



Bath Area Play Project

www.bapp.org.uk 01225 832479

Registered Charity No. 1013897

BAPP Annual Report 2019/20



1979 – 2019 – 40 years of play in Bath

CHAIR'S REPORT

Before I took on the role of Chair of Bath Area Play Project, I had to do a little soul searching. I am not a parent, I may be Auntie Anji to a huge variety of my friends' children but I myself was not lucky enough to have a child, so what gives me the right to think I can be of any help to such an incredible supportive organisation that is truly child and family focussed? I did think long and hard and realised that my instinct to care about so many children that are not my own, is why I got involved with BAPP in the first place.

So with thanks to my predecessor Jayne and the unbelievable support of Caroline, I took the role on and have been overwhelmed by the joy that has come from being able to do my part.

For 40 years, yes 40 years, BAPP has supported an astonishing number of families within the Bath and North East Somerset area and every year it seems there are more families that have need of the range of services and support that they provide. The fact that Caroline has been involved in this much needed organisation for more than 30 of those years is even more astonishing and a testament to her personal commitment to BAPP and the families it supports.

Over this, my first year as Chair, the brilliant team at BAPP have obtained Ofsted Social Care registration for Residential Holidays for Disabled Children; we now have approval to enable an expansion of services, some restructuring within the office team and we have had more than 6,000 children and adults attend our summer playdays. Some of our team took on a hugely emotional journey to work with refugees in Calais and I and the other trustees applaud their work, knowing how much of an impact a project like that can have on both participants and providers. A massive thank you to everyone within the BAPP team for making my first year so insightful and thought provoking, and for doing what you do so well.

I look forward to seeing many of our staff and families at our birthday party.

Anji

Chair of Trustees

Bath Area Play Project

BRINGING PLAY TO LIFE MISSION STATEMENT

BAPP recognises and promotes the importance of self-directed play in relation to child development and the rights of children and young people.

BAPP is committed to facilitating user-led inclusive, specialist play opportunities and activities for children and young people and their families in their own communities.

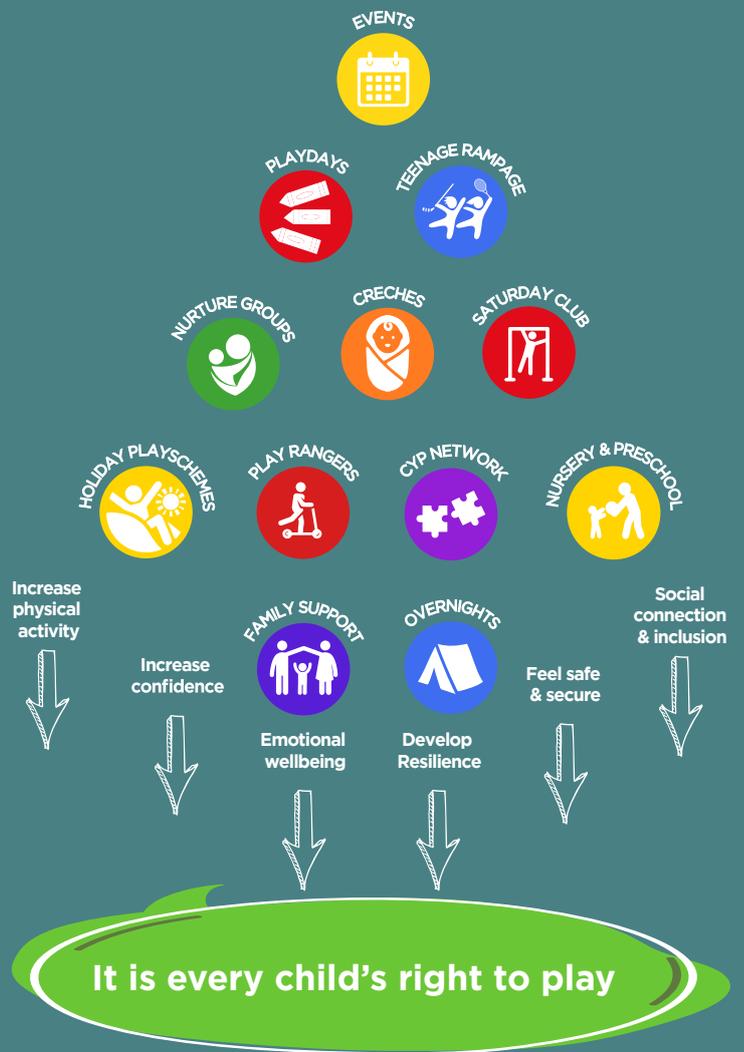
Our 11 projects, each with play at the heart, support and nurture children and families to feel safe and secure with who they are, where they live and able to develop positive relationships within the family and their community.

