

# Play Staff Development Report

January – December 2010

## Overview

Work within the Play Service is initiated under 6 main themes:

1. Project Work
2. Central events
3. Resources
4. Outreach projects
5. Support services
6. Services at directly managed Play Centres.

A description of current initiatives under each theme is set out below. Participation levels are then provided. In summary, during 2010, following the implementation of changes in line with the recommendations of the Play Review, the service has worked towards:

- The quality of play provision and the experience of the children being enhanced by the introduction of innovative play methodologies;
- An extension to the geographic scope of the service through the utilisation of alternative locations including city parks, urban spaces and streets;
- The enhanced accessibility to the service and integration by minority ethnic groups, children with disabilities, and the Travellers community.
- The numbers benefiting from the service increasing significantly. Figures indicate:
  - 1640 children continued to receive play opportunities based in the 6 Playcentres through:
    - 1342 attending after school services
    - 298 attending summer schemes.
  - In addition, 2019 children benefited from new service provision through:
    - 908 attending direct service provision
    - 228 attending new summer scheme services
    - 883 children receiving play opportunities through support sessions for other schemes.
  - A further 1648 children benefited through the two “Playdays”,
  - And 65 children with disabilities participated in the Play for All programme.

## **1 Project work:**

### **Inclusion - Play for All**

Support was provided to directly managed community and play centres to include children with disabilities within mainstream summer schemes. Planning and preparation took place prior to the summer and was co-ordinated by a Playworker, who made contact with the groups, ascertained information regarding the children and designed a support package.

The Play for All Project directly supported 14 summer schemes that included 65 children with a disability. In addition seven other summer schemes included 35 children who did not require direct support. Some of these schemes were previously supported through the Play for All Project and through the experience gained and knowledge of the children, they no longer required direct support.

The summer scheme training programme provided sessions on working with children with ADHD and Autism. Specialists were brought in to provide the training which was available to both directly managed centres and voluntary community groups. Additional training on bullying and dealing with challenging behaviour was delivered through the play staff team.

### **Saturday Morning Club**

The main focus of the Play for All scheme is to support children to be included during the summer scheme. Avoniel Playcentre runs a Saturday morning club for children of all abilities during the year. This enables the children with disabilities to meet up with the friends they made during the summer. The children also take part in the seasonal playschemes. The project has been opening up the club for local children playing in the adjoining park to come in and join in the activities.

### **Multi-culture After-school Club**

This is based in Avoniel Playcentre on a Wednesday afternoon. The project was originally established to target the Polish Community. There is a strong Polish community in East Belfast but this is not evident in the numbers that use community facilities. The aim of the project was to have a designated session to encourage members of the Polish community to use the play service and then to work towards integrating the club and other parts of the service.

The project was originally called 'Polish After School Club'. The name changed as children from a wider range of backgrounds have joined, including children from Slovakia and India. Some of the children are now attending other play sessions provided through Avoniel After school club.

A one week summer scheme was provided at the end of August for children from the Multi-Culture After School Club.

The demand for places has led to an additional session which started in January 2011. This will be run in partnership with the Bridge Community Centre and be based at their facility.

### **Polish School**

The Polish School runs on Saturday mornings with children attending from across the City. Play staff are running a monthly play session that takes place after the more formal classes.

The involvement provides a dual benefit in that the children are supported through being provided play opportunities and the play staff are learning through working with children from different cultures.

## **2 Central Events**

Four play staff plus the Children and Young Persons Co-ordinator have established a working group to organise and deliver three central events during the summer. The events brought together directly managed and grant aided summer schemes from across the city. The events included:

### **Playday with the theme of 'Give it a Go'**

This was held on the afternoon of Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> July at Barnett's Demesne.

The aim was to provide activities for children that would challenge them in a safe environment. The facilities of the Belfast Activity Centre were utilised which provided wall climbing, mountain bike skills, caving, leap of faith and abseiling. For the more faint hearted we provided a variety of "safer activities"- dance mats, Punch and Judy show, face painters, football skills, inflatables, arts and crafts and workshops in drama and drumming skills.

