

15 minute questionnaire

with mum & daughter, Sharon & Ella Robinson



Questions for Ella Robinson, age 3

What did you do today?

I went to nursery and played with toys.

What's your favourite thing at the nursery?

Home corner- it's a mini house where I dress up as a fairy!

Who's your favourite teacher and why?

Naila- because she is good.

What's your favourite food?

Grapes

What do you want to become when you grow up?

Policewoman

Questions for Sharon Robinson

How do you benefit from Ella being at nursery and using the Free Early Education Grant?

It enables me to go to work and the free early education is a financial support towards the childcare I use.

As a parent what services would you like to be provided for children and young people?

More after school clubs, activities, youth clubs and a local cinema showing Saturday morning shows for young children.

What is the best thing about Waltham Forest?

I have lived all my life in Waltham Forest and the reason for that is

because the diversity of the people has enriched the environment culture within.

What is not so good about Waltham Forest?

At the moment too many road works making travelling time more difficult and longer than necessary.

What message do you have for the Prime Minister?

To provide more resources to support professionals and parents to work together to achieve the best possible start for children.

Barclay Primary and Children Centre

This Phase 3 Children Centre is moving fast. It is part of a large development programme at Barclay Primary School and fits well with the agenda for Extended Services. There will be a number of

different activities and services, following a consultation in the summer that indicated the needs of the community. Posts have been advertised and it is hoped that by early in the New

Year staff will be in place to start work on the project. This will be ahead of the building works but services will be offered, so that the benefits are already underway for the community.



The Waltham Forest Extended Services Team would like to wish everyone a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

chitter chatter

Waltham Forest Extended Services Newsletter

December 2008

How are we doing?

July - September 2008

Family Information Service

The Family Information Service has had a 24 % increase in the total number of calls and an increase of 15% in the total number of hits to the Waltham Forest website in comparison to quarter 1 in 08-09.

Every Child a Talker (ECAT)

Waltham Forest is one of 51 local authorities which have been selected by the Department for Children, Schools and Families, to participate in this programme that was launched on the 24th of November 2008 at the Waltham Abbey Marriott Hotel. ECAT is designed to improve the skills and expertise of the Early Years workforce in early language development. There are still many children starting school without the extended vocabulary and communication abilities, which are so important for learning and making friends. Disadvantaged children are especially prone to language delay some having only a third of the vocabulary of other children. As children grow older this early

delay can lead to significant difficulties later on, particularly with reading and writing. ECAT is a focussed programme that will equip teachers and practitioners working with both children and their parents to ensure that children experience a language rich environment, both at home and in their settings. We are pleased to have 22 Children Centres, Schools, private nurseries, voluntary preschools and childminders participating in this programme to support young children in our local authority to become confident and skilled communicators. For more information contact Anne Denham on 020 8496 3000



Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work Scheme

The Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work scheme could help with the cost of childcare while you learn or train. The scheme is aimed at out-of-work parents with a partner who's in work and who are looking to attend a course classed 'as developing new skills that could lead to a job'.

- have one or more children under 14 (or under 18 if the child is disabled)
 - have a partner who is working
 - have a household income of less than £20,000 per year
- You need to use a childcare provider registered with Ofsted.

Do you qualify?

You could be eligible for the Free Childcare for Training and Learning for Work scheme if you're 20 or over, not working and you:

- live in one of the trial local council areas

How to apply

To apply you must complete and return an application form. Application forms will be available later in the year. Visit www.lsc.gov.uk for updates - or speak to your college or contact FIS on 020 8496 3000 to find out more.

Waltham Forest Children and Young People's Directory

The directory is a one stop shop for all activities, events and advice for children, young people, parents/carers and practitioners in the Borough and surrounding areas. Visit the directory at www.walthamforest.gov.uk/csd



The New Qualifications List...

There is now a new list of full and relevant qualifications for all settings who are delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). You must refer to the qualification list to ensure that you are meeting the specific legal requirements of the Statutory Framework for the EYFS.

The Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) has been identified in the Statutory Framework as "responsible for defining qualifications acceptable for registration and regulatory purposes." The CWDC has reviewed over 300 qualifications relating to Early Years, Childcare and Play Work and has assessed them to determine whether or not they meet the new criteria.

The introduction of the Qualifications List will be phased in. The Qualifications List was published online in November 2008 and can be accessed to enable us to become familiar with it. Until the end of August 2009, the Early Years and Play Work Qualifications Database should still be used to check that settings meet statutory requirements for qualifications. From September 2009 this will be replaced with the Qualifications List.

