

# Play Rangers

## Quarterly Report Quarter 4, Year 1



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## 1.0 Introduction

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This quarter has been a very successful; we have experienced better weather and an increase in the number of attendances. We have gained new skills such as BTEC Forest School Skills and the majority of the team are now Paediatric First Aid trained.

In this quarter we have also experienced significant changes within the Play Ranger team. The Senior Play Ranger for Staple Hill and Kingswood is now the Play Ranger Manager. Since making these changes the team has become stronger and able to operate more effectively.

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## 2.0 Definitions and Interpretations

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In this report, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions have the following meanings: -

*Regular* A regular is defined as a child or young person who has attended more than half the sessions carried out per month.

*PCSO* Police Community Support Officer

*PR* Play Ranger

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## 3.0 Session Outcomes

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### *All Areas*

Number of sessions carried out this quarter*	113 out of 144
Number of Attendances	1234
Number of Girls	475
Number of Boys	759
Number of Ethnic Groups	3
Number of attendances with Abilities	10
Regular Users	70

\* This does not include sessions carried out in Yate in January

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**Staple Hill Session Outcomes**
**Staple Hill**

Number of Sessions	21		
Sessions cancelled*	6		
Number Attendances	234		
Number of Girls	90		
Number of Boys	144		
Number of Ethnic Groups	2		
Number of attendances with Abilities	0		
Regular Users	15		
Under 5 Yrs	18	11 Yrs	8
6 Yrs	31	12 Yrs	1
7 Yrs	24	13 Yrs	3
8 Yrs	35	14 Yrs	0
9 Yrs	71	15 Yrs	0
10 Yrs	43	Over 15Yrs	
Number of parents/ carers attending the sessions	47		

\*Due to lack of children = 3, staff training = 1, weather = 2

**Schools Break Down**

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Tynings Primary School	183
Staple Hill Primary School	11
Christ Church Primary School	2
Other/ unknown	38

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**Kingswood Session Outcomes**
***Kingswood***

Number of Sessions	21		
Sessions cancelled*	5		
Number Attendances	142		
Number of Girls	38		
Number of Boys	104		
Number of Ethnic Groups	2		
Number of attendances with Abilities	2		
Regular Users	6		
Under 5 Yrs	5	11 Yrs	55
6 Yrs	3	12 Yrs	0
7 Yrs	4	13 Yrs	0
8 Yrs	12	14 Yrs	0
9 Yrs	29	15 Yrs	0
10 Yrs	34	Over 15Yrs	
Number of parents/ carers attending the sessions	31		

\*Due to lack of children = 3, weather = 2

**Schools Break Down**

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
The Park Primary School	112
Courtney Primary School	7
Other/ unknown	23

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**Patchway Session Outcomes**
**Patchway**

Number of Sessions	19		
Sessions cancelled*	7		
Number Attendances	122		
Number of Girls	94		
Number of Boys	28		
Number of Ethnic Groups	3		
Number of attendances with Abilities	2		
Regular Users	6		
Under 5 Yrs	11	11 Yrs	23
6 Yrs	6	12 Yrs	17
7 Yrs	17	13 Yrs	7
8 Yrs	31	14 Yrs	0
9 Yrs	23	15 Yrs	1
10 Yrs	54	Over 15Yrs	
Number of parents/ carers attending the sessions	2		

\*Due to lack of children = 6, illness = 1

**Schools Break Down**

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Calicroft Primary School	103
Coniston Primary School	11
Font Hill Primary	4
Patchway High School	4

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**Filton Session Outcomes**
**Filton**

Number of Sessions	19		
Sessions cancelled*	7		
Number Attendances	190		
Number of Girls	50		
Number of Boys	140		
Number of Ethnic Groups	3		
Number of attendances with Abilities	2		
Regular Users	13		
Under 5 Yrs	11	11 Yrs	23
6 Yrs	6	12 Yrs	17
7 Yrs	17	13 Yrs	7
8 Yrs	31	14 Yrs	0
9 Yrs	23	15 Yrs	1
10 Yrs	54	Over 15Yrs	
Number of parents/ carers attending the sessions	1		

\*Due to lack of children = 2, illness = 2, weather 2

**Schools Break Down**

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Shield Road Primary School	147
Filton High School	18
Monks Park Secondary School	6
Calicroft Primary School	4
Conistion Primary School	1
Filton Hill Primary School	4
Bluebells Nursery	10

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**Yate Session Outcomes**
**Yate**

