

Equality Impact Assessment screening record

Service:

CYPIS

Title of strategy, policy or service:

Portage Service

Type of strategy, policy or service (delete below as appropriate):

Existing:

X

Q1 – What is the aim of your strategy, policy, project or service?

The Portage home visiting service works in partnership with families of pre-school aged children who have been diagnosed with a significant disability/syndrome and/or a development delay of at least one year in two or more areas. The service helps parents to encourage their child's development and teach them new skills by suggesting activities and routines that make learning fun.

In addition the service directly supports the development of young children's play, communication and relationships and encourages their full participation in day to day life within the family and beyond the home including transition into group/educare settings or school as appropriate.

We are registered by the National Portage Association and hold the following values and principles

- ❖ Every child and every family should be valued for their individuality as diversity brings strength to all.
- ❖ Inclusion and participation of every individual in our community is a right that should be supported and nurtured.
- ❖ Parents play the key role in supporting their young child's development.
- ❖ Families have the right to make informed choices and decisions for themselves about things that are important to them now and in the future, whilst remaining the child's first ally.
- ❖ All children have the right to enjoy the widest range of play experiences, as these are the foundation of learning and development
- ❖ Early Childhood is the foundation on which children build the rest of their lives: it is not just a preparation for the next stage – it is vitally important in itself.
- ❖ Everyday contacts, relationships and activities are fundamental in nurturing development, quality of life and experience.

In addition, the service aims to provide a key worker service to families who have a child with complex needs. For more information regarding Early Support and Key Working, please refer to www.earllysupport.org.uk

Q2 – Who is the strategy, policy, project or service going to benefit?

Any pre-school age child with a disability/complex need that meets the service criteria and their family. The child will develop skills and understanding through fun, play based activities and routines. The family will gain understanding of the ways they can enable their child to develop and achieve using a play based approach. In addition the family will be supported to make informed choices and decisions for themselves about the things that are important to them. The child will learn they have the right to be included and to participate in their community.

Q3 – For each equality group, does or could the strategy, policy, project, or service have an impact?

Group	Negative	Positive/ No impact	Don't know
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relationships between groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other socially excluded groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q4 – Does or could the area being looked at help to promote equality?

Group	Negative	Positive/ No impact	Don't know
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relationships between groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other socially excluded groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q5 – Do you have any feedback from equality groups that influence, affect or shape this strategy, policy, project or service? Is it ...

Group	Negative	Positive/ No impact	Don't know
Age	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Relationships between groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other socially excluded groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	x <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q6 If the answer to questions 3 - 5 are negative or don't know you must consider doing a full EQIA. If you do not intend to carry one out explain why

This is a referral based service based on clear criteria and most of our referrals are made through the Child Development Centre or via Health Visitors. However, we have an open referral system meaning that parents can self refer and/or any professional can refer to our service with parental permission.

Our work supports the following legislation:-

- The S.E.N Code of Practice, Together from the Start,
- Every Child Matters,
- Removing Barriers to Achievement,
- 2004 Children Act, Early Support,
- Aiming High for Disabled children and the
- Early Years Foundation Stage

We are able to work with pre-school children from birth to school entry, supporting and empowering parents and carers of all ages.

We run 3 'Stay and Play' sessions on a monthly basis at a Children's Centre in each of the reach areas. We are joined by other professionals each month who are available to give specific advice to parents/carers. We also have a befriender from Face2Face, a parent support group, who joins us for most sessions. We end our sessions with a sing and sign session where everyone joins in and has lots of giggles. Details of these sessions are made available via the Family Information Service, Portage Service or through Activities leaflets available in Children's Centre.

For parents / carers with a hearing impairment that need to contact the office, we would arrange for a registered British Sign Language Interpreter to be present via either the Hampshire Deaf Association, RNID South West or TEAM Communications LTD. For parents/carers with visual impairments we can send

documents in large print or provide audiotapes. The Team can be contacted by phone, letter, email or at the office. The office has disabled access and a Hearing Loop on site; it is also close to the bus station and public car parks.

When working in family homes we respect differing faiths and beliefs. Translation services are available to help those for whom English is not their first language. BigWord Translation Services are now in place for conference calls/document translation. For applicants not confident in completing forms in English, assistance is offered during home visits.

We work with every family that has a child meeting our criteria regardless of the sexual orientation of the carers.

Families are surveyed regularly to ensure the service continues to meet their needs and expectations. We also work closely with PAX (Parents and Carers are Experts) supporting parent led initiatives.

Q7 – Who was involved in the screening?

Jane Osburn, Sandra Matthews

Screening approved by:

Date: 31 March 2012

Contact number:

Send a copy of your completed screening to your Unit's Equality Rep

If you have any comments, queries or suggestions to be considered as part of this EQIA please email integrated.services@poole.gov.uk or telephone 01202 261974 or Text Relay on 18001 01202 261974.