

Learning and Culture Overview Scrutiny Committee – Review of Casual Play Opportunities

Projects & Initiatives within the City that are working to address the issues raised through the Parent Questionnaire

Barriers to play – Parents perceptions	Initiatives and projects
Traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are a large number of initiatives relating to road safety - cycling and walking to school. All schools are encouraged to produce a travel plans for their pupils - http://www.york.gov.uk/transport/Road_safety/schoolroutes/
Strangers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer York Partnership operates a scheme called Crucial Crew, which present a variety of scenarios with a wide range of potentially dangerous and challenging situations to groups of children and young people. Previous Crucial Crew events scenarios have included strangers in the Park. http://www.crucial-crew.org/yorkselby/cfdocs/aboutsaferyork.cfm
Anxiety and confidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the Playbuilder project, a commission to produce a guide for parents which will myth buster parental anxieties about play will be produced by Yorkshire Play, a regional non profit making organisation that supports play and playwork in the Yorkshire and Humber region. • Play England and partners have produced a Manifesto for Children’s Play calling for the next government to make play a priority. It asks all political parties to make 3 simple pledges for all children and young people to have the freedom and space to play enjoyed by previous generations.
Bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the 2009 of the Take Over day. Two groups of young people took over the YorOK website for Takeover Day in November 2009 and made a section about bullying.
Space and quality of facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £328K Lottery Funding has supported the development of 4 projects to improve the quality of outdoor play opportunities in the city. These include the installation of climbing boulders at Rawcliffe Country Park, the upgrade of Leaside play area, installation of adventure play equipment at Park Grove School and Running Wild a environmental play project that operates at 5 sites across the city. • Playbuilder an investment of £1.2 million to upgrade or install 22 new play areas.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the Schools Out summer 2010 programme, the mobile playschemes will link directly with Play Day which this year is themed 'Our Place' which aims to put children at the heart of our communities, and asks everyone, young and old, to help create better places for all of us to live and play. The mobile schemes will deliver play based consultation activities in a number of targeted areas where there is a need to develop how the space is used by children and the community. • In 2009 York hosted a nationally developed Playshaper training event which brought together multi agency representatives including Play, Police, Housing, Parks and Open Spaces, the voluntary sector, City Strategy, Transport and Planning. The training focused on child-friendly design, planning and management of public space and enabled local authority colleagues and other stakeholders to come together and consider how; the design, planning and management of public space are fundamental to children's quality of life; consideration of children's play and active travel can help deliver on a range of local priorities including community cohesion, health targets and regeneration aims and addressing the needs of children, young people and their parents in the built environment can potentially reduce crime, fear of crime and accidents. There were a number of outcomes from the event which included: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New partners were identified who made pledges to assist in the development of play opportunities in the city 2. The formation of a new strategic board to ensure the development and implementation of the Taking Play Forward policy
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Taking Play Forward policy (draft 2010)– priority areas

- **Embedding Play in Strategy** - Make sure that Play is at the heart of relevant plans
- **Raise quality and inclusiveness of Play provision within formal and informal settings** - Quality play for all
- **Ensure that Children & Young People's voices are heard & influence decisions that will affect them** - Listening and Acting upon what is said
- **Supporting the development of risk and challenge in all play activities in York** - Risky Play
- **Supporting the pledges within Play England's Manifesto** - Working with communities to enable children and young people to have the freedom and space to play