Number of Sessions*	15		
Sessions cancelled**	4		
Number Attendances	327		
Number of Girls	127		
Number of Boys	200		
Number of Ethnic Groups	2		
Number of attendances with Abilities	3		
Regular Users	20		
Under 5 Yrs	19	11 Yrs	13
6 Yrs	29	12 Yrs	12
7 Yrs	31	13 Yrs	16
8 Yrs	71	14 Yrs	10
9 Yrs	61	15 Yrs	5
10 Yrs	60	Over 15Yrs	
Number of parents/ carers attending the sessions	53		

\* Sessions carried out in January are not included

\*\* Due to weather = 1, unknown = 3

**Schools Break Down**

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Frome Bank Junior School	226
Cranleigh Court Infant School	30
Brimsham Green Secondary School	61
Other/ unknown	10

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**Thornbury Session Outcomes**
**Thornbury**

Number of Sessions	18		
Sessions cancelled*	2		
Number Attendances	219		
Number of Girls	76		
Number of Boys	143		
Number of Ethnic Groups	3		
Number of attendances with Abilities	1		
Regular Users	10		
Under 5 Yrs	28	11 Yrs	6
6 Yrs	21	12 Yrs	12
7 Yrs	14	13 Yrs	9
8 Yrs	24	14 Yrs	8
9 Yrs	32	15 Yrs	0
10 Yrs	46	Over 15Yrs	19
Number of parents/ carers attending the sessions	28		

\*Due to lack of children = 1, illness = 1

**Schools Break Down**

<i>Name of School</i>	<i>Attendances</i>
Gillingstool Primary School	110
The Castle Secondary School	44
Crossways Junior School	10
Crossways Primary School	3
Christ the King Primary School	9
Home educated	4
Other/ unknown	39

**4.0 Every Child Matters Outcomes Framework**

**Every Child Matters Outcome Framework**

Be Healthy

Aim				
Physically Healthy	Mentally and emotionally healthy	Sexually healthy	Healthy lifestyles	Choose not to take illegal drugs
Play Rangers, Children, Young People, Families & Careers Promote Healthy Choices				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Various ball games</li> <li>• Circus Skills</li> <li>• Various bat / racket games</li> <li>• Dancing</li> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• Skipping</li> <li>• Wide games</li> <li>• Team games</li> <li>• Walking</li> <li>• Free Play</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive and trusting relationships between Play Rangers and regular attendees</li> <li>• Communication skills encouraged</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRs open towards questions</li> <li>• PR's promote the idea that male and female can be friends, without being sexually involved, e.g. children in Kingswood aged 11, asking about sexual relationships</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage children to bring a drink to the sessions</li> <li>• Healthy eating when we do outdoor cooking</li> <li>• Encourage children to wash hands when they get home from a session</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Play Rangers have received drug awareness training</li> <li>• Open to answer questions about drugs</li> </ul>

Stay Safe

Aim				
Safe from maltreatment, Neglect, violence and sexual exploitation	Safe from accidental injury and death	Safe from bullying and discrimination	Safe from crime and anti-social behavior in and out of school	Have security, stability and are cared for
Play Rangers, Children, Young People, Families & Careers Provide Safe Environments and Stability				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional PRs attended Child Protection</li> <li>• PRs linking with other services after an incident</li> <li>• PRs observing and being alert</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRs received Pediatric First Aid</li> <li>• Encourage children to stay in the park if being picked up or telling a PR when they are leaving the park</li> <li>• PRs log incidents and pre- injuries of children/ young people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRs discuss bullying and its effect</li> <li>• We take appropriate measures when we discover children/ young people bullying or not behaving acceptably</li> <li>• PRs in contact with inclusion workers and Hate Crime unit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRs liaise with schools</li> <li>• PRs encourage personal safety and good behavior</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRs still provide a consistent service</li> <li>• PRs listen to the problems and advise where they can</li> <li>• PRs are fair, open minded and challenge the child's/ young person's behaviour rather than the individual</li> </ul>

Enjoy and Achieve

Aim				
Ready for school	Attend	Support national & Local education	Achieve personal and social development and enjoy recreation	Enjoy
Play Rangers, Children, Young People, Families & Careers Support Learning				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PRs provide non-formal learning depending on sessions</li> <li>• PRs encourage independence</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sessions are open access, children and young people are free to come and go as they please</li> <li>• We aim for the activities provided to be 80% achievable and 20% challenging to help build self esteem</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two PRs have undertaken a BTEC Forest School Skills level 1</li> <li>• PRs encourage children to attend additional learning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage leadership skills by having different team leaders and let the children/ young people lead the games when possible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FUN</li> <li>• Free choice of play</li> <li>• Arts &amp; Crafts</li> </ul>

