# WORKING TOGETHER



# In the West Partnership: Family Learning and Parental Engagement

# Family Club at Saint Roch's Primary School, Royston, Glasgow.

What was your aim?

- 1. To strengthen the home school relationship
- Mums, dads, carers and children learn together around themes of literacy, numeracy and wellbeing thereby increasing confidence in home learning.
- 3. Families are linked with other families/further learning/family activity/volunteering within the school and community thereby improving social isolation.

#### Method

After School Family Club runs from 3-4.15pm every Wednesday in Saint Roch's Primary. The club incorporates homework support with Teachers, Pizza is organised by parent volunteers, and different groups of family activities, e.g. Active Games, STEM Activities, Crafts and Storytelling.

# **Process Change**



Parents were consulted within school and outwith school in local community groups about what support they would like in terms of their child's schooling, and how it might be set up. Result was after school Family Club

#### Achievements



- ☐ Parents report increased confidence in helping their child learn.
- ☐ Families are linked into further support, e.g. Adult Learning, Benefits Advice, Volunteering
- ☐ Teachers report an improved home school relationship
- ☐ Parents and children report new friendships have been formed which have continued at the school gate and beyond.
- ☐ Parents and children volunteer at the club and are involved in planning.
- ☐ Children, Parents, Teachers and Family Learning staff have fun together!

## Key Learning Points

#### **LEADERSHIP**

☐ Important to have a coordinator to ensure communication between staff, volunteers and families as well as organization of resources, activities, promotion, monitoring, health and safety and evaluation.

#### PARTNERSHIP WORKING

- ☐ Partnership working with local Positive Family Futures Project ensures that community links with families are made; e.g. during session 17/18 154 signposting/referrals were made.
- ☐ Willing Teacher involvement has been crucial; Teachers wanted to get involved as it gives them an opportunity for positive informal interaction with parents.

#### **LIMITATIONS**

☐ Staff, partners and volunteers required in order to support the number of participants.

### Results



- Whole school commitment to the club; parents, children and school staff now call it the 'Wednesday Club' and there's an equal sense of ownership.
- An average of 45 attendances at every session.
- Stronger links with community partners which have resulted in further projects, e.g. Holiday Hunger Programme, local Bookbug for ESOL Families.
- Parents have completed college courses, taken up volunteering, and been linked into other appropriate support after initial engagement at the club.
- Strong friendships have been formed.

# Conclusion



Participant Quotes in conclusion:

'I feel more confident in helping my son with his homework both here and at home' Parent

'We play games together and this is the first time that his Dad has come along too' Parent

'It allows me as a Teacher to get to know the parents in a nice way'. Teacher 'Me and my daughter have made friends here' Parent

'It helps me do the homework with my children. I wait every week for Wednesday to come so that I can see the other Mums and talk to them at the club' Parent

'I like playing with my friends and coming with everyone in my family' Pupil.

# Scale / Spread



What next for your project?

- Support school to sustain the club beyond Family Learning Team Involvement.
- Develop a planning group incorporating Teachers, Parents, Pupils and other partners to support this sustainability.
- Family Learning Officer to use the model to support club development in other schools