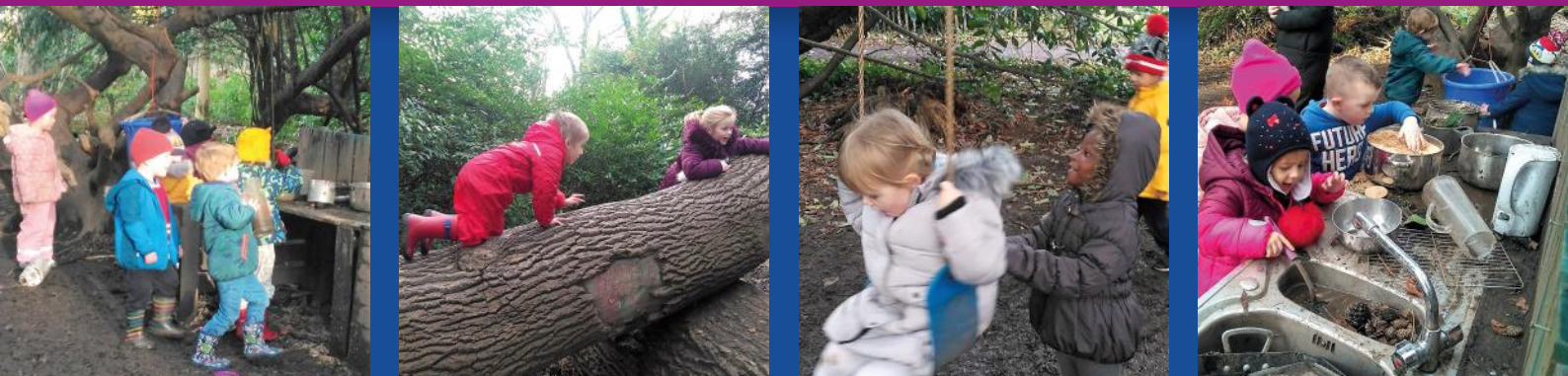


# Sharing From The Start Newsletter



The 'Sharing from the Start' project involves early years settings throughout Northern Ireland and the Southern Border counties forming cross-community and/ or cross-border partnerships. The children taking part in joint curricular classes, improving educational outcomes and promoting good relations. The initiative is supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

Sharing from the Start is led by Early Years working in partnership with the National Childhood Network and the Fermanagh Trust. Together these three organisations have a strong track record and over twenty years' experience of working for the benefit of children and good relations development.

The programme, which is now in its fifth year, is bringing positive attitudinal and behavioural change amongst children, parents, teachers and the wider community. This is being achieved through the implementation of purposeful, direct and sustained curriculum-based contact between children of predominantly different religious backgrounds and different ethnic or socio-economic backgrounds.

We hope you enjoy the stories in this newsletter which provides a focus on the role of the practitioner and the benefits Shared Education has brought to their role.





## Forward



Reflecting recently on the challenges our educators have faced during this public health crisis, what was very clear was how lucky we are to have such a wonderful committed and dedicated preschool workforce. For many parents and carers, a key challenge has been looking after their own children - for our preschool leaders and their colleagues the challenge has been looking after all the preschool children. What a job they have and continue to do.

This Newsletter focuses on the preschool educators and the impact Sharing From The Start has had on them and their work. Thanks to each of the five partnerships featured for sharing their experiences. Leading a preschool is challenging at the best of times. It's insightful to learn of the significance of peer-to-peer learning and how staff have benefited hugely from participating in Shared Education. There are some valuable messages in these stories including how cross border preschool settings working together can be so rewarding. The leaders also highlighted the importance of the Early Years Specialists in supporting their shared education journey. Their leadership and dedication have been crucial in making Sharing From The Start a success.

**Lauri McCusker - Director of the Fermanagh Trust**



Loughinisland Playgroup and Glasswater Preschool have been working together with 'Sharing From The Start' for a number of years. We sat down with Judy McSherry leader at Glasswater and Eileen Owens leader at Loughinisland to hear about their experiences of working in partnership.

