

**SUPPORT FROM THE START
SERVICE DEVELOPMENT FUND REPORT FORM**



Use this form to help with feedback from service development fund projects.

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 Organisation: Musselburgh Congregational Church
 Date: 06 12 15

Project TitleMusical Instruments for Every Child.....

Partners and engagement (Who was involved?/

1. The Plan

What did you want to achieve / what was your plan?

- 1. We wanted to introduce a broad range of quality percussion instruments to the children of the Sunday School**
- 2. We planned for each child to have the opportunity to play the full range of instruments**
- 3. We planned to develop their ability to play along to the rhythm of the music**
- 4. We planned for the children to perform both within their own meeting and also to entertain the Church family by standing as a group at the front of the Church and being able to lead worship**

2. Do

- 1. We have invested time in teaching the children about the instruments, what each instrument does, what is its purpose and how it should be used effectively along with background music.**
- 2. We have taught them about rhythm. We have explained that the percussion instruments are used to accompany the melody and we have taught them to follow the flow of the music and play along with the beat.**
- 3. All of this has taken time, but a major milestone was our Harvest Thanksgiving**

Service at the beginning of October. The children, each with a new instrument performed in front of a full Church. There were around 80 people present and the children all confidently played their part. The difference in what they were able to do with the new instruments was measurable. Prior to receiving this generous grant we only had a few tambourines, it was good to see each child, around 16 in number all playing new, quality instruments and using them as they are intended to be used.

3. **Study**

On reflection do you think you achieved what you had planned to do? Can you evidence what you achieved?

1. Yes, I think we confidently agree that we have achieved our goal. The most simple way to evidence what has been achieved is to invite you to come and see the children performing and using the instruments. It is so encouraging to see these youngsters growing in confidence, learning new skills and working both individually and as a team as they perform together.

3a. Tell us about any difficulties and barriers to achieving your plan:

1. Time is always an issue. The only time we have altogether with teaching staff and children is for 1 hour on a Sunday morning, however we spent a few minutes each week for a number of weeks teaching rhythm and how to follow a melody and eventually achieved the desired goal.

4. **Act**

1. We plan to use the instruments regularly and encourage all the children to use the full range that is now available.
2. We will continue to give young people the opportunity of performing in front of a large audience, building their confidence and developing their ability.
3. Our longer term goal is to encourage the children to form a praise band. However a stumbling block to this is finding someone with the ability and time to lead them.

What are the next steps for your project?

The next step is simply to continue as we are in the short term, providing opportunities for all children to play and perform.

How can it be sustained and improved?

It can be sustained by regular performing, this will help us to identify talent and develop abilities as the children become more musically/rhythmically aware.

Please include any key learning points that you want to share from your project
Musical performance is a wonderful way for children to express themselves. They find it great fun. It is also a very effective way of developing their confidence as they are standing in front of 80 adults and helping to lead the Church in worship. It is also very enjoyable for spectators and so encouraging to see the children developing and becoming more confident and more able.

5. Financial report:

6. Anything else you would like to add:

We would like to express our very sincere appreciation and thanks. This grant has enhanced our worship and has enhanced the overall Church experience for both the children and the adults. We extend a very warm welcome to come and visit at any time and see for yourselves how the grant is being used and what is being achieved. Thank you most sincerely.

Many thanks for your co-operation with this – reports should be returned to

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