Make a Positive Contribution

Aim				
Engage in decision-making and support the community and environment	Engage in law-abiding and positive behavior in and out of school	Develop positive relationships and choose not to bully and discriminate	Develop self-confidence and successfully deal with significant life changes and challenges	Develop enterprising behaviour
Play Rangers, Children, Young People, Families & Careers Promote positive Behaviour				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consult with the children/ young people what they would like to do in the sessions and how they would like to improve in their park</li> <li>Recycling and clearing up the park</li> <li>Children/ young people participated in bulb planting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRs encourage the children/ young people to take responsibility and ownership of their behavior as well as their parks</li> <li>Young people decided to smoke away from others</li> <li>PRs promote positive language use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The PRs encourage children/ young people to negotiate with each other and respect each other</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRs still aim to be good role models</li> <li>PRs help significant life changes by being there for the children/ young people and having life experience</li> <li>PRs help with self confidence by praising the child/ young person effectively</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many of the children/ young people promote the Play Ranger scheme and encourage new people to attend</li> <li>PRs work with several agencies and organization to help develop and improve our service</li> </ul>

Achieve Economic Well-Being

Aim				
Engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school	Ready for employment	Live in decent homes and sustainable communities	Access to transport and material goods	Live in households free from low income
Play Rangers, Children, Young People, Families & Careers Are Supported To Be Economically Active				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The PRs help answer questions about further education, especially in play work and working with young people</li> <li>PRs help children develop and gain the necessary life skills to help for future education and employment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRs promote acceptable risk taking by providing beneficial developmental play</li> <li>PRs understand different learning methods and try to accommodate these needs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage children/ young people to keep green space clean and tidy</li> <li>PRs contacted dog wardens to clear out dog bins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PRs help improve the local facilities and area through consultation and by working with other agencies and organisations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sessions are free to all</li> </ul>

## **5.0 Area Report**

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### **5.1 Kingswood, Kingswood Park**

#### *Area*

Kingswood has had a more successful quarter. There have been an increasing number of attendances; this could be due to several reasons, such as increased promotion via events/ workshops held by the Play Rangers, improved weather conditions or increased knowledge relating to the Play Ranger project. We have built a good, trusting relationship with our regulars and have been able to do activities such as fire building where children experienced outdoor cooking.

#### *Partnership Working*

We have been working with various groups within the area, including 'Friends of Kingswood Park' and Safer and Stronger communities to increase partnership working.

#### *Promotion*

We have been promoting the Play Rangers by putting up posters and handing out leaflets. We have had articles published in several school newsletters and The Chase and Kings Forest Community Project newsletter. Many children attending the Kingswood sessions have also utilised The Play Rangers website to learn about upcoming events and the Play Rangers.

#### *Additional Information*

'Friends of Kingswood Park' kindly donated £1000 to the Play Rangers with the intention it is to be spent on the Kingswood sessions. The proposal for the funding included a Wacky Bicycle workshop, equipment and a Fun Day for all the family.

The 'The Wacky Bicycle' workshop was held in March and the event went extremely well. New children joined as well as our regulars, some even attended some with their grandparents. Since the workshop we have had more children attend our sessions.

An afternoon in Kingswood Park, the regulars were starting to come and join the session. A newspaper was scattered around the park, mainly in the playing area. Five of the regular boys, aged 11, saw this and one of them decided that it was wrong and thought they should pick it up. He initiated the clean up and he got the other boys to help him collect the newspaper and throw it in the rubbish bin. He did raise his voice towards the other boys to get his point across, telling them foxes would die as a result of them eating the newspaper. This is a good example of young people looking after their public space, one can only hope this will continue. This story simply demonstrates not all young boys are careless.

## **5.2 Staple Hill, Page Park**

### *Area*

Staple Hill has had a successful quarter. We have had an increase in the number of regular attendees, the age group is varied and we have built good relationships with the children and young people. We have done activities such as fire building and large team games, which has worked very well as the children and young people have been excellent at communicating and negotiating. We have not yet had any children from the Pendennis area; furthermore consultation work will be carried out with the aim to improve this for the upcoming quarters.

### *Partnership Working*

We have been working with various organisations in Staple Hill; this includes Community Safety Group, Friends of Page Park and Staple Hill Steering Group for Play. We have also been working with Staple Hill regeneration group in discussing issues in Staple Hill such as community facilities and amenities, we hope become key stakeholders in developing action plans for the area.