Since 1979, we have strived to provide and facilitate positive opportunities for children to play, For 10+ years, we are using a Think Family approach; playdays in communities open to all children and families, family play support work and now this year, Family Sessions.

It takes a family and wider community to nurture and nourish children with play being an intrinsic part of children's innate development.

"Play provides a state of mind that, in adults as well as children, is uniquely suited for high-level reasoning, insightful problem-solving and all sorts of creative endeavours"
Peter Gray, Psychologist, Research Professor Boston University

Always jump in the puddles!
Always skip alongside the flowers.
The only fights worth fighting
are the pillow and food varieties.
~Terri Guillemets





██████████ The BAPP days are a real highlight of the summer holiday for us. I love the fact that each one is different. The children spent ages making boats out of junk and testing them on the river. They loved weaving, woodwork and clay with the play workers. They also enjoyed cooking on the fire and the swings and tight ropes that the play workers had put up. We also discovered a new park that we hadn't been to before. I really can't thank you enough. This was a really special day.

OVERVIEW OF 2019

This was a busy year with demand for services increasing, staff changes and lots to celebrate. Trustees took the decision to maintain the Hut Nursery & Pre-school at the end of the previous year when numbers fell after children's school entry. It has had a steady increase including dual placements with BOP, a refurbishment, new sandpit and won a Sudocrem Award! It is now a thriving setting with new children starting regularly and stable for now.

Our new contract for Short Breaks for disabled children began in April and we managed a significant change as some families were no longer eligible to use the service. This meant that numbers reduced for some services. We advocated for those 15+ to be able to continue as part of their transition. We started running Family Sessions which have brought new families to using our services. Huge acknowledgement for Sam Ward who has now become a Registered Manager for our Residential Holidays for Disabled Children, taking us through Ofsted Social Care Registration. We have now successfully run 2 overnight sleepovers!

Our Summer Play Programme reached over 6,000 children and families including new areas; High Littleton & Sydney Gardens. We have good feedback, particularly from parents in the more rural areas, grateful for us coming to their communities. This is a potential area for development.

The level of support for families is becoming more complex with our Family Play Support Workers seeing increasing issues with the Toxic trio and mental health issues for children. Demand for nurture groups in school has been met and we have been able to increase these by 30%.

Since the onset and during the Pandemic, I have been so impressed and proud of all of the BAPP Staff team; all of whom wanted to continue front line delivery as soon as we were allowed but also providing and delivering food parcels, play equipment and toys and play packs, helping children feel connected to the project.

As our services grow in response to demand, I am hugely grateful to our staff and trustees for their support and willingness to want the best for children and families. As a small organisation that I have had the pleasure of working with for 30 years, I have seen a lot of change. One thing that hasn't is the passion and drive of our amazing staff teams and volunteers who continue to work in a child-centred and inclusive way ensuring that children have access to positive play opportunities.

- Caroline Haworth

PARTNERSHIP WORKING / CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S NETWORK

Throughout the year, BAPP have continued to develop and build partnership and collaborative ways of working. The CYPN has enabled organisations to discuss potential collaborations, aligning skills and knowledge for the benefit of children and young people across B&NES .

