests as well as where and when they take place. I think if you can have some more discussion with Liz and see what could perhaps be possible and we can look at whether we have the funds available before we take things forward.

And finally, if you do need references etc we are happy to support you with this.

It is brilliant hearing all the things you have going on, and let me know if you would like me to join another meeting, but I look forward to seeing you at the Safari Park in August!

Take care,

Sarah

We looked at the 'I'm not happy' leaflet and you gave feed back on this. the following was the young peoples forums views.

Its good, its got everything in it. Its for ages 10+ we think. A younger one would maybe need less words and maybe swop the words with pictures. Or even bigger font and more spacing.

These should not be given to children or young people until you know them even after 3 or 4 visits. It would be best for the person who knows the child or young person better to give it to them. If they have a TFW it should be given to them from the TFW.

We briefly explored paperwork. I mentioned that we had previously looked at a form we were asking all young people to fill out and that this was about what they wanted to achieve, their goals and what the adults around them could do to support them. I asked the young peoples forum what or who would keep paper work on them? I explained that as an adult I know lots of people keep information on me such as doctors and bank but who did they think wrote down information about them. The answer was Medical people, Government, Social work both care visions and local authority and teachers. Someone mentioned that the council if they moved house. We also explored confidentiality and that we all have a right for our information to be private and only the necessary people see it.

We also talked about the safari park and the young peoples forum are looking forward to running their table. They are not sure at this time what information they want from other young people other than listen to them and hear what they want to tell them.