

Notes of the meeting of the Children and Young People's vision group 8th July at 6.00 pm.

1. Role Descriptions

These were agreed and all promised to sign a copy. Julie, Vanessa, Simon, Emily and Maddie said they would print out a copy to sign and send to Trish. Jeanette said she would give Rosemary a copy to sign. Jeanette told Vanessa that Beverly had agreed in November, when the role descriptions were first discussed, that she could cross out item 'e' about attending services at All Saints as she attends regularly at another local church.

2. Toddlers

Vanessa explained what is happening with the Toddler group.

The group has started to meet again since the beginning of this half term. Meetings are now held in the church as Montessori now use the hall on Fridays.

The space lends itself very well and some storage has been made available in the chair store but bigger equipment like the climbing frame has to be stored in the shed which is not accessible when Montessori are using the hall. This means that this equipment has to be taken from the shed on Thursday afternoon at 3.30 and can't be put back until Friday afternoon when Montessori nursery has finished for the day. Jeanette explained that Beverly has suggested that it might be possible to store the larger equipment in the chapel whilst it is not being used but we will need to get permission. Jeanette will approach Henrietta, Robin and Trish about this.

People have to book at the moment but this doesn't seem to be a problem as booking is working successfully and numbers attending are growing. Starting with 2 adults + children for the first meeting to 13 adults + children attending the last. Those attending are delighted to be able to come out to a group again.

Masks make communication a little more difficult but there is a good atmosphere at the meetings.

Meetings finish with songs and a short, toddler friendly bible story. It is hoped that in the near future refreshments will be able to be served in the reading room and when this is possible the songs and story will be held in there also, away from the distraction of the toys.

Julie said how lovely it was to see this all coming together.

3. Provisions for children and young people.

It is hoped that it will be possible to meet face to face in September. Julie explained that we need to wait, not only for government advice, but also for advice from the diocese and the NYA, which always comes out a bit later. This will possibly affect the BBQ planned for the 11 to 16 year olds on July 25th. Julie will write a risk assessment based on current guidance but will add a statement that certain things could be ignored if the rules change. As she explained, it is easier to step down from guidance than to step up to it.

Simon said that we need to consider what we do for children if we still are not able to go back to things as before. Julie and Jeanette are meeting with Beverly in mid August and Julie said that she hoped the guidance will be clear by then so that we can make firm plans. At present the packs for the children work well and are appreciated but, having talked to Jo Smalley, Jeanette has said that she will make up a special pack of things more appropriate for Lucinda.

When meeting face to face is allowed:

We discussed the difficulty of managing the wide age range and the few numbers.

It was felt that having 2 groups in the hall with Julie responsible for Quest and Jeanette responsible for the younger children was the best solution. Maddie and Emily both said that they liked to have a relaxed discussion. Emily expressed concern about those who might not come back after all this time but also pointed out that smaller groups are cosier.

Simon, also, expressed concern for families and wondered if we could ask them what they would like. Jeanette explained that she had already agreed with Beverly that she would try to chat to families about this but said that she was finding it difficult to catch them after church as they went off so quickly. It was suggested that sending an email might be better.

4. Youth Group

We talked about the best time and day to hold this. Emily thought that Sunday in the early evening would be best as homework was a big pressure during the week and everything was more frantic. Maddie agreed that there is more time at the weekend.

Maddie and Emily were asked what they thought might work well. Jeanette asked if a pizza evening might be a good format.

It was decided that a relaxed pizza evening held once each half term would be good during which there would be opportunity for discussion about a topical issue or something that had cropped up in R E or a bible verse or passage that they didn't understand.

A WhatsApp group to share ideas was discussed but Julie explained that, from a safeguarding point of view this was not possible as members had to be over 16. She said that she would look into the possibility of setting up a church email address that they could send ideas to.

However, this is all dependent on finding someone to replace Lydia as a leader. Vision group members were asked to try to think about anyone that we might approach.

5. AOB

Simon wanted to know who had been invited to the BBQ on 25th July. Julie explained the rationale for inviting anyone on our contact list between the ages of 11 and 16.

It was agreed that the vision group would meet again towards the end of September or beginning of October.