



Reply to Sally Jaeckle
E-mail sally.jaeckle@bristol.gov.uk
Date 27th September 2017

Dear Parents / Carers,

Thank you to the 1,056 families who have returned their completed Under Fives Questionnaires, we really value your interest and support. Bristol is committed to giving every child a good start in life, and it is important for us to understand your perspective so that we can work with our partners to continually improve health and family support services for our youngest children.

It was reassuring to learn that most families that responded are able to access the services they need and that there is a real understanding of the importance of regularly playing with your children and sharing books with them. Good to know too that most families recognise the benefits of breast feeding and are preparing healthy meals for their families from fresh ingredients, including breakfast.

The questionnaire also highlighted key areas where more action is needed, for example, almost 20% of you did not find it easy to find a local NHS dentist and families living in flats find it much more difficult for their children to play outside. Almost 10% of respondents said that they did not feel safe, walking with their child in their community and more than 25% felt that alcohol and substance misuse is a concern in their local area.

It is of increasing concern that a significant percentage of families (34%) report that they are experiencing low mood and anxiety, including post-natal depression, and that this is particularly challenging for non-working families.

The Early Years and Family Support Network are now considering the issues raised in the questionnaire and the action needed. Your feedback is helping to inform the development of the Bristol Standard for Health, which is a new self-evaluation framework to support all Early

Bristol Under Fives Questionnaire

Are you a parent or carer of a child under five?
Bristol City Council is dedicated to giving all children a good start in life. We would like to find out more about families with children under five to help us to plan local services to support families living in this culturally diverse and dynamic city.

Please take part in our survey. It will take approximately 10 minutes.

As a thank you for taking part we will enter you into a prize draw. To enter the draw, please provide your name and email or postal address on the first page and return it with your questionnaire.

The questionnaire is anonymous. This means your contact details will not be linked with your answers or with any services you currently receive and will only be used for the prize draw.

This questionnaire can also be completed online at:
www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/BristolUnderFives

Early Years & Childcare Service
Bristol Education Centre
Sheridan Road, Horfield
Bristol BS7 0PU

Paul Jacobs
Service Director
Education and Skills
People Directorate

Website
www.bristol.gov.uk

Years providers improve their Health practice.

We are glad that so many of you value the services provided by your local Children's Centre and your feedback is important, as it is helping us to shape our Children's Centre offer in Bristol. Our ongoing aim is to offer you the support you need, when and where you need it, so that our youngest children and their families are able to experience a good start in life.

A full report containing the questionnaire results can be obtained by contacting your local Children's Centre, or by emailing kayleigh.m.gyde@bristol.gov.uk

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Jacobs', written in a cursive style.

Head of Early Years Services