Staff and children have, through their involvement in Shared Education, been taking part in a series of activities to enhance their learning and provide the children with new opportunities. While reflecting on this work, Judy highlighted the community relations in the area **"Eileen and I didn't even know each other before Sharing From The Start. Now we've actually become great friends.** It's a good working partnership, we bounce off each other and work better together. There are certain community divisions in Crossgar and Loughinisland, that's why we feel it's so important to keep going. With certain challenges, it's been great for us two to have each other.

**'With certain challenges it's been great for us two to have each other'**

**- Judy and Eileen from Loughinisland Playgroup and Glasswater Preschool**

**Eileen Owens and Judy McSherry**

**'I'm coming over, stick the kettle on.' Sometimes being a leader can be isolating, so to have a partner is so worthwhile.'**

Eileen added "There's been a lot of hurt in the Loughinisland community over the years. So it's been nice to hear back from parents welcoming it and how good it is to be part of a cross community programme like this. **The purpose of Shared Education is to improve community relations. Here, we really get that aspect of it and as practitioners feel there's a duty on us to play our part.** It's because Judy and I get on so well, we're so close and able to work together, sitting together on the computer planning out sessions. We put so much commitment into the programme."

During the pandemic the settings adapted and came up with innovative ways to carry out Shared Education



virtually thanks to IT investment from Sharing From The Start. During their 'Zoom' lessons together, through photographs, videos and virtual connections, children have the opportunity to form partnerships by sharing activities between the settings and learn about themselves and one another.

The settings are hoping to get back to their usual activities this year including St Patrick's Day cultural celebration which has become an important annual event for the partnership. Eileen said "With cultural things we don't make a big deal out of it but we also don't water it down. Diversity has to come into Shared Education as well, it's not just Protestant / Catholic Because Northern Ireland has become so diverse now, there's so many people from so many different countries."

Eileen added "Children get that extra learning and share with everyone else. They don't shy away but embrace and learn about different culture and traditions. All the different drums, sticks and costumes. Staff sharing too – some bringing in lambegs, others bringing in bodhran's, celebrating their own diversity and learning from each other's culture. It's an important aspect of programme which has worked well.

On their involvement in the programme Eileen said "We've had lots of training opportunities with Sharing From The Start. During our cluster meetings it's great to meet with other leaders and hear how they find the programme and what they're doing." Judy added "We've been fortunate enough to use the Media Initiative alongside Sharing From The Start which has strengthened the whole learning behind it all. Anne-Marie our Senior Early Year's Specialist has been an amazing support. Helping us out, always at the end of the phone and always asks if there's anything we need."

On the parental benefits of the programme Eileen explained "Sometimes we know it's very difficult to approach big subjects like cross community issues with their kids but this programme just opened up a whole different aspect for them and made it easier. Wider community and parents say 'oh it's lovely just to see the children all getting on with it, no barriers'. Parents talking to each other in the car park, people they've never met in their lives, from opposite sides of the community. It's been so lovely seeing them making connections. Even some parents who said they've never been in Loughinisland and it's only over the road. Opening up these wee areas and mixing, not only children but parents too."

Advice to settings thinking about working in partnership, Judy said "Just go for it! **We've learnt lessons ourselves as practitioners which has strengthened and developed our own learning and positions.**" Eileen added "Because we've been involved for a number of years in the programme it's just part of our routine now and our planning. It really is the way forward here. It's enjoyable for us too and it's not just Sharing From The Start, the partnership goes right through our work practice, from lending each other resources to calling for advice."

**Children from Loughinisland and Glasswater having fun and learning outdoors together this term**





## **'We'd love our partnership to continue long into the future.'** **- Fermanagh preschools Little Bridges and Tiny Tots on their Shared Education journey**

Tara Kingston leader of Little Bridges Preschool Florencecourt and Rachel Harron leader of Tiny Tots Mullymesker in West Fermanagh recently met up to share their experiences of working in partnership and how this has benefitted them as practitioners and provided new experiences for their children. They are the leaders of two rural preschools just three miles apart from one another and have partnered together with the Sharing From The Start programme.