- Our work with children and families is always in partnership; our staff spend time getting to know and understand families and work with them to agree goals and support them to make changes to improve wellbeing.
- We are signed up to working together with GLL and have access to sports facilities and services to support children's healthy lifestyles and also signed up to Compassionate Communities.
- We work in partnership with Southside to deliver the family support and play service, a vital preventative early help service working in a multi-agency context to enable families and children to build on their strengths using play as a catalyst.
- The Children & Young People's Network initiated a collaborative piece of work with 5 third sector organisations that were instrumental in bringing in funding from West of England Combined Authority for work with 14 to 16 year olds.
- We held our first SEND family information session for CYPN Member organisations working with children & Young People with disabilities and families in B&NES. 35 families attended together with representatives from the rainbow resource team, SEND partnership and DCT in B&NES. We had fantastic feedback from all who attended and are planning another SEND event in 2020.
- We held 5 next work meetings in 2019, with one joint CYPN & 3SG meeting at Bath City Football Club focusing on property negotiations and solutions. Speakers from Stone Kind solicitors and B&NES Council Property department we able to do a Q&A session for attendees. Of the 45 attendees 15 were exclusively CYPN members.
- We organised 2 FREE SEND training sessions (in partnership with the B&NES SEND Partnership Service) which was attended by 22 CYPN Members.
- We had 198 members at the end of Quarter 4 2019 (There are 203 as of February 2020)
- Engagement levels are Increasing with 10.8% increase in 2019. We now have 41 groups actively engaging with the network on a regular basis.
- In 2019, BAPP Community Playdays were nominated for Best Family Days Out and with funding support from Parish and Town Councils, Curo and Trusts, were able to reach in excess of 7,000 children and their parents bringing together people in communities and providing inspirational and fun play opportunities for children of all ages.





“It was our first time attending a BAPP event, at Paulton yesterday. It was fantastic! My children had a wonderful time, with the variety of activities to get involved in and do together. The staff were friendly, approachable and helpful. The equipment and activities were fascinating, enjoyable and creative. I would highly recommend attending a BAPP event and we look forward to doing so ourselves again soon! I was very impressed at the number of people involved and what was on offer as a free event. We made a donation in hope that such a wonderful organisation can continue offering such brilliant family orientated and outdoor fun opportunities ”

WHAT DOES PLAY DO?

"He never chooses active play so to see him enjoying the hockey has been amazing."

Increase physical activity

Develop resilience

"The Nurture group has enabled children to become more resilient and brought children to life" School Teacher

Community Networks

78% of parents using our play services feel part of a wider play community, knowing there are other parents they can talk to and meet up with

Increase confidence

96% of children attending groups and play sessions report feeling more confident

Reduce Isolation

"I am just writing to express my gratitude for the amazing provision that was the BAPP play days organised throughout the summer holidays. I feel that these events provide an invaluable community resource that is truly inclusive attracting children from all over Bath & beyond helping families connect. This is no small feat and so incredibly important and beneficial in a city where there is a huge disparity of wealth."

BAPP provides support across B&NES through projects where the child is always at the centre of what we do

Improve emotional and mental wellbeing

"The children have found the group a safe space to talk and share emotions which they find difficult to do in class"

Feel safe & secure

Summer holidays are always tough times to socialise, particularly when they have additional needs. The playdays provide children with fun days which makes life so much easier and they've made friends"

"It was so wonderful knowing that our son was safe for an evening, learning new skills and spending time with friends and this gave us the chance as a couple to have our first night out for dinner alone as adults since 2013! This is not something we have been able to do at all and so we are very grateful for the impact on our family and of course on our son."

Social Connection & Inclusion

Our son felt so safe and loved all of the activities. He said it made him feel so much "stronger in his heart" To have spent a night away from home and he is really excited about the chance to do this again in the future

TEENAGE RAMPAGE

CRECHES

SATURDAY CLUB

EVENTS

NURTURE GROUPS

FAMILY SUPPORT

NURSERY & PRESCHOOL

PLAYDAYS

CYP NETWORK

HOLIDAY PLAYSCHMES

OVERNIGHTS

PLAY RANGERS



“My son is a “million times better at home” than he was. He is now meeting friends outside school which he had never done before. And he now hardly ever refuses to go to school, whereas before this was something which would occur fairly regularly. The support for him and our family has made such a huge difference. Thank you”



SMALL INPUT, BIG IMPACT

BAPP staff work individually, with whole families and in groups using a strengths-based approach and working in playful partnership to effect change. All support is recorded and assessed in terms of progress. Some is huge and some is small but they all have a huge benefit for the child.

Fay is 12 years old and has an EHC Plan with medical conditions where she was home educated. Fay was returning to a part time timetable in school and attended the Nurture group as part of the timetable. Mum feedback:

Fay really has got a lot out of the nurture group. She talked to me about what she had done after each session, really enjoying being part of a small group. With her going to school part time due to her health reasons she has found it hard to make new friends as it is harder to develop these new relationships in a shorter time. She feels that because the group was smaller and everyone else attending had reasons for being there, she could relate to them and felt more at ease being around peers that seemed to be more understanding about her conditions. At the end of the term, Fay was able to stand up in front of the group and talk confidently. Her key worker said they felt proud of Fay's achievements and how far she has developed with gaining confidence and forming new and positive friendships with peers. She is now settled well back into school, confident and thriving.