On the day of the event 981 children and 209 adults from the invited groups registered their attendance.

### **National Playday**

This was held on the afternoon of 4<sup>th</sup> August at Sir Thomas and Lady Dixon Park.

This event links to a range of playdays held across the United Kingdom to promote the importance of play for children. This year the theme was "Our Place", with the aim of highlighting the importance of asking everyone - young and old - to help create better places for children to live and play. We decided that we would use this theme to demonstrate to adults and children the different play activities that they could do outdoors in their own parks and streets. The activities included cob building, loose parts, junk art, tree climbing and lots of games. Other activities on the day included - circus skills, inflatables, soft play area, fairy tale dancing, reptile road show, magic show, face painting, arts and crafts, energy fitness, badge-making, circus show and treasure hunt.

On the day of the event 667 children and 208 adults of the invited groups registered. As the event is in a public park there were also members of the public who attended but weren't recorded.

### **Party in the Park**

This was held on the evening of 21<sup>st</sup> July at Barnett's Demesne.

The theme of the event was Health and Wellbeing and was organised by the Children and Young People's Co-ordinator and Youth Forum with support from the play team. The underlying message of the event was to encourage young people to realise the benefits of being active, try a new activity or something different, meet new people, be challenged by something different and become aware of the importance of looking after their physical and mental health.

The facilities of the Belfast Activity Centre were utilised providing a range of activities ranging from Caving to Abseiling. The event included opportunities to learn DJ Skills, Flamenco Dancing, Zumba with the Teenage Kicks Team and to be creative by trying Arts and Crafts, making 'Healthy Smoothies', Henna Art and NailArt.

The activities also included various giant inflatables, soccer skills zones, caricature artist, laser quest and a DJ playing a selection of current dance music ensured a fun and friendly atmosphere. The event was attended by approximately 450 Young People and leaders from Youth Groups across the City.

### **U Can Play 2**

This event was organised by playstaff in May providing practical workshops for staff and volunteers from both the directly managed and community sectors. The theme was Fantasy Play and was attended by 33 groups.

### ***Roots of Empathy Programme***

The Roots of Empathy is a programme endorsed by the World Health Organisation having been previously rolled out across Canada, New Zealand and the USA.

The Programme has been shown to reduce aggression and bullying, and to improve self esteem through early intervention. The programme takes place within the classroom and is delivered through the Public Health Agency. Trainers come from statutory agencies and are currently involved through their main job in working with children. The project also involves the participation of a mother and baby who come to every third session. During this session, the baby is the teacher.

A Playworker represents Belfast City Council in this project through becoming a trainer and delivering the programme at Lowood Primary School on a weekly basis to a classroom of 28 pupils.

## **3 Resources**

A resource library has been established at Avoniel Playcentre for use by community and play staff. In addition, a central equipment resource based at Avoniel is being developed to be used by Play staff for city-wide and centre based projects.

Resource Packs have been developed to support play programmes. These include:

- Summer schemes
  - Planning a summer scheme – including programme and activity ideas
  - Update of the venue and transport book.
- Seasonal and International activities.
- Bullying Pack

## **4 Outreach work**

### **Bridge Community Association**

The focus of the work by the association is with young people and there is no provision for children in the P1 – P3 age group. The play service is facilitating this project by providing one weekly session specifically aimed at the P1-P3 age group.

As part of the programme, the children would regularly go to nearby Ormeau Park where other children from the area join in the activities. During the summer, play staff were involved with local volunteers in running a one week summer scheme.

### **Chinese Welfare Association**

Our involvement came in response to a direct request from the Association. The Association's after school services are education based. The play service provided play sessions on Monday and Wednesday afternoons from January till Easter. The sessions were to be open locally and encourage other children from the area. Attendance was lower than anticipated and the sessions were reduced after Easter to Wednesday afternoons and finished at the end of June.