**Rachel Harron and Tara Kingston**

Tara outlined "I often said it's crazy that there are two nurseries very close to each other, facing the same challenges every day, we really should link up. But, we just never got round to it, until Sharing From The Start gave us the opportunity. I've been involved in Shared Education for over 20 years because I used to teach in Primary. From our links with Fermanagh Trust doing their Shared Education programme with Primary Schools, we jumped at the opportunity to get involved in Sharing From The Start for our Preschools."

"There is a long standing history between Florencecourt and Mullymesker working together. That Shared Education culture has evolved over the years here through hard work, through these types of partnerships, and through teachers like us working together. I remember years ago there would have been reservations about cross community programmes like this, now it's the norm. It is lovely that the children will get to carry on with Shared Education when they transition to primary school."

Rachel said "There's a big culture of Shared Education in the area so it feels very natural for us to be taking part. **We as leaders have learnt lots ourselves, it has all worked so well and we really enjoy it.** After first year when we figured out what we were doing, it came naturally the next year and is now part of our routine.

There's nothing to lose from working in partnership, the benefits are much wider. At the beginning, setting up can be quite daunting but think of the children and how great it is for them. We'd love our partnership to continue long into the future. In a structured, reasoned and formal way. **While we always said we had the intention to work together, Sharing From The Start started it.**

Pre COVID, Little Bridges and Tiny Tots had a range of sessions together focussing on different areas of the curriculum. Learning in each other's settings, outdoor learning at Florencecourt House, putting on activities and performances in local halls for parents. Since COVID the focus has turned online, with the children holding virtual nature trails and exchanging Christmas messages. While it has helped to keep connections the leaders say it's no substitute for face to face Shared Education and they hope as restrictions ease they will be get back to that soon.

Rachel said "It was lovely working in each other's settings pre-COVID. Children visiting each other's classrooms, just playing, showing their new friends around. Excitement of children arriving at different nursery, getting to be on a bus, it was a great adventure for them. **As a nursery teacher visiting other nurseries is so beneficial. No matter how experienced you are,** to go into someone else's classroom and to look around and go there's a brilliant idea, I never thought of that. **The collaboration is so important and worthwhile. For our classroom assistants it was great and they picked up so much.**"

Tara said "**In the midst of pandemic it was so nice to just be able to lift the phone to Rachel,** hear what she's doing and get some advice. It was just a really good support, beyond our Sharing From The Start work. We're all facing the same challenges, why not speak to each other and work together. When we could meet pre pandemic the children were so excited. I remember our children looking with their binoculars out the window, waiting for their friends from Mullymesker to arrive. To get in early, to get those relationships built early and have that excitement, I think that will carry on up to the primary school and beyond"

Tara said "I remember after our initial training 5 years ago; we were so enthusiastic about getting started. Sitting with teachers from all over Northern Ireland and the Southern Border Counties there was a sense this was an important programme, which will make a difference and is worthwhile being part of – that's exactly what we've found it to be."

Rachel said "I'm so glad we had the confidence to sign up and give it a go. The support from our Senior Early Year's Specialist throughout has been instrumental to our success as well. Now we're a much more structured and formal partnership. Children are fantastic at this age how they just mix. Less inhibitions, everyone is a new friend. Which is why I think it's so good Shared Education was offered to preschools. **The shared lessons we have in place enhance the children's learning as well as our development.** Shared Education isn't an add on, it's just part of our school day."

## ***'Cross border working has really opened people's eyes'***

### **- Practitioners from cross border partnership Cockhill Community Preschool Donegal, Stepping Stones Playgroup Donegal and Bligh's Lane Nursery School L'Derry on how they've been able to learn from each other**

Three-way partnership Cockhill Community Preschool Buncrana, Stepping Stones Playgroup St Johnston and Bligh's Lane Nursery School Derry have been working together on the Sharing From The Start programme for the last five years. Located about thirty minutes from each other and crossing the border with two in Co Donegal and one in Derry.

