

Aim and Introduction

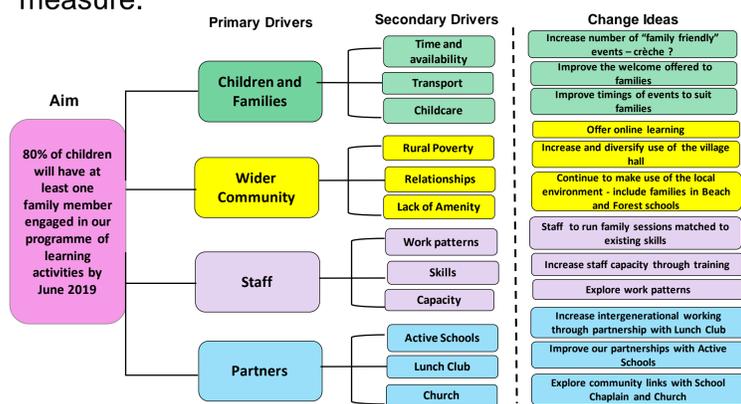
Increasing Parental Engagement and Family Learning

By end of June 2019 80% of children will have a family member who has embarked on at least one quality offer of Family Learning.

In our small rural school and ELC parents and families experienced rural deprivation with a lack of access to transport, services and amenities. Adult education offerings were difficult to access without transport and childcare. School parents had started to engage with us through a programme of after school cookery clubs and drop in curriculum sessions with a planned programme over the session through Pupil Equity Funding. We wanted to engage the remaining 50% of parents and the wider community and improve outcomes for all learners and families in the establishment, by increasing parental engagement so fostering positive attitudes towards lifelong learning and challenging educational disadvantage. This was supported by Family Learning strategy in Argyll and Bute, and nationally within Education Scotland policy and the Family Learning Framework and by the Scottish Government's 13 Goals and 52 Actions for Parental Involvement and Family Learning.

Method

- Staff, pupil and parent responses were collected into a Fishbone Diagram and Force Field Analysis and issues identified.
- A Driver Diagram was created.
- The operational definition of Family Learning was "A programme of quality Family Learning co created by parents and carers working with the establishment".
- Small sample numbers led to the use of a count rather than percentage as an outcome measure.



Drop in for

"A cup of tea with the HT"

- Want to find out more about your child's learning?
 - Want to meet and chat with teachers over a cup of tea?
 - Would you like to play, talk and read with your child?
- All parents and carers are welcome to drop in to school on most Friday afternoons between 1.30 and 3pm. These meetings will be informal and we will talk about what matters to YOU as parents. The first session will be on Friday 21st September followed by Thursday 27th Babies and younger children are invited too!



Process Change

- Parents were invited to engage in Family Learning at Tea with HT sessions.
- Some meetings were rearranged to accommodate work patterns.
- Parents were keen to work with children in creating a Family Learning programme.
- Playdough making sessions, Stay Play and Learn and literacy information sessions were planned for younger children.
- Older children worked together with their families to self evaluate using Education Scotland's How Good is OUR School toolkit.

Results

- The chart shows a run of 8 points above the median, indicating an improvement in parental attendance at drop ins.
- I chose to use a run chart due to the small amount of data available, although a P chart would have shown more information with further PDSAs and numbers.

Conclusions

- The project aims have been partly met, as a count not a percentage measure.
- Data shows increased attendance and a high quality offering.
- Further PDSA cycles and some more qualitative data would have supported my change theory more effectively.

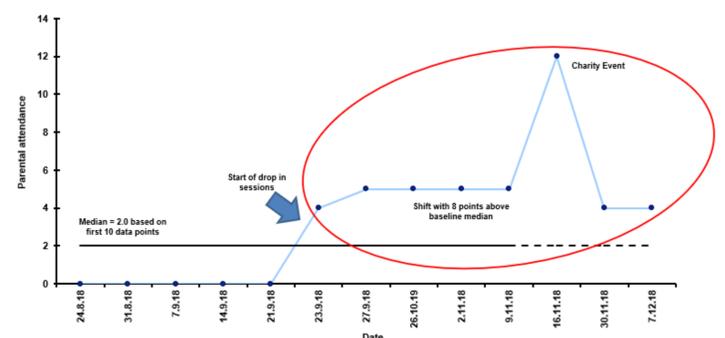
Achievements

- Developing my use of data to drive improvement.
- Self awareness and coaching skills.
- Learning to receive and give effective feedback.

Key Learning Points

- The small sample size and timescale created challenges and I was unable to create a meaningful Shewhart chart.
- At the end of the first phase of testing I took up a new post and my lack of data reflects this.
- I was keen to spread my project into the new setting, but QI analysis showed the importance of digging down to find the real issues. They are not always the treasures we expect to find!

Parental attendance at drop in sessions



Next Steps

- Working with the Argyll and Bute CYPIC group to improve outcomes for children.
- Taking forward Family Learning through effective use of Social Media.

Key Reference Materials

- Argyll and Bute documents- Our Children, Their Future Draft Parental Engagement Strategy, Family Learning in Argyll and Bute.
- Education Scotland and Scottish Government Family Learning materials - 13 Goals and 52 Actions.
- Parent Club Scotland, Bookbug and Play Talk Read- Facebook, Twitter and websites, Play at Home materials, @helenbevan @TheIHI @ihubscot

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