

## 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: Wallyford Community Centre  
Date: 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 2015.

**Project Title: Go mad with Dad**

**Partners and engagement (Who was involved?/**

### 1. The Plan

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

Following the successful 'go mad with dads' project in the Prestonpans community, partnership working between Dadswork and Wallyford Community Centre is going to pilot an event (specifically for Fathers/Male Carers and their children (age 0-12yrs) in the Musselburgh community.

The morning event from 10am – 12pm will be held in Wallyford Community Centre nevertheless, the event will be open to the wider Musselburgh Community. A wide range of interesting activities will be linked to the EDI Readiness to Learn domains with the aim of:

- Celebrating male carer and dads' relationships with children
- Giving Musselburgh Cluster fathers and male carers a quality play/activity experience to share positive moments with their children
- Building awareness of what makes children healthy and ready to learn through sharing the EDI domains
- Building up the opportunities for dads and kids' activities in Musselburgh in partnership with community partners

Date for event : 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2014, 10-12noon

We keen to **pilot this event** to access interest and develop work accordingly. Where appropriate other agencies will be brought on board to support the event & future work.

### 2. Do

#### **What did you do? (Please include successes, major events or milestones.)**

'Go Mad With Dad' event was advertised through the local primary school, community centres and libraries in the Musselburgh catchment, DadsWork networks, Support from the Start and Wallyford & Whitecraig face book pages. On the day, we had a total of **60 participants** (dads and children) attended. Dads could choose what activity they wanted to take their child too and how many times they participated. Consequently, all work stations were well attended and everyone that come along appeared to be fully engaged.

The majority of families came from the Musselburgh catchment and a few travelled from further afield.

## Activity programme

<b>Room 1</b>	Guitar taster
<b>Room 2</b>	Dynamic Earth Workshop
<b>Room 3</b>	Art & Craft Activity
	Messy Play
	Kite making workshop
	Hungry Caterpillar Workshop
	Face painting
<b>Hall</b>	Archery taster (Child must be 8yrs and above)
<b>Lounge</b>	Chat and chill with a tea or coffee and ice - cream

The event allowed an opportunity for 'dads' to spend quality time with their child/children engaging in positive, interactive activities. The event gave parents and carers the opportunity to find out how participating in their child's learning can be simple and fun as well as a chance to share ideas with other parents and develop their own skills. From observation engagement and enjoyment was really high and there was a notable change in the confidence of some dads. In the lounge area tea, coffee, juice and later ice-cream were served. Parents had the opportunity to chat and get to know each other as well as an opportunity to share ideas, issues and concerns; children interacted with each other and adults playing with some of the art and craft models that they had made. Just before the event came to a close a raffle was drawn.

The taster sessions provided an opportunity for children alongside their parent (carer) to try out new things. A number of dads have approached us about their child engaging further in archery activities.

### 3. **Study**

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

- **Yes. Photographic evidence**

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

- **None**

### 4. **Act**

**What are the next steps for your project? How can it be sustained and improved? Please include any key learning points that you want to share from your project.**

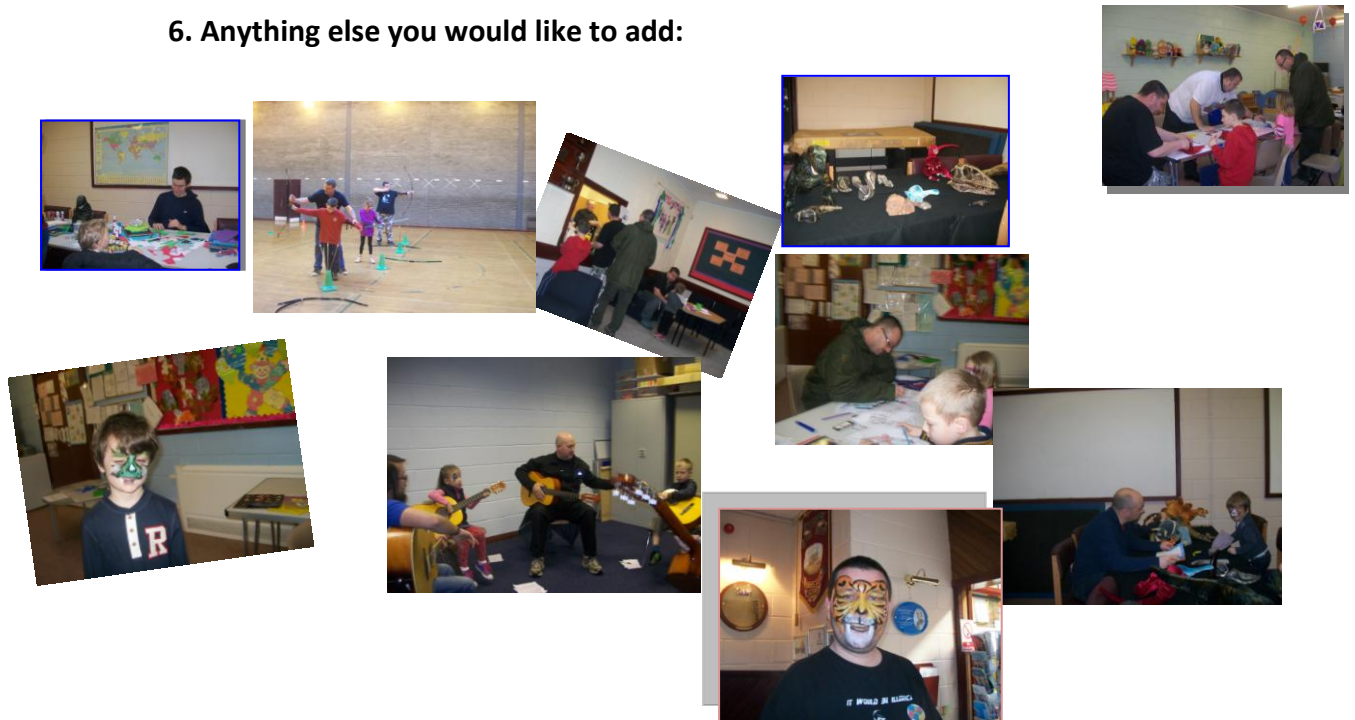
Positive engagement of fathers in their children's learning and development has positive outcomes, so involving fathers and father figures in family learning is a must. However, getting dads involved in this process is not always easy as there can be some really obvious as well as some subliminal barriers to participation. Dads want to get involved, but often don't think that services are meant for them and don't know how important they are; antenatal & postnatal periods are key times to engage Dads. If Dads don't feel they are important at these points it can only make engaging Dads harder in the long term; we often send all correspondence to Mum – we need to ensure all correspondence is addressed to both Mum and DAD! ; specific workers, dedicated to work with Dads, helps to increase engagement however without whole organisational change and support work can be difficult to sustain and develop. I think we need to chip away at

these barriers and they are very deep rooted and continue to raise the profile of fathers (males) and the value contributions they make. Work and consultation is on going with DadsWork and it is anticipated that another event will happen after the year ( 2016).

## 5. Financial report:

<b>Go mad with Dad</b>	Support from the start	£250.00
Date		
	Tea, Coffee, Cups etc.	£6.99
24/02/2015	wages (001771)	
	S.Durham	£36.50
	A Satur	£36.50
21/02/2015	Stina Sparkles	£70.00
21/02/2015	Roots & Fruits	£50.00
30/03/2015	Ice cream	£23.40
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£223.39</b>

## 6. Anything else you would like to add:



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

[supportfromthestart@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:supportfromthestart@eastlothian.gov.uk)

Or

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