On the cross border aspect, Rosie Devlin from Cockhill Community Preschool said "It's a very different framework in the North compared to what we in the South are used to. We've had so many lovely opportunities to see how each other do things and think about how we do things. **It's been a fabulous learning experience.** It has been great for the children to see the diversity of not just different children, but their background and their school and their identity and belonging in Bligh's Lane and Stepping Stones."

"We've learnt better ways of working from seeing how things are done over the border. It's more structured learning so we've picked up the importance of detail and sharing of templates. There are differences North and South so that's been an interesting observation for us. As preschool leaders our practise and overall aims are the same but the writing up was challenging and it's something we've got better at thanks to working in partnership and learning from each other. In the South we have a more emergent curriculum, when it comes to backing that up with documentation, we can see the experience and expertise in the North. Bligh's Lane have shared that with us and because of that our documentation has become better as well our confidence."

Margaret O'Doherty from Bligh's Lane Nursery said "In the North we're very much themed learning, topic related and everything is very prescriptive. What I learnt from the cross border aspect is the South let it be more child led. Of course, our plan is there as a skeleton but being in Sharing From The Start and working together has allowed us to have more child initiated learning. Just let the children lead us down a certain path to work out what's coming next. It might not necessarily tie in with what we had planned but so long as the learning outcomes are the same and the shared outcomes are the same that's ok. It's ok not to have everything set in stone, I learnt that from watching my partners over the border, they allow the children to lead. We've all probably learnt that there's a balance. Feed the children's learning and energy and where they want to go with it. The three of us have all learnt about that balance together."

"The one example I always remember is seeing the outdoor area at Stepping Stones. Their children decided where everything was going to go, where to put all the equipment. I thought I really need to learn and take from this. Something so simple but it's a different level of learning, confidence building and ownership for the children which we were able to pick up. From Cockhill

we were able to learn from their outdoor area as well and inspired to develop our own playground from seeing their Mud Kitchen and Mini Beast Hotel which we didn't have before. It is really valuable when we see each other's settings and work together. **We all get ideas from each other It helps us to reflect on our own setting."**

Kimberley McGavigan from Stepping Stones Preschool added "Visiting Margaret's setting in Derry was great for the staff to see the different ways of working in a physical environment was a real learning curve for everybody. Visiting the settings, getting ideas and putting them into practice was really positive for me and my staff. We're lucky we have technology to keep us together, but it would be lovely to get back to visiting each other's settings because there's learning all around not only for the children but for us. **Cross border working has really opened people's eyes and we've all taken so many positives from each setting."**



**Bligh's Lane, Cockhill and Stepping Stones children performing Christmas carols 2018. The leaders are hoping to get back to face to face shared learning this year.**

On the curriculum focus of the shared sessions Kimberley said "This year we're thinking of doing the Big Bird Watch which will help Bligh's Lane as they're working towards Eco-Schools status. We'll also do little sessions for Valentine's Day and events like that throughout the year."

Margaret added "The Big Bird Watch will be something different for us. We were laughing and joking that it'll be interesting to see if there's a difference between the birds in the North and the birds in the South! Looking back on our sessions in previous years, a lot of the curriculum focus was on Language and Personal, Social, Emotional. As well as physical and the arts so we've covered a range of lessons."

On the benefits of the partnership Kimberley explained "The three of us have each other, beyond even our Sharing From the Start partnership."

We know there are other practitioners all experiencing the same challenges. Because we've built such a good relationship we can query things and bounce ideas off each other. **Years and years ago people might have certain reservations about other communities mixing. Programmes like this and the support for it shows how times have moved on.**

Margaret added "To know there's someone at the end of the phone is so beneficial. To those thinking about Shared Education, go into it with an open mind and be willing to learn with a view to improving your own setting. You can improve your own way of working for the good of the children ultimately. Remember what it's all for, it's for the children and their families and to instil those respectful attitudes in them early on. The adult modelling, respectful behaviour, welcoming our new friends and then when they're going thanking them. Children will pick up on that. We've had 100% support and positivity from the parents. They've really welcomed Sharing From The Start and the wider community as well can see that too."