Involvement in this project was a learning experience for the staff and established important links with the Chinese community.

### **An Munia Tober**

This consisted of a cross-community project between An Munia Tober and Ballysillan Playcentre and ran from Halloween 2009 until Easter 2010.

An Munia Tober's after school service is education based. The project involved BCC staff delivering play sessions as part of the after school service. Traveller awareness sessions were provided for parents from Ballysillan.

### **Greater Village Regeneration Trust**

The project based in the Donegal Road area was established as a short-term project to provide play opportunities for children from the Village area who were not accessing local services.

The project was initially to run from January till June, but due to low numbers a decision was made to finish at Easter.

### **Drama Project (Whiterock and Village areas)**

Children (P4 – P7 age group) from the Whiterock and Village areas took part in a drama project provided through Youth Action over a 3 month period. Play staff facilitated the project and brought the children to the Rainbow Factory. The performance of their work took place at the end of June.

### **Lower Oldpark Community Association**

Play staff have established an after school service for children one afternoon each week to support the development of activities for children in the local community centre. Prior to this the only provision was a pre-school playgroup and summer scheme. No activities took place for primary age children during the rest of the year.

As part of the support local volunteers also attended child protection training delivered by a member of the play team.

### **Hannahstown Community Association**

This is an area isolated geographically with few facilities. The children have no local school and travel a distance to go to school. Other than a summer scheme the children have no access to play facilities. The play service have developed an after school service that runs two afternoons in the community hall. The main difficulty with this project is the location of the community hall in relation to the local community. The children have to be transported up the hill as there is no local transport. One parent brings most of the children to the centre. Numbers can be impacted upon by bad weather and when this particular parent is unable to provide transport.

### **Come and Play**

This project is based on the Play Ranger model where Playworkers go to open spaces in communities and provide play opportunities. This encourages children to get out and play in their local communities and facilitates community involvement in play. While the main target age group is primary age school children, this is not exclusive and there are pre-school children and young people taking part.

The project group are running the initial programmes in BCC parks. This will provide an opportunity to explore different models of working and to develop appropriate guidelines.

The first project took place in the spring over a 5 week period at the Tommy Patton Park in East Belfast. Over 40 children from the local area participated. This was followed by a 6 week programme during the summer in Dunville Park. Activities included games, face painting, arts and crafts and scavenger hunts.

From October, the project has been providing a play session on Wednesday afternoons in the playground at Castleton Gardens. This project will continue to run at this location until at least June 2011. The project is attended by local children and a number of their parents come along and join in the activities. There are several children with disabilities including one who uses a wheelchair. This year the project has been a particular challenge with the snow as the team is out at the park in all types of weather. Despite this there has been only one session where no children have attended. The staff used the opportunity to try out activities in adverse weather conditions consisting of rain, hail and strong winds.

### **Under 5's Outdoor Play Sessions**

Two pilot sessions were held during August at Cherryvalley Playing Fields and the Waterworks Park specifically targeted at the under 5's. There was a range of games and arts and craft activities provided. Both events were well attended with both children and parents taking part.

## **5 Support Work**

This consists of programmes that have been developed to support play opportunities within the directly managed community centres.

### **All in Together**

This four week programme involves delivering games workshops where children and leaders take part and learn together. A resource pack is provided to the centre.

### **Fast Food – the Healthy Way**

This involves play staff delivering a four week programme involving games, cookery and activities to introduce children to fast food in a healthy way! The children are provided with a resource pack to take home.

### **Sensory Programme**

This programme involves trained play staff using a range of sensory equipment with the children to encourage sensory development. The programme is delivered to playgroups, play clubs and parent and toddler groups. The programme provides activities to support the children's sensory development.

### **Olympia Community Centre**

The play service supported the community centre to provide after school activities two afternoons per week:

- A Playworker directly supported the centre for a four week handover period. The Playworker continues to support the staff and volunteers and regularly attends their meetings and is supporting their fund raising activities and summer scheme planning.
- Child protection training was provided through a Community Development Worker.

