

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019

A decorative graphic featuring a background of orange circles. A pink rectangular box is centered, containing the text 'For parents when they need us most'. A small blue and orange circular graphic is positioned to the right of the pink box.

**For parents
when they
need us most**

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THE TEAM

Home-Start Nottingham Staff

Marie Sheffield (Operations Manager), Gail Tilley (Co-ordinator), Sara Leivers (Office Manager & Finance), Pip Fannin (Co-ordinator) and Colleen Smith (Co-ordinator)



Trustee Committee

Julie Walker (Chair), Mike Scott (Vice-Chair), Caroline Stephens and Dave Gunn



SSBC/Home-Start Nottingham Staff

Amanda Jamieson (Hub Manager)
Lynette Worall and Sami Simpson (Team Leaders), Szilvia Bodorne Simon, Liz Bourne, Hazel Clyde, Hayley Green, Krystal James, Patricia Laurie, Kirsty Payne, Debra Richards, Emma Rourke, Lisa Sheppard, Charlotte Sheridan, Sardia Skelton, Jasmine Vassell, Kimberley Wardle (Family Mentors) and Razia Malik (Administrator).



THE CHAIR OF TRUSTEES REPORT

It has been a busy year for the Trustee Board as there have been lots of changes to navigate. We said goodbye to Ann Aljewicz, our previous Chair at the last Annual Meeting and two longstanding Trustees retired at Christmas.

As a smaller Trustee Board we have worked closely with the staff team to manage the changes, review our structure and working practices and endeavour to recruit new Trustees.

Due to the limited availability of funding for the voluntary sector we have had to sell our premises and rent them back as tenants. This has been a long process but has released revenue and given us time to pursue other sources of funding.

I would personally like to thank the staff who have persevered with us through all the changes, worked diligently to ensure our support of families and volunteers has carried on unaffected, and taken on responsibilities and given time over and above what has been required of their job roles.

Also thanks to the Trustees. We are involved with Home Start because we want to support families and provide a much needed service for the City of Nottingham and four county boroughs. Despite the challenging times for Charities like us, we have continued to see parents grow in confidence and children thrive and grow.

We are still looking for new Trustees to join our team. If you have time to give, are interested in providing support to families and be part of a team then we would love to hear from you.

Julie Walker
Chair

OPERATION MANAGERS (CITY) REPORT

This year Home Start has seen lots of change. Sue Fenton, the Scheme Manager retired after 24 years of service. A new temporary Management structure has been put in place, which consists of two Operational Managers. One operational Manager now covers the county and one for the City. The operational manager's role is to develop the Home Start service in the area.

My new role as Operational Manager for the City is to promote Home-Start Nottingham and raise the profile with other services and organisations and promote the great work we do. The referrals for the city have always been high and it is increasingly difficult to support the families in the city as Home Start doesn't receive any statutory funding. We have to rely on donations from trusts and our own fundraising.

However I am pleased to say that Home-Start Nottingham is managing to support a small number of families that live in the city and I would like to see this increase over the next 12 months.

Home Start Nottingham has supported 118 families in the County and City in 2018/2019 though home visiting and group and 195 children.

Recruitment of volunteers is becoming more increasingly difficult and we are always reviewing on how to recruit volunteers and working more with social media.

Finally Thank You to all the volunteers for all their commitment and great work, they do with supporting families, because without these wonderful volunteers there wouldn't be Home Start Nottingham.

Marie Sheffield

CO-ORDINATORS (COUNTY) REPORT

Our fundraising committee has been very busy again this year.

They have arranged car boots which are always a success, thank you to everyone for your donations, I'm sure we will be arranging another one soon.



Our main event has been our golf day at Ramsdale Golf Club in September. This was supported by the Nottingham Masons Clifton Lodge. A lot of work went into organising this event, we had a raffle, silent auction and the teams had a great day of golf! We raised a fantastic amount of £2238.

Our other big event was our ladies evening in March which was held at the Canal House in Nottingham. There were treatments available, stalls, raffle and a silent auction. This was a lovely relaxed sociable evening. We raised a great amount of £1431.

The group also arranged a family event held in August at Wollaton Park. This was a chance for families to have a fun day out together, playing on the park, inflatable slides and bouncy castle as well as enjoying an ice cream!