Rosie concluded "**Karen our Senior Early Year's Specialist has been the glue in keeping us together.** So important to have someone there to guide us and help frame exactly what we want to achieve. She's been essential to our success as a partnership. Peace and reconciliation is a big outcome of Sharing From The Start and we feel as a cross border partnership we help contribute towards that aspect of it. There is a respect of the diversity of backgrounds. When children from Bligh's Lanes or Stepping Stones come in they are made to feel very welcome, they're treated exactly the same as our children. Likewise, when we go to visit them there's no difference made, totally valued and respected. That is a very important early life lesson for the children. It has been a real privilege because this is the first time Shared Education has been happening between preschools in a formal way. Wonderful to work with such great people who are in the same mindset, we all have the same shared value outcomes. **We've all grown and developed from each other. That wouldn't have happened without Sharing From The Start.**"

## ***'New experiences for children the key to Shared Education'***

### **- County Leitrim partnership Eivers Lane Childcare Centre, Mohill and Mary Callaghan Mallon Preschool Bornacoola on the benefits of working together**

Caroline Kearney leader at Eivers Lane outlined "Ours is a full day care community service with creche, preschool and afterschools. Mary's is an outdoor preschool. So it was two very different groups coming together. We did a lot of activities that we wouldn't have got to do if we were just doing our regular preschool programme for the year. One of the main benefits was to meet the other children and to see how they do things at their service which is completely outdoors. One of the first days we went to Mary's group we found it was lashing with rain and we were thinking we never go outside in the rain. The kids just had a ball going outside and playing.

As well as the children making new friends, we also got to make some friends ourselves, the staff in our service with Mary's. Looking back to the big events we've had, at the start we never would have done that because it's such a big undertaking and such big planning. Now it's no problem. At the beginning it was difficult but our Early Year's Specialists were such a big support. Participating in this programme the children and staff too got new experiences. It's new learning for us as staff, planning these sessions and thinking about the outcomes. **The children get so much from it. For the community as a whole it's great for them to see two settings working together.**

Over the last couple of years we have done so much. The shared outcomes and educational outcomes involves Aistear themes such as identity and belonging and exploring and thinking. Siolta standards also play a vital role in this, such as the rights of the child, community involvement, professional practice and partnership with parents.

We're an established partnership now. The nice thing

about it is I can ring Mary about anything and I know she's the same with me, beyond our Shared Education work. It's good to have someone in the same industry to chat to about different things. What the programme has taught me is the importance of providing new experiences for children. If the two of us were to look forward and think big on how to make this partnership better, **I think the key is experiences for children whether that's in our setting or out in the community.**

Mary Mallon leader of Mary Callaghan Mallon Preschool Bornacoola said "**I find it's so helpful that there's someone on the same level to go to, share tips and get advice** and guidance all in a friendly and confidential way. It's good for us as staff to visit each other and see each other's setting and how things are done differently. They are a town based preschool and we are a rural one. We're not far from each other. Each shared session took place in different environments. The staff made sure that children gained new experiences to their daily preschool routine in an interesting way delivered through fun and in an inclusive manner respecting each other's differences and similarities.

I want to highlight just two sessions which I believe convey the benefits of the Sharing From The Start programme. Our trip to Bornacoola GAA pitch will be remembered for a long time. A day filled with excitement, surprises and screams of joy. Some of the children's parents were coaches and they delivered fun and inclusive activities for all at different levels of difficulties where children from each settings have to collaborate between each other. All children were rewarded with medals. Children got extra lucky at snack



time when one of our parents, a local restaurant owner, brought in lots of chips and sausages for everyone. Such a community spirit. The children were out of their comfort zone during this session and exposed to new experiences but still surrounded by people who they knew a trust. It helped them to relax and just to have fun.