- Training on dealing with challenging behaviour was provided by the Play Development Officer.
- Four arts and crafts sessions are being delivered to volunteers by play staff.

Similar support has been offered to Whiterock Community Centre, but has not yet been accessed.

### **Youth Forum**

Play staff have been providing support for youth forum activities and were involved in a residential in January.

## **6 Services based at directly managed Play Centres**

Changes in line with the recommendations of the Play Review are impacting on all six play centres. North Queen Street and Avoniel are the service's only two stand alone Playcentres. These are being developed as a base for the play staff team. This will be important in focusing the service from a six centre based approach into a city wide service. Avoniel is being further developed as a resource centre with a library and central store. The centre is also being used as a venue for training programmes for child protection and summer schemes.

Changes have been made to centre-based services to enable future development and alternative models of delivering services. There are limitations in being able to develop services at Olympia and Whiterock as they are based in directly managed community centres, where the Assistant Community Development Officer has a remit to develop other programmes. A similar position applies to Ballysillan where the community organisation are responsible for developing their centre programme.

The play service is able to support development of programmes both in these centres and other directly managed and voluntary community centres.

### **After School Clubs**

Play sessions continue to be provided for primary age school children after school. The format of the sessions differs from centre to centre. With the exception of one centre, the clubs have split sessions each afternoon with two different age groups coming in for 1 ¼ hours each. This format is more difficult to run at Whiterock due to the distance from the local community. The children at this club come in for 2 ½ hours.

There have been changes in the number of sessions at all of the playcentres that local children have been able to attend. This has enabled staff to undertake new projects in the centre, open up sessions to more children or to undertake outreach work.

### **11+ Play Opportunities**



Play for a child or young person does not stop when they leave primary school. Previously the play service only targeted primary age children in their after school provision. Projects to address this need have been developed in two playcentres.

At Loop River, an after school club for young people from 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> years is run on a Friday afternoon. In Avoniel, two sessions are provided each week for P7 – 2<sup>nd</sup> years. Both centres provided sessions for this age group during the summer scheme.

### **After Nursery Club**

Loop River and Ballysillan Playcentres provide play opportunities after school for nursery age children (aged 3-4 years). The project was established following concerns about the strong education focus on pre-school services and that children are being encouraged less to just play and have fun.

Both centres provided summer scheme sessions for this age group. Previously this age group had no opportunity to attend summer schemes in these areas.

Avoniel Playcentre continued to provide sessions during their summer scheme for this age group. They had started this service ten years ago to support children who had attended their playgroup.

### **Outdoor Play**

North Queen Street and Avoniel Playcentres have been taking play equipment and activities to the park outside the centre and encouraging children using the park to take part. These children are not registered in the afterschool or are too young to attend. Parents of the younger children are encouraged to join in with their children.

The additional children have not been included in the figures in this report. We will continue to looking at ways we can support this development.

### **Cross-Community Project**

Avoniel Playcentre took part in a cross-community project with a community group from the Lower Ormeau through Harmony Community Trust. The project involved a week long residential in July with follow up activities during the autumn.

### ***Play Clubs***

The aim of the play club model is to support local communities to develop play opportunities for children aged 2 – 4 years in areas where there is low provision or other identified needs. The model is based on community development principles. This involves play staff in the initial stages providing direct support for the play sessions and then withdrawing as the local community acquire sufficient practice knowledge and skills to take over running the project. The play service would continue to provide support through programme input, resources, advice and training. It was initially seen as a potential partnership that could be developed with existing parent and toddler projects or community groups.

Once established in an area, the play team would be able to withdraw, to work in different areas thereby expanding the number of areas and children benefiting from the Playclub project.

At their meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2010, Belfast City Council agreed to run playclubs four mornings per week at Whiterock, Olympia and Ballysillan Playcentres.

