

## User Evaluation Summary

**Test Design:** Our user evaluation was focused on testing general usability and first impressions of the website. Participants were asked to:

- Browse the site freely using our provided documentation
- Upload files
- Search for files
- Provide overall feedback on usability, layout, and clarity

**Participants:** We had two demographics of testing groups with varying levels of technical familiarity:

- **Testing Group 1 (Parents):** non-technical but comfortable with basic web usage. Representing one of our key user demographics.
- **Testing Group 2 (Friends):** A more tech-savvy user familiar with websites and admin dashboards, but new to our specific implementation.

### Feedback:

- The news page was confusing, especially the large footer and unclear content purpose.
- The links page was hard to read due to the formatting.
- The files page was well received being easy to navigate with a clean layout and footer that looked better here. It was pointed out that footer links didn't work and their purpose was questioned, especially when there was already a dedicated links page.
- The admin interface was confusing and not well-documented.
- Creating new content and placing it in the right area was unintuitive.
- The public-facing site was easy to use without needing admin privileges.
- The design was generally well-received, but they noted excessive white space and suggested reformatting some lists to go horizontally (left to right) instead of vertically.

### What We Learned.

- Users expect stronger contextual framing, especially on the home and news pages.

- Layout readability (e.g., vertical vs. horizontal) affects usability more than expected.
- The admin side of the site requires more thorough, user-friendly documentation.
- Observing a non-technical user was especially valuable; they notice confusing elements that tech-savvy users might overlook.
- Letting users speak their thoughts aloud helped identify issues that weren't obvious just from watching behavior.

### **Changes Made**

- Reduced the footer size and replaced placeholder links with actual social/contact links.
- Updated the home page to define a clearer purpose
- Reformatted the links and files pages for better readability.
- Plans to Improve documentation for WordPress usage
- Adjusted layout spacing