- Playing beach french cricket, where 3 families were playing together who had never met before, who were very nervous to join in to begin with. The difference for the children and parents after was huge; it was like they had known each other for longer
- The play out wild day in Greyfield woods- BEST PLAYDAY EVER! We made a trail of sunflowers for people to follow from the entrance to be able to find us in a clearing which encouraged lots of new families that had never heard of us to come and play.
Saturday Club for disabled children aged 5+ – parent had never left her disabled child before and didn't think she or they'd cope with her leaving , for the first time since the child was born. Settled well and Mum was so relieved and now able to have a break from caring & time for herself.
- Summer plays days, especially in more rural areas. "I think sometimes we are forgotten about out here, so thank you."
- Supporting a family to move house into more appropriate accommodation, they were struggling with communicating with Curo at the time.
- Supporting a Mum to get back into employment through supporting her through a tricky time in her life and helping her gain the confidence to go back to work.
- Helping a child to find strategies to de-escalate their anger.
Providing nurture and sensory play opportunities for a child who missed those experiences in early childhood, to enable them to better process their emotions



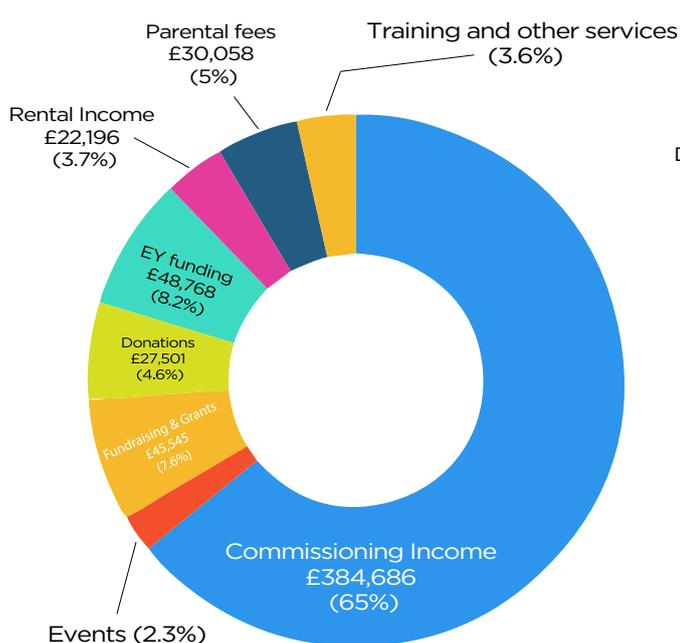
FINANCE, GOVERNANCE AND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

With Core funding from St. John's Foundation, we have continued to work towards accreditation, and now awarded the ISO9001:2015 Quality Management Award.

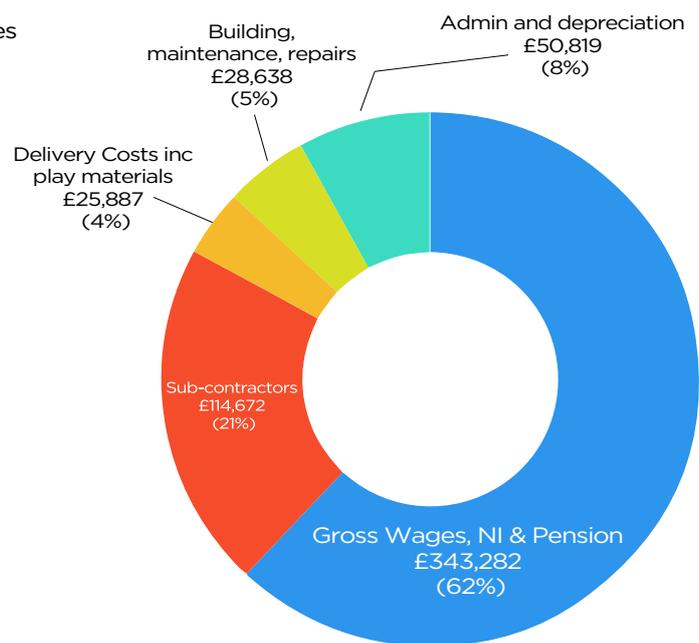
We have made significant changes with compliance, moving to an electronic system for records, have brought accounts in house and now using Quickbooks. This provides Trustees with better reporting and financial management. We have maintained all our Ofsted registrations; 3 for open-access/family groups, 1 for Three Ways on childcare register and 1 for the Hut on Early Years and Voluntary register. We are now registered with Ofsted on the Social Care register as one of only a handful of providers for Residential Holidays for Disabled Children with Sam Ward as our Registered Manager. This allows us to take disabled teenagers on overnight residentials