There was difficulty in establishing the Playclub at Whiterock as there was no physical space in the community centre. The Belfast Health and Social Services Trust rent out both the minor and main halls five mornings for a project for adults with learning disabilities.

Endeavours to establish the Playclub at Olympia were unsuccessful despite the concerted efforts of the play team. Posters and leaflets were distributed around the area. An information meeting and a registration day was publicised. Both were unattended. There were several phone enquiries but this did not result in any children being registered for the project.

The Playclub at Ballysillan started at the end of September. Nine of the 16 places were taken up. As of March 2011 there are seven children attending as two children left in January.

The Play Service has also established a Play Club one morning each week in partnership with the ToyBox Project for Traveller children. The project was established from an identified need in that pre-school children in the Traveller Community lack play opportunities in their own home. There is little room in their homes for toys or the provision of creative activities (such as painting). Some have never been away from their family. There are also concerns regarding the poor attendance rates of Traveller children attending school.

The play club provides an environment where the children can play, interact with each other and develops their independence. Most have painted pictures for the first time. One four year old child who did not want to leave his mother will now be starting school after attending the playclub. The project provides 10 places. Although there is demand for more places, the space available in the portacabin limits the numbers.

An evaluation of the current Playclubs model will take place in June 2011 to ascertain future development of this model and where projects may be provided.

The critical success factors for this model include:

1. Identified need
  - a. Gaps in provision for children aged 2-4 years
  - b. Specific target groups that could be supported through this model who do not access existing services – for example based on ability or culture and language difficulties
2. Community commitment  
For the longer term success of the Playclub model, there needs to be community ownership. This would include:

- a. Establishing a committee to oversee the running of the project
- b. Participation in training. Courses would be provided on play, practical skills and child protection through the play staff team. Development of committee skills would be supported through Community Development Officers.
- c. Volunteer commitment. The volunteers would initially work alongside the play staff and then take on running of the project themselves.

By supporting local communities to provide play opportunities through the Playclub model, the play service will be able to support an increased number of children and those with more specific needs.

## ***Summer Programme***

### **Summer Schemes**

Four schemes were provided for primary age school children at Avoniel, Ballysillan, Loop River and North Queen Street Playcentres. These ran for 4 – 5 weeks.

- Ballysillan, Avoniel and Loop River provided play sessions for 3-4 year olds.
- Loop River and Avoniel provided play sessions for young people in 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> years.
- A one week summer scheme was provided in partnership with the Bridge Community Association for children in P1-P3.
- A one week summer scheme was held for children who attend the Multi-culture After School Club.
- Activity based sessions were provided by play staff to support the summer schemes based at Olympia and Whiterock Community Centres.
- Two play staff provided support for a fortnight for a summer scheme run by Kids Together. This is a project run by mothers whose children have a disability. The scheme is attended by the disabled child, their siblings and other children from the local area.

### **Cross-community**

Avoniel Playcentre took part in a one week residential with children from the lower Ormeau Road at Glebe House in Strangford.

### **Support for Summer schemes**

Play staff provided a range of support sessions primarily aimed at supporting the voluntary community sector. This involved play staff going out to groups to provide a specified number of sessions that involved the following activities:

- Fantasy Play Sessions - craft sessions based on a fantasy theme
- Games support sessions
- Community workshops - Practical play sessions provided to two community based services to enhance their programme. (Hannahstown Community Group and Corpus Christi)
- Arts and craft workshops

### **Working Groups**

To ensure the successful implementation of the recommendations of the Play Review the play staff meet regularly in working groups to plan and evaluate projects, review practice developments and look at further development. This approach has been welcomed as an important aspect of continuing professional development by the members of the play team.

Similarly, in working alongside a wider range of voluntary and community based groups and organisations, the need to tailor provision to particular needs of particular areas has received increasing recognition. For example, outreach work has been influenced by a survey undertaken of the voluntary community sector of the needs for services for children in their local community.