Our trip to the play centre, the highlight of this session was the train journey. As for most children this was their first time going on a train. Each child had their own ticket. The train driver tooted the horn and waved to the children as the train entered the station. During the journey the children had the opportunity to chat to each other, sing songs together, show the tickets to the conductor and chat with him. The excitement of looking out the window as the fields passed by. At the train station they met the bus driver, asked him loads of questions.

Children mixed very well during all activities and made new friends, playing together and helping each other. They noticed similarities between themselves like their hair and skin colour. All of these experiences enrich children and fosters learning, curiosity, creativity and friendships. Exposing children to the wider community, helping them learn about community life.

One of the lovely things was we had some Polish children and they instantly became friends with Caroline's Polish children and able to speak the same language, that was so nice for them. Just happened naturally. We were fortunate when we could meet up that parents were so supportive and came to volunteer. They are great at helping with activities and of course chatting to the children at home.

**Our staff had lots of opportunities to share our knowledge, experiences and resources which in turn promotes the growth and development for our children.** We have strengthened our relationship with the girls from Eivers Lane, meeting at training events and out and about in the community.

There is a lot of planning behind those sessions and all staff worked well together along with the Senior Early Years Specialist which resulted in good connections between our services. Over the years a considerable number of children have benefitted from these shared sessions.

I can definitely see progression in our skills as leaders from year one. Now it's part of our routine. I remember the first time meeting, I thought oh no Caroline's staff will be judging us and seeing what we do wrong. It's not like that at all, it's for the benefit of the children.

**Our settings aren't in competition with each other, we're partners."**





***‘There is nothing to lose and everything to gain from working in partnership’***

## **- Ardstraw Community Playgroup and Little Flower Playgroup highlight the benefits of working together**

Sandra Harper leader at Little Flower Playgroup Sion Mills explained “We had no link at all before Sharing From The Start, we didn’t know each other. I’d rarely have even driven through Ardstraw let alone been familiar with the playgroup. I love getting into Heather’s playgroup and going ‘oh where did you get this toy? Sharing ideas, building of relationships. There’s definitely a good rapport between ourselves and our staff sharing best practice. Looking back our confidence has grown in delivering Shared Education. We know what we’re aiming for. Children are so resilient as well. Going to a new setting the excitement and eagerness is fantastic. They’re like wee sponges they couldn’t wait to get into Heather’s playgroup to see everyone and see what resources they have. Even when showing videos we say what do you see and they say ‘oh they have the same toys as us’.”

Heather Nicholl leader at Ardstraw Community Playgroup emphasised the benefits of working together “Apart from Sharing From The Start it’s been good for me and Sandra to talk over other issues and concerns. **It makes sense to reach out to each other. Information sharing, skills sharing it’s all so supportive.** Hear about activities and think oh that’s a great idea. Sharing the skills between the two groups. The programme is so wide geographically so with the cluster meetings, it’s interesting to hear from Belfast partnerships or groups over the border, but especially those locally. Not far from us there’s a Sharing From The Start partnership in Drumquin and when we meet them we share information about facilitators and exchange ideas. It’s all been very positive from day one, we’ve been very lucky.”

On their shared sessions and curriculum focus Heather said “This year we’ve been doing introductions and little Christmas activities virtually but we will be meeting up together in person outdoors. Over the years we’ve had sessions like Barrontop Farm, local halls with facilitators, sports days, visits to each other’s settings. We’ve used Media Initiative alongside the programme which has worked out great for things like Chinese New Year and St Patrick’s Day.”

“From PSE to World Around Us, we’ve covered a broad range of curriculum topics. It’s been great for the children’s social skills which we’ve noticed a big improvement in. Seeing them familiarising themselves with their community has been important.”

