Befriending Scheme Parent/Grandparent/Key Worker Survey

A total of 33 Questionnaires were sent and 67% if those responded.

1. Have you noticed an improvement in the young person receiving befriending's confidence since he or she began having a befriender?

- Yes: 82%
- Maybe: 14%
- No: 4%

2. Have you noticed an improvement in the young person receiving befriending's independence since he or she began having a befriender?

- Yes: 77%
- No: 14%
- Maybe: 9%
3. Have you noticed an improvement in the young person receiving befriending's mental health (i.e. less depressed, less anxious) since he or she began having a befriender?

- Yes: 73%
- No: 13%
- Maybe: 14%

4. Is the young person receiving befriending generally happier since having a befriender?

- Yes: 82%
- Maybe: 14%
- Don't know: 4%

Comments

Really looks forward to their time together.
Comments:
There were no issues previously

6. Has the involvement of a befriender in the young person's life helped you in any way?

If yes, in what ways?

- More 1-1 time with my wife
- It's a joy to see India with a peer. They are friends when together, India is valued and respected and it shows.
- J lives with us, so his time with L gives us valuable time on our own to relax or go out.
- Happier and confident.
- J gets to go out socially without me - I used to take him.
- I know my daughter is safe and happy when she is with Nic, which makes me happy!
- It gives us a bit of a break.
- Allows us a little time to ourselves
- Lovely that S is out with a peer rather than me all the time.
- Shane talks a lot more to the family and he knows more about buses.
- Another outlet for E to do the things she likes without always being with a parent.
- Yes, M spending time with R gives me respite
- We get valuable respite and also it has given us the knowledge that he is getting to spend time with an age appropriate peer.
- It is good to see my son more confident in social environment.
- Just gives us some space and some experience for our daughter to try and have a 'friend'.
- Given him time away from parents, more independence and enjoyment going out and about with another young person.
- It allows me to go out and see my friends without feeling guilty because we are both having a good time.
- Yes, it has taken some of the pressure off myself at weekends even just for a couple of hours it really helps.
- It gives me a little break and has made me feel so much happier knowing my son has a friend.
- Great to see D out enjoying activities with someone other than his family, and seeing him enjoy the independence and self-confidence this gives him.

7. Has the relationship with your other children/grandchildren/partner improved since the young person began having a befriender?

- Yes 45%
- No 9%
- Maybe 27%
- Don't know 5%
- N/A 14%

If yes, in what ways?

- More quality time together
- It gives me a chance to do something with my daughter.
- More time to spend 1-1 with other daughter, who is only 6.
- Our daughter does not live with us.
- I can spend 1:1 with other child doing things that S isn't keen on.
- Other interests to talk about, increased confidence in speaking up.
• Having more quality time with my other child.
• We can spend a little time together.
• Allows us more quality time and some respite from attending to D’s needs.

8. Is the befriending support helpful to you and the young person receiving befriending and would you like it to continue in 2017?

9. How would you describe the support your befriender has given you and the young person receiving befriending?

• A chance for our daughter to be a normal teenager, out with her mate, without a parent in tow!
• C is a lovely girl who gives India her attention and time. When here C gives me a much needed break. A break from the monotony of being a carer, a role I enjoy but enjoy more after a break. C is calm, relaxed, chatty, happy and gorgeous.
• L gives us so much pleasure and happy times for J, so he is not so dependent on us all the time.
• Friends give her confidence.
• He encourages J to try new things and be more independent.
• This is the only ‘friendship’ my daughter has and is invaluable.
• He has been great for my son.
• Extremely helpful and happy person.
• Invaluable, such a great service with a well matched befriender.
• It has helped S to become more open.
• Excellent!
• R has made a big difference to M and my life
• An amazing service and supportive network to be in.
• D has a very good impact on A. Over many years he was instrumental in helping to improve independence, confidence and self esteem of A
• She is amazingly patient. Most people would have given up a long time ago as our daughter is very difficult to get to know.
• Fun, time out, enjoyment and independence.
- It allows my daughter to go out with someone similar in age and not to have to rely on me solely for providing social activities. She really enjoys this and is getting much better at making arrangements independently.
- My son waits at the window for his befriender if I say he is going out with him, he loves going out with him, it means he’s not stuck at home with his boring old mum. Would be lost without the extra support.
- My son has gained so much confidence and is much happier in himself.

Comments:
- Very much

10. Would you recommend the befriending scheme to other people?

Yes

100%