We are in lease negotiations with B&NES with both the Hut and Odd Down Community Centre and putting forward proposals for rent abatement against a combination of community services including youth club provision.

We have begun the process of reviewing our Business Plan and action planning processes and steps on this journey which will involve stakeholders, staff and trustees.



Total Income for year ending 31st March 2019
£594,472



Total Expenditure for year ending 31st March 2019
£548,547

TRUSTEES

Chair: Jayne Pye (until May 2019), Anji Henderson from May 2019
Vice-Chair: Felicity Wikeley
Treasurer: Amar Shah (until May 2019), Charles Gerrish from May 2019
Trustees: Fiona Andrews, Emma Hendy, Vicky Heslop, Michael Bogg, Joan Cooper, Caroline White

BAPP Trustees are from a diverse range of backgrounds who all give their time and expertise to support staff and govern the organisation, ensuring that we can focus on delivering high quality play services that are responsive to needs. Thank you to all our Trustees for their ongoing time and support. If you would be interested in becoming a Trustee, please get in touch



Staff and Trustees working together at our Review & Development Session February 2020.



“The play sessions make a huge difference to us as a family – giving us the only respite that we get and a chance for us to spend quality time with our other children. Our daughter with SEND is increasingly confident with her peers and adults which really helps with her communication skills. She has gross motor delays so it is really good for her to run around a lot and stay fit and active. She is always very tired when she comes back and has clearly been running around a lot. The playschemes make s a big difference to all our lives.”

STAFF AND FUNDERS

Director:	Caroline Haworth MBE
Play Service Manager:	Sabrina Lucas (until July 2019), Nikki Cox from September 2019
Outreach Worker:	Sam Ward
Family Play Support Workers:	John Melbourne and Sarah Davies
Community Play Support Workers:	Sarah Meddick, Mark De'Lisser, Shane Leigh Rachel Inker, Adam Nash and Matt Pepper
Children & Young People's Network Co-ordinator:	Gilly Samuddin
Hut Nursery & Pre-school Leader:	Mandy Wordon
Early Years Practitioners:	Kristy Rowlands, Michelle Straffen, Harriet Ridings, Helen Mattock, Rosie Carey, Roz King
Short Breaks Co-ordinator:	Caz Hey
Finance & Office Manager:	
Short Breaks Playscheme & Saturday Club staff:	Petra Burgess, Mandy Wordon, Tamsin Sharp, Michelle Straffen, Louise Fluck, Emily Harrison, Emily Fyffe, Luke Guest, Shannon Buxton, Patrick O'Reilly, Gemma Button, Katie Blacker, Gali Shiloh, Phoebe Eldridge, Charlotte Nurse, Carenza Clifford, Jamie Hamilton, Rachel Connew and everyone who got involved
Summer Playdays staff including:	Matt Kenney, Amber Cook, Elizabeth Jolley, Scott Morgan and Andy Fenton.

We are indebted to all those who have continued believing in the power of play and supported us with funding or in-kind support. Thank you to all commissioners, funders and supporters

B&NES, Quartet, St. John's, Wilmcote Charitable Trust, Joyce Fletcher Memorial Trust, Bath Rotary, Curo, BIBS, Annett Trust, Roper Family, Peasedown Parish Council, Westfield Parish Council, Keynsham Town Council, GWR CCIF, Bath Boules Charitable Trust, MBDA, Novia Foundation, Combe Down Holiday Trust, Odd Down Community Association Co-operative Community Fund, Davies of Bath, Rabart Decorating Centre, Mike from Me & My Van, the Tesco Express stores across the city.





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