The three main working groups have been focusing on:

- Provision for the under 5's
- Provision for Primary Age School Children
- Developing Multi-culture Play Opportunities

### **Concluding remarks:**

Participation levels, across the range of play provision, are set out below. In summary, the figures highlight:

- The quality of play provision and the experience of the children being enhanced by the introduction of innovative play methodologies;
- An extension to the geographic scope of the service through the utilisation of alternative locations including city parks, urban spaces and streets;
- The enhanced accessibility to the service and integration by minority ethnic groups, children with disabilities, and the Travellers community.

In seeking to build on and sustain the success of the past year, future emphasis will be placed on the development of innovative approaches to measuring the quality of respective play methodologies. Necessary preliminary work is already underway in this regard.

## **Participation Levels**

To ascertain attendance figures in the play services and projects, monthly reports are completed by staff. The figures are totalled and then divided by the number of sessions over the month to obtain the average number of children that attend a play session. The table also provides the average attendance over the year.

### **Projects for Under 5's**

#### **Pre-school Playgroup (Ballysillan)**

Number registered – 16

Number of sessions per week - 5

#### **Daily Average Attendance**

<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>June</b>	<b>No of days a week project runs</b>
12	13	12	12	11	12	5

Average attendance per session over the year – 12.

### **Playclubs**

#### **Ballysillan**

Maximum Number – 16

Number registered – 9

#### **Daily Average Attendance**

<b>September</b>	<b>October</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>No of days a week project runs</b>
5	5	7	6	4

Average attendance per session over the year – 6.

#### **Travellers**

Maximum Number – 10

Number registered – 10

<b>November</b>	<b>December</b>	<b>No of days a week project runs</b>
7	8	1

Average attendance per session over the year – 7.5.

### After School Clubs

These sessions are provided in the afternoon and are based in the six Playcentres for children from P1 to P7.

Centre	No of days a week project runs	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ave*
Avoniel	4	21	20	24	24	30	17	17	22	23	25	22
Ballysillan	4	39	42	48	42	38	37	23	18	21	28	34
Loop River	5	17	19	24	19	20	19	19	19	20	21	20
North Queen Street	4	28	23	25	26	28	27	35	38	35	25	29
Olympia	2	10	13	11	11	11	11	17	19	22	23	15
Whiterock	2	15	15	16	17	16	16	16	14	13	10	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>134</b>

\* This column indicates the average number of children per session over the year.


### Project Support

The table below provides information regarding programmes that have been introduced to support existing play projects within BCC, voluntary community centres and local schools.

The table indicates 251 children benefited from the programme.

	Number of children (average per session per month)										Average attendance per session	
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec		
All in Together	15											15
Roots of Empathy								28	28	28		28
Sensory Play Project								11	8	8		9
Fast Food – the Healthy Way	15	9	14	16	14	14	13	13	17			15
<b>Average Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>36</b>		

All projects above were provided once a week.

 project was not being provided during this month

## ***New Projects developed by Play Service***

The table below provides information on new projects where Play staff are involved in directly running the service. Some are based in existing Playcentres and target new and additional children. Others are based in voluntary community centres where there is a gap in existing service provision.

The information indicates that we have provided services for an additional 870 children over the 10 month period.

	Sess ions/ week*	Ja n	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Project Average**
Play sessions for P7 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> year (Avoniel)	1	10	10	10	10	10	8	7	9	2	5	8
Play sessions for 1st – 3 <sup>rd</sup> year (Loop River)	1	10	10	10	11	11	11	20	19	18	19	14
After Nursery Club (Loop River)	1					9	9	6	6	9	8	8
After Nursery Cub (Ballysillan)	1					15	15		5	6	0	6
Chinese Welfare Association-Mon	1	11	10	9								10
Chinese Welfare Association-Wed	1	5	9	9	7	10	9					8
Greater Village Regeneration Trust	2	7	6	5								6
Drama project (Whiterock & Village areas)	1				12	12	13					12
An Munia Tober	1		13	10								12
Bridge Community Association	1	19	19	17	12	8	8	10	12	13	13	13
Lower Oldpark Community Association	1									3	7	5
Hannahstown Community Association	2								10	5	7	7
Multi-culture After School Club	1					11	11	17	18	16	20	16
Come and Play	1				18	20			13	6	7	13
Saturday morning Club	1	8	7	10	10	9	9	11	10	7	4	9
<b>Average Total</b>		<b>70</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>90</b>	

service was not being provided during this month

\* Number of sessions provided each week service runs.

