

Forth Valley CHSWG minutes

Forth Valley Children's Hearing Services Working Group		
Date: 8.12.2021	Time: 10-12pm	Teams
Meeting called by	Amanda Walker	
Type of meeting	Quarterly Children's Workgroup	
Chairperson	Amanda Walker	
Note taker	Jacquie Winning	
Attendees	<p>Amanda Walker, Falkirk Council Head Teacher/Educational Audiologist Windsor Park School and Sensory Service Bantaskine Road Falkirk Hazel Badjie, Senior Local Campaigns Lead National Deaf Children's Society. Brogan Ferguson, Crosshouse CI Centre, Jennifer Ward, Trainee Teacher of the Deaf, Stirling Leza Munro Audiology Service NHS FV Katie Clark, SLT Deafness NHS FV Jacquie Winning Forth Valley Sensory Centre Sammy Sneddon, parent representative</p>	
Apologies	<p>Catherine Cameron, ToD, Stirling Council Marie Cafferky, NDCS</p>	
Last minutes: The minutes of the last meeting on 20.10.20 were accepted as a correct record.		
BSL Draft Plans		
Discussion	<p>Stirling - There is no update regarding the Stirling BSL Draft plan. This will be carried forward to next meeting.</p> <p>Forth Valley BSL Proposals: Claire Canton's (BSL(Scotland) Act Information & Engagement Officer for the NDCS) project has finished. No update available. This will carry forward to next meeting.</p>	
Action Items	Person responsible	Deadline
Keep enquiring about any updates.	Marie, Amanda and Catherine	Next meeting
Updates		
Amanda Walker (Falkirk)	<p>No visits are allowed to Falkirk Schools unless deemed to be essential. Clear masks have been trialed by pupils and teachers but the consensus was they are too reflective and steam up. Better than nothing at all, but not a game changer. The school base is available for pupils if they need it.</p>	

<p>Jennifer Ward (Stirling)</p>	<p>Covid is still presenting problems with regard to staffing and logistics.</p> <p>Online teaching is available and working better for older children, but is not popular or practical for younger pupils. Teachers are doing the best they can in what continues to be challenging circumstances. Teachers are conducting some visits to children in their garden, which is obviously not ideal, but again is better than nothing.</p>
<p>Katie Clark (Speech and Language Therapy FV)</p>	<p>SLT has been busy. Katie has more flexibility now that she has a permanent contract in Falkirk for 2 days per week. Home visits are permitted, however there is still a great deal of disruption to education and there is a sense of real isolation for some pupils. There is also a higher incidence of sickness and more visits need to be cancelled because someone in a household is unwell. There is a good staff support network in place.</p>
<p>Jacquie Winning (Forth Valley Sensory Centre)</p>	<p>FVSC is open to the public. Café, Sensory Room and Gardens open every day. Most groups and activities are back on a face to face basis, however it is proving difficult to make plans due to the uncertainties around Covid. Health Services for children's audiology and immunisation are taking place every week. Falkirk Council Sensory Team are delivering a restricted number of home visits for rehab and equipment and providing a face to face service in the Centre daily.</p> <p>Falkirk See Hear group will be meeting on Tuesday 11 January 3pm – 4pm on Zoom. Contact Jacquie Winning if you'd like to attend. There is a small budget available to deliver localized projects for people with Sensory Loss. All project ideas are presented to the See Hear group for consideration.</p>
<p>Brogan Ferguson (Crosshouse Hospital)</p>	<p>The paediatric clinic is experiencing a lot of cancelled appointments similar to other health clinics. On the plus side there are 2 new processors available with better connectivity.</p>
<p>Leza Munro (Audiologist NHS FV)</p>	<p>Audiology is short staffed at present but are managing to keep up with 4 week screenings. Helena McDonald is</p>

	the screening mid-wife and is only allocated 1 day per month to cover the screenings. The Team continue to prioritise audiology appointments on a regular basis	
Action Items	Person responsible	Deadline
NDCS Update		
Hazel Badje (Local Engagement Team Lead)	<p>No major changes to report. Alison Lawson is part of the National Support Team and is the link for Workshops. These are very popular and often have a waiting list. Details can be found on the NDCS website: www.ndcs.org.uk/our-services/our-events/</p> <p>NDCS are working on action planning and feel that CHSWG is a useful source of information to help determine priorities, monitor progress and identify any barriers. This action plan is a useful tool for inspection. Hazel suggested some potential themes for discussion at future CHSWG forums.</p> <p>Attainment of Deaf Children is a possible topic. Some children appear to have good family support during Covid disruption, but for others the gap in attainment has widened.</p> <p>Another possible topic is the failure to attend Health Appointments which has increased dramatically to 30%-50% in some cases.</p> <p>There was some discussion in the group about the need to relax the approach to striking people off the waiting list for appointments if they do not attend 2 appointments. It was agreed that Covid has placed extra burdens on parents and there should be some consideration given to leeway.</p> <p>The Glasgow NDCS office remains closed.</p>	
Focus for future meetings		
Discussion	If anyone has anything that they would like us to discuss at the following meetings then please let Amanda Walker know.	
Action Items:	Person responsible	Deadline
Margaret Ferguson Falkirk Council Sensory Team to be added to CHSWG Forum contacts	Amanda Walker	31 January 2022
AOCB		

Jacque suggested that Audiology colleagues could approach Falkirk See Hear to request funding to purchase a small supply of the Raspberry Pi hearing equipment designed to help people with Glue Ear. This equipment was mentioned at the last CHSWG forum as the designers recently won the prestigious “App of the year” award.

Next Meeting

Wed 23 February 2022 10am - 12

Wed 11 May 2022 10am -12

Venue or online tbc