

Case Study – Shenley Fields Pre-School

Amount Granted: £7,000.00 (Local Network Fund)



The Project:

This organisation provides affordable quality childcare for children aged 2–8. The grant was awarded to set up an environment and outdoor activity project on a piece of land that had been donated to the Pre-School. The aims of the project were: to encourage all the children to be outside for as much of the day as possible; to grow plants – vegetables, herbs, flowers; to learn how to care for them and appreciate nature; to increase physical activity outdoors through play and work; to work, paint and enjoy the outside environment.



Total number of Direct Beneficiaries: 56 (males = 25 / females = 31)

Aged 0–4 = 48

Aged 5–9 = 8

Area of Benefit: Shenley Fields and Bartley Green areas of Birmingham



The difference the project has made:

This project has made a difference to a much wider selection of people than ever originally imagined. A team of young volunteers aged 15–18 was provided by the Princes Trust: they work with young people who might not otherwise achieve, encouraging them to volunteer. The vegetable enclosure was designed by a Horticulture student from Birmingham University. Many parents helped, either with donations of plants or equipment, or by giving their time. A local family business was used to build some of the wooden outdoor equipment. Overall, the project benefited not only the pre-school children themselves but also the wider community of Bartley Green.

Quote:

'We are using this grant to set up an environment project and outdoor activity work and play project. We are very grateful to the Local Network Fund without which this project could never have happened.'

Was there anything that you found to be particularly good about the service provided?:

'Funding is generous with a reasonable limit to the paperwork. Far better than Birmingham City Council where red tape/paperwork is so burdensome as to render their funding unusable!'