Sandra added “Year one was daunting but we’re into the swing of it now. **As a practitioner I’ve learnt so much being in the programme it’s been a real learning curve, totally embedding Shared Education into our preschools way of working and thinking.** I keep every Friday free, that’s my Sharing From The Start day. **There is nothing to lose and everything to gain from working in partnership.**”

On the support from parents and wider community Sandra said “We’ve had lots of positive feedback from parents and grandparents, they really got a lot out of it. Parents from Sion and Ardstraw would never have been talking to each other, there wouldn’t have been any opportunities. I’m hoping if restrictions ease we can get back to that. **If granny comes to a shared session then goes back and tells her family and friends about how great it was to visit and mix with the other preschool, then that idea of positive community relations is able to spread out into the community. Of course, with Shared Education the focus is on the children but it’s been a lovely by-product seeing the benefits for the staff, parents and wider community.**”

“We’re looking forward to getting back to normality again and the parents are excited too because they’ve heard so much from us about Sharing From The Start and how great it is for the children to meet with another setting. That is a major issue that has hit us with COVID, now not having the parental involvement. You miss it right across the board, even meeting them at the school gates. Over the year we’ve built up such a good relationship and the community have seen what we’re doing, that visibility is important of two settings working together. There’s an awareness there that there’s a partnership between us. When we were able to get the parents involved we heard things like ‘I’ve never been to Ardstraw’ or ‘I’ve never been to Glebe’.”

Heather concluded “The way parents have come together is encouraging. Normally there wouldn’t be connections between the two areas because they’re from other sides of the community. **In many ways it’s taken us two as leaders to initiate that new link that we now have between our two communities.**”





# External Evaluation

## Thank You!

We would like to thank all those who participated in SJC consultancy's recent survey, on behalf of The Special EU Programmes Body's (SEUPB).

Given the uncertainty and pressures linked to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, it is important that we acknowledge and express our gratitude to the pre-school settings who took time to provide feedback in June and September 2021.

Don't worry if you did not participate this year, as there is a final survey in March/April 2022, and we would love to hear your feedback about Sharing from the Start.

## Results

Our survey results showed how important the connections made through Sharing from the Start have been and how the use of IT equipment has enabled partnership working to continue during these difficult times.

You have all shown creativity in your approach to adapting to online classes – utilising art, music, circle time, storytelling, sport, as well as the Media Initiative in helping children to develop self-awareness and awareness of others and the wider community. Importantly, the majority agreed that Sharing from the Start has led to improved educational outcomes, and whilst 67% felt that outcomes are less than last year, the positive results are a testament to your hard work in challenging circumstances.

“It posed a beneficial distraction from covid and the limitations the year otherwise brought. It introduced children to ICT in a more comprehensive manner that they would not otherwise have benefited from. It promoted new ideas for educators”.

“Although children were able to see each other virtually - this did not compensate for meeting face to face - the children did enjoy seeing each other and waving at each other on the screen. They enjoyed watching each other's daily routines and listening to other staff telling story or taking the lead etc. They commented on uniforms and resources etc that they could see. The children enjoyed joint physical, music & rhythm sessions and loved joining in activities together virtually.

## Guidance & Support

Your positive feedback about the guidance and support provided by Senior Early Years Specialists (SEYS) is also acknowledged and appreciated.

The SEYS will continue to support you in your shared education journey.

“Our Early Years Specialist goes above and beyond with her support”

“The reaching out of the project personnel has facilitated the success of the project this year and has enabled teachers to grow in confidence in using new technology”

## Reporting

The 2020/21 survey results and report will be available shortly. In the meantime, the results of our 2019/20 research can be found via [ncb.org.uk](http://ncb.org.uk) (including reports, infographic, case studies and videos) highlighting the positive educational and shared outcomes achieved by Sharing from the Start partnerships.

## Contact

If you have any questions about The SEUPB's research, how your information will be used or if you would like to provide further feedback, please contact Sarah McCarthy (SJC consultancy) on [sarah@sjcconsultancy.com](mailto:sarah@sjcconsultancy.com)

“The feedback from teachers is overwhelmingly positive and a testament to their hard work and dedication to cross-community and cross-border collaboration. The findings highlight both educational and reconciliation benefits of sharing between children, teachers, parents and the wider community.”

**Sarah McCarthy, Managing Director SJC Consultancy**







For more information visit [www.sharingfromthestart.org](http://www.sharingfromthestart.org)

Follow us on twitter @SharingStart

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