Visit www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/qualifications-list to view the qualification list.

Please begin to familiarise yourselves with the list.

New SEN Resource Library coming soon!

In the New Year a SEN Resource Library will be opening at Queens Road Community Centre. There will be an opportunity every week for SENCOs and other practitioners from all PVI's receiving FEEG funding to borrow from a range of multi-sensory toys and equipment.

Watch out for opening details in 2009!

Congratulations

Congratulations to Amarjit Chauhan for completing her NVQ Level 4 in Management!

Well Done to Joanne McGrath, childminder who has received an outstanding inspection grade from OFSTED

Davies Lane Children Centre

An Information Day for parents was held on 19 November. There was a great atmosphere and a huge interest from the community to find out details of what is happening and when the Centre will be opening.

Family Information Service and WorkNet were on hand to talk with parents. Lorraine Manford from Extended Services gave information about Phase 3 Children Centre, along with Tim Smith and Sue Martin, who delivered a presentation on Sure Start Children Centres. Head teacher, Maureen Okoye and her team are very enthusiastic about the benefits for families and for the children in this diverse community. They already have many plans for working hand in hand with local organisations and parents.

It is an exciting start for this project and with some newly refurbished premises. New posts will be available and services and activities will soon be on their way.

A Grand Opening for Chingford Hall Children Centre

The Rt Hon. Ed Balls, Children's Secretary officially opened Chingford Hall Children Centre on Wednesday 15th October. The day was packed with fun, books and music. The celebrations on the day included a Chingford Hall Stories book event, as one of the aims of the Children Centre is to increase interest in literacy as well as working to make lives better for young children and their families.

The Minister spent the morning with the Head Teacher, Pat Davies looking around the new premises and talking with the staff and the children. He was delighted with the positive response that the children have to their school and Children Centre.

You can contact the centre for further information on 020 8527 7433.

Big Toddle, Big Fun!

If you work with children under 5, then the Barnardo's Big Toddle is for you!

Whether you are a nursery, an Early Years group or a childminder, join in the Big Toddle, it is a small sponsored walk for children under 5.



What is the Big Toddle?

The Barnardo's Big Toddle is the biggest, brightest and best fundraising event for under 5s!

It is a short sponsored walk, which last year saw almost 500,000 Toddlers and more than 10,000 groups register.

All the money raised by Big Toddle goes to locally based Barnardo's projects for children under 5 throughout the UK. Barnardos works

with vulnerable and disadvantaged children and their families, this includes supporting children affected by poverty, homelessness, disability, bereavement and abuse.

How do you join the Big Toddle?

You can register online www.bigtoddle.co.uk or call 0845 270 9900.



Do you have the Bookstart Packs?



Bookstart is a national scheme funded by the government to encourage reading and library membership there are three packs. The treasure chest is the pack that you would need to order for your setting. Children at your centre should have received the first two packs from the health visitor at their health checks but if they haven't you can order these as well. The packs can be delivered or collected from Leyton Library, High Road, Leyton E10 5QH. You can order the packs from Joice Magliore via email joice.magliore@walthamforest.gov.uk

Do you want to become an Early Years Professional (EYP)?

We have 7 EYPs working either in Children Centres, PVI settings or within the local authority. There are 9 candidates on the pathways towards gaining the status. We are making progress towards meeting the government target of one EYP in every full day care setting by 2015 and two EYPs in Children Centres in the 30% most deprived areas by 2010.

Benefits of being an EYP

The network supports EYPs to continue with their professional development by providing opportunities for them to access further training. This month three EYPs will be travelling to Reggio Emilia, along with other childcare practitioners, to attend a study week and will feedback on this

well respected approach. They have also been able to access places on the Family Partnership Training and work alongside our QuILT consultants.

So this is even more of a good reason to think about becoming an EYP contact Sue McGarry on 020 8496 3579 for further information.

Lifeline Project

Church Hill Children Centre and Nursery School are working in partnership with Barnardo's Hamara Family Project in delivering an early crisis intervention service to vulnerable families who have children aged 5 or under. The Lifeline Project gives families intensive practical and emotional support for an initial 12 week period, after which the level of intervention needed is reviewed and families who need further long term support are referred or signposted to other agencies.

Some of the many areas of good practice evidenced by the Lifeline project are a commitment to partnership working and information sharing between relevant agencies. Lifeline is an extension of Hamara's usual role in the Borough of offering support to disabled children and their families. The Project has brought about positive changes for some very vulnerable families and Hamara would like to work with other children centres in a similar way.

For more information please contact ruth.watson@barnardos.org.uk