

Shared Foundation Partnership Case Study Template

This can be tailored to show positive impact of an activity/project on the partnership, children or families in relation to the three main focuses of the partnerships i.e. availability, flexibility and improving quality.

Brief outline of the activity or project (including who was involved):

Dunnington Shared Foundation Partnership – Sharing Training/Best Practice

Our partnership meets once a term. To help us to share best practice we rotate our meetings around different settings and the final item on the agenda for every meeting is a 'show and tell'. People who have been on a course or come across something new and interesting are invited to speak. Topics have included: Tapestry and other online learning journey resources; Scrap Stuff and the potential to set up a partnership Scrap Shed; Mark Making Matters; tablet apps suitable for use with Foundation Stage children; Talk for Writing (including gross and fine motor skills development to support readiness to write); The Children's Food Trust guidelines and training for Foundation Stage food and drink.

What are the benefits?

New ideas and examples of best practice are shared between partnership members. This is especially helpful as the partnership budget will not stretch to funding training or expensive resources. People also learn of alternative approaches, from visiting others' settings. As lone workers, this is an area that Childminders in particular find of benefit. Some topics are of interest to more people than others, we have found that generally ideas are trialed and experimented with rather than adopted wholesale. One important benefit is to help us to further develop the continuity of provision across settings, further enhancing our transition plans. More specifically, sharing of approaches used by Dunnington Primary School helps to influence the rest of the partnership's practices in getting older children school ready. One specific example of this is the new handwriting font adopted by the school and their Talk for Writing programme. The Show and Tell item on the agenda has only been adopted since February 2014 so long term benefits are difficult to discern at this stage but my general impression is that partnership members are more ready to share and work together and there is a free exchange of ideas amongst most of the partnership members. We hope that by closely following the school's practices and also paying attention to issues raised in the baseline assessments the school uses, overall attainment of Early Learning Goals will be raised.

Impact - any effects arising from an activity / project. This includes immediate short-term outcomes as well as broader and longer-term effects.

Outcomes - are the changes, benefits, learning or other effects that result from what the project or organisation makes, offers or provides.

Outputs are the products, services or facilities that result from an organisation's or project's activities.