Special thanks to our volunteers Tracey, Janet, Karen and Pauline, without you this would not have been achievable. Over £4200 has been raised by the committee.



Development work in the county - Since January 2019 we have focussed more on getting 'out and about' within the districts we cover. This has included attending meetings with agencies, community groups as well as 'leaflet drops' in shops, schools and community venues.

Our main purpose is to meet new people, promote our charity and the support we offer to families. We have also recruited volunteers from this which has been brilliant!

We have also been sharing our work on social media which has included interviewing volunteers about why they volunteer and how they have supported families. We feel this has a huge impact and will be focussing on this more in the future.

If anyone would like to support us in fundraising, promoting Home-Start Nottingham, recruiting volunteers and social media we would love to hear from you!

Gail Tilley

LET'S PLAY TOGETHER FAMILY GROUP

In July 2018, we were given the fantastic news that BBC Children In Need were to award Home-Start Nottingham with a three year grant to deliver a new family group in Clifton. Having not received any statutory funding from the City Council for at least six years, this provided us with an overdue opportunity to support families living in the Nottingham City area.



The group's main aim is to provide children with a better life experience through play and social interaction. Sessions and activities are planned to increase children's confidence and social awareness, help develop their speech and language skills, work towards school readiness, increase awareness of healthier choices with diet and exercise, and finally aim to encourage more positive relationship between child and parent. The group has renewed our link with the community and we have been regularly supporting 8 families as well as having been attended by a further 12!!

In light of this new funding and low numbers in attendance, the decision was made to close the Arnold family group.

At Let's Play Together, we encourage feedback from parents about the group, and they are also welcome to participate in the planning of the group. We have continued to theme each month with a topic e.g. safety, healthy eating. The topics are supported by creative play for the children and education for parents.

As always we couldn't run the group without our wonderful committed volunteers, so a big thank you to Jennifer and Kulwinder!

We look forward to the group growing in numbers and doing what we do best and putting smiles on children and parents faces!!



Pip Fannin

SSBC Small Steps Big Changes Project

The Aspley SSBC @ Home Visiting programme and community group sessions have had a positive impact on families with children from pregnancy to their 4th birthday. Our core principle remains children at the heart of everything we do, parents leading the way, supported by experts.

We are still working with those babies born during the first year of our programme and therefore have seen these babies transition into nursery at 2 and 3 years old. Our aim is working with babies and children so that they will be ready to learn at 2, ready for school at 5 and ready for life at 16.

We hope to see the following outcomes in the children we work with:

- Positive social and emotional development
- Effective and age-appropriate communication and language skills
- Good nutrition

We are working towards a cross-partnership change through running sessions that are co - delivered with Health Visitors, Early Help, community venue providers and nurseries. The Community Partnerships are regularly attended by our team, along with parents and other agencies that provide services for their children. We engage parent's ideas about the SSBC programme so that it can be shaped for the future. We also recognise that it takes a community to raise a child.

Our Stay and Play sessions have enabled us to work alongside parents to encourage the cognitive development in their children, provide activities and demonstrate novel and exciting ways to improve their child's school readiness.

The Home - Start Nottingham Family Mentors have delivered 255 community groups in all with total interactions of 6,113 families.



Not only has this programme equipped families with information, ideas and activities they can use to give their children the very best start in life, it has also upskilled the family mentors themselves - Our accredited Triple P (Positive Parenting Programme), Baby Massage, FRED (Fathers Reading Every Day) and Cook and Play courses, for example. Triple P enables our Family Mentors to

provide parents with simple and practical strategies to help them confidently manage their child's behaviour, prevent problems developing and build strong, healthy relationships.

At the end of QTR 4 2018/19, our team had developed the early years of 345 children within the Small Steps at Home programme, equipping parents to be the best that they can be, contributing to their efforts in growing their children with love and respect.



165 expectant mums and 52 new babies were referred to the SS@Home service. 48% of expectant mums consented and 66% of new babies consented to the programme.

44 families with new babies declined and 36 expectant mums declined Small Steps at home and we have had 6,113 total interactions from within all groups with a total of 282 live births in Aspley.

Our Family Mentors have developed some wonderful relationships with families whilst visiting them in their homes. We are confident that we contribute to ensuring that babies and children in the Aspley Ward have a better start as a result, with fulfilling lives so that they are healthy, happy and thriving.