\*\* The average number of children attending a session over the year.

## **Summer Programme**

Figures in this Section relate to overall number of children registered.

<b>BCC Playcentre based</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Number of children registered</b>
Avoniel Summer Scheme	Scheme for children P1 – P7	5 week scheme – 8 sessions / week	70
Ballysillan Summer Scheme	Scheme for children P1 – P7	5 week scheme – 10 sessions / week	53
Loop River Summer Scheme	Scheme for children P1 – P7	5 week scheme – 10 sessions / week	91
North Queen St Summer Scheme	Scheme for children P1 – P7	5 week scheme – 10 sessions / week	64
Avoniel Under 5's Summer Scheme	Scheme for children aged 3-4 years	5 week scheme – 2 sessions / week	20

<b>New BCC service development</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Number of children registered</b>
Ballysillan Under 5's Summer Scheme	Scheme for children aged 3-4 years	1 week scheme – 9 sessions	22
Loop River Under 5's Summer Scheme	Scheme for children aged 3-4 years	1 week scheme – 5 sessions	10
Loop River Yr 8 / Yr 9 Summer Scheme	Scheme for children aged 12-14 years	1 week scheme – 5 sessions	10
Bridge Summer Scheme	Scheme for children P1 – P3 in partnership with Bridge Community Group	1 week scheme – 8 sessions	12
Multi-culture Summer Scheme	Scheme for children from different cultural backgrounds	1 week scheme – 10 sessions	11
Kids Together	Support for scheme that provides activities for children with disabilities	10 days/sessions	13
Cross-community residential Avoniel with LORAG	1 week cross-community residential at Glebe House	1 week	25
Come and Play	Play sessions in outdoor parks (targeting primary age children)	5 sessions	70
Under 5's Outdoor Play sessions	Play sessions in outdoor parks (targeting Under 5's)	2 sessions	55



### Central Support

Central Events	Playdays providing activities for summer schemes from across the city	2 Playdays	1648
Play for All support	Support for schemes including children with a disability		65

### Support Work Sessions

Fantasy Play Sessions	Crafts sessions based on fantasy theme delivered to 4 community groups (1 session@)	4 sessions	54
Games support sessions	Physical play sessions to be delivered to 11 community groups (1 session@).	11 sessions	221
Community workshops (Hannahstown Community Group and Corpus Christi Summer schemes)	Practical play sessions provided to two community based services to enhance their programme.	10 sessions	228
Arts & craft workshops	Craft provided to 8 community group summer schemes (1 session@).	8 sessions	133
Activity Support sessions	Play staff provided activity based sessions during the summer schemes based at Olympia and Whiterock Community Centres(4 sessions@).	6 sessions	26

### Average Number of children supported by the Play Service

Project	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average attendance per session
Pre-school Playgroup	12	13	12	12	11	12					12
Play Clubs							5	5	14	14	10
Playcentre After school	130	132	148	139	143	127	127	130	134	132	134
New Service Projects	70	84	80	80	115	93	71	102	85	90	87
Project Support	30	9	14	16	14	14	13	52	53	36	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>272</b>	

The table above provides an overall indication of the number of children benefiting from play opportunities during the year. The table does not include the summer period where services change to meet the needs of children during the holiday period.

During the summer, 2901 children benefited from play opportunities provided by play staff. This was comprised of:

- 526 children from services directly provided in Playcentres (298) or through new service development (228).
- 2375 children through support programmes consisting of support programmes (662), Play for All Project (65) and central events (1648).