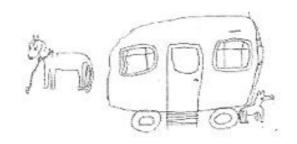
EAST SUSSEX TRAVELLER EDUCATION TEAM IN CONSORTIUM WITH BRIGHTON & HOVE



Report re Early Years Outreach 2007-8

Joint service delivery has continued throughout the year to mobile Travellers using the outreach unit "bus" as base, and with some additional resource funding from the PCT. This unit was staffed at all times by a Traveller Welfare Officer and Early Years Teacher providing a range of pre school play/educational activities for children plus advice, information and (where necessary) onward referral for families. The outreach service was offered at least once a week and twice when numbers warranted a second visit. We are frequently the initial point of professional contact for mobile families. Other professionals have supported our outreach work e.g. Sally Burnett, Health Advisor (Fischer Family Trust), staff from PRESENS (Pre-School Special Educational Needs Service), Health Visitors from Moulescombe Childrens Centre in order to support/enable access to local mainstream services.

Outcomes for children from use of outreach unit:

- 79 pre school children accessed pre school activities via the bus
- 2 children accessed White Hawk drop in centre and received speech and language support
- From our referral, 1 child received speech and language support programme
- 8 children admitted into nearby nurseries: 2 with Teaching Assistant support provided by Traveller Education.
- 4 children admitted in local Reception classes
- Bookstart packs distributed via bus to all pre school children
- Father Xmas distributed gifts to all young children week before Xmas. 24 presents were given to -5s.
- (For numbers of health advice/referrals ref FFT)

Training

- 1. Early Years Teacher demonstrated use of Persona Dolls in 6 local nurseries re Early Years diversity curriculum and successful inclusion of Traveller children.
- 2. EY Teacher gave presentation to 150 people at EY network Conference at Hove Town Hall
- 3. EY Teacher provided training to EY trainee teachers at Brighton University

Continuing Need

- Now Horsdean transit site has been refurbished and Travellers may stay for up to 3 months, there is a need for a local health visitor to cover the Horsdean population and enable links to be made with the local Childrens Centre.
- There is continued need for a designated HV to work closely with existing team from the bus
- Due to high levels of dental caries amongst young children, it would be useful to engage the services of a dental hygienist to join outreach team

Jackie Whitford - October 08.