Amanda Jamieson

REPORT FROM SUE FENTON (EX-SCHEME MANAGER)

The year ending March 2019 was one of the most significant in the history of the scheme as it was due to celebrate its 40th Birthday in 2018. Whilst we were able to acknowledge this momentous occasion at the AGM in October we were not able to celebrate throughout the year in the manner we had hoped to do because of the precarious nature of the funding for our core work.

The scheme finally felt the impact of being decommissioned by Health the previous year and suffered a further blow when an application to the Big Lottery was unsuccessful. A number of small grants have supported minor projects in the scheme but have not provided the security of funded posts to guarantee long term sustainability.

All the Home-Start schemes in the county have experienced the same challenges and indeed Home-Start Ashfield closed its doors at the end of March 2018. We are pleased to say that with the backing of the county council and Boots, Home-Start Nottingham has been able to provide the infrastructure to support staff from Ashfield to continue to deliver a reduced service in the Ashfield area and as we move into 2019/20 the district has become absorbed into the Home-Start Nottingham catchment area but operates under a restricted budget.

Trustees and staff within Home-Start Nottingham have worked tirelessly to develop a strategy to ensure the scheme has a future. This has included the sale of the building to release assets to invest in the scheme; looking at new ways to deliver the service; thinking about expanding services and developing new ones; seriously looking at partnership working, based on the success of working with the Bulwell Toy Library and Groundwork Greater Nottingham to deliver the SSBC Family Mentor Service in Aspley and Bulwell. It has also, inevitably, involved considering a restructure of the scheme.

I made a decision early last year that after 24 years with Home-Start Nottingham I was going to retire at the end of the financial year and I believe this encouraged the Board and the team to be quite radical in their thinking of a new structure and certainly provided the opportunity to pilot separating the city from the county in terms of funding, development and service delivery. This will be an ongoing project through the current year and I can only see this as an exciting time although change never comes without some anxiety for those concerned.

I do believe that our families, who are at the centre of all we do, have not seen any detrimental change in their support from Home-Start Nottingham because of the wonderful work of the volunteers and staff who manage them, despite the staff themselves facing uncertain times.

I would like to take this final opportunity to say how proud I am to have been part of Home-Start Nottingham for so long; a huge thank you to the brilliant volunteers without whom the scheme cannot work and that it has been a privilege for me to work with teams of staff and trustees who are so dedicated to the ethos of Home-Start and who were a tremendous support to me both in my role and personally. I said it when I left but I sincerely meant it, I take away with me so much more than I brought to the scheme.

FUNDRAISING REPORT

We would like to say thank you for all the donations we have had throughout the year from all the various Trusts, individuals and those volunteers who donate their expenses back to Home-Start Nottingham.

Ed has ran his first marathon in Sheffield and raised money for Home-Start Nottingham and Sarah and Karl who ran half marathons, full marathons and 10k races and also raised money. Thank you.



We thank everyone involved in fundraising this year and we have raised a total of **£26,793** – massive well done to everyone.

We would also like to thank Nottinghamshire County Council, Children in Need, Boots and SSBC for their support of Home-Start Nottingham.



Charitable Trust



Please follow Home-Start Nottingham on our website, Facebook, Twitter and Instagram by liking and sharing our posts – it will help raise awareness of us.



You can also support us when you shop online through Easyfundraising. It completely free and everytime you shop through easyfundraising, we receive a donation. The link is



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/hsnottingham/>

ANNUAL STATISTICS

- 1314 home visiting volunteer visits have been made
- 118 Families have been supported
- 195 children have been supported
- 3259 volunteer hours including group, trustees and home visiting volunteers
- 16 volunteers completed the volunteers' preparation courses

Would you like to make a difference?



Do you have time to support families with young children?

Would you like to access training and learn new skills?

If it is yes to the above questions why not volunteer for Home-Start Nottingham?

Home-Start Nottingham are looking to recruit Trustees with various skills and experience.

If you are a parent or grandparent we are also looking to recruit home visiting volunteers to visit families in the Nottingham City, Ashfield, Broxtowe, Gedling and Rushcliffe districts.

For more information about either of the above opportunities contact 0115 962 4262 or email us on info@home-startnottingham.org.uk