### *Promotion*

We have been promoting our scheme by putting up posters around the local area and by attending meetings to promote the project. We have also had articles in school newsletters and many children attending the Staple Hill sessions have also utilised The Play Rangers website to learn about upcoming events and the Play Rangers.

### *Additional Information*

We have had no serious incidences in Staple Hill. The majority of children get along and are keen to join in. We have seen a decrease in parents attending the sessions with their children; in addition we have parents who are keen to join in the sessions themselves. During one session a parent of two children expressed concern about the lack of control of a session held on the previous Monday. Also she was concerned about children playing in the sensory garden, climbing trees and stepping in the flowerbeds. It was explained that we are not there as a form of control, we are there to make the children feel safe and let them take risk and control. If we see any children doing harm to each other, we will take them aside and take appropriate actions, however if we do not see it and it is not brought to our attention we cannot do anything.

We have been asked by 'Friends of Page Park' to help with the consultation work regarding a new play area for older children to be developed in the park, however we have not heard when this will be. Furthermore we have also been asked to help establish a bat box and bird nesting area in the park.

### **5.3 Patchway, Gorse Covert**

#### *Area*

Patchway has seen a more successful quarter 4, year 1. With numbers of children rising steadily, and with an increase in regular users, we feel that we have turned a corner in this park. Patchway Town Council generously provided us with bulbs to plant in the park with the children. We have also been utilising the woodland more than ever this quarter, it is the perfect setting for many wide games, and den building activities. We have also had a fire building session, where the children tried their hand at outdoor cooking, which they enjoyed very much.

#### *Partnership Working*

We have been working with several groups in the area, especially the Patchway Youth Club, and we are in the process of organising a family fun day in the summer. We have also been carrying out consultation work for South Gloucestershire Council, regarding what children want to see in Gorse Covert Park. We have continued attending Safer Stronger meetings in Patchway, and have been in contact with S.A.R.I.

#### *Promotion*

We have been promoting sessions in Patchway by handing out leaflets, and putting up posters. We have also had articles published in several school newsletters, and in the Bradley Stoke Matters Publication. Many children attending our Patchway session have also utilised our website to learn about upcoming events.

#### *Additional Information*

Patchway occasionally suffers with a lack of numbers; this can be attributed to parental concerns about the parks location, and the somewhat dicey reputation of the park. The weather at the beginning of the quarter also led to a drop in numbers; we had a very wet and windy January and February.

## **5.4 Filton, Elm Park**

### *Area*

Play Rangers in Elm Park, Filton have had a successful quarter. After a somewhat slow start in January and early February, session numbers picked up during late February and March. We have a core of regular attendees, and have built up positive relationships with local community links. We have targeted the Conygre area, to encourage children from the Church View Flats to attend the sessions, and this has resulted in many new attendees.

### *Partnership Working*

We have been working very closely this quarter with Lois Pryce and the Filton People group, as well as Joy Wright who works in the Revive charity shop, and represents Filton Community Church. We regularly attend the New Filton Youth Group meetings, and through this group we have volunteered to carry out some consultation work for the new Skate Park. Play Rangers have also attended the Safer Stronger Meetings in Filton, and have given a presentation to Filton Town Council regarding the Play Ranger scheme. During the last quarter we have also established strong relations with both Shield Road School, and Monks Park School, as well as both the Filton Police and the Filton Leisure Centre.

### *Promotion*

We have been promoting our scheme by handing out leaflets for Saturday sessions in Filton, as well as by putting up Posters in the local library and around the local area. In a presentation to the Town Council we outlined the work and aims of the Play Rangers, in order to promote the scheme further. We have also had articles in school newsletters, as well as in the Filton People publication.

### *Additional Information*

At the end of March we had an incident during our session that involved two brothers being beaten up by a group of other children. We have taken this incident seriously; subsequently we have contacted both schools where the children attend, and the police, to arrange a meeting to discuss the situation, and how we can prevent such behaviour occurring again. Although it ended the quarter rather negatively, we can take the following positives from it: The Play Rangers were praised by the victim's parents, and witness's parents on how we handled the situation. The incident has meant that the Play Rangers and the local agencies, especially the Leisure Centre and PCSOs will be working more closely in the future.

## **5.5 Yate, Tyndale Park**

### *Area*

Sessions in Yate have been running very well, numbers have been consistently high and with a wide age range. The children in Yate are always enthusiastic and have excellent ideas for different activities that we could do in the park. We continue to consult the children as to what sort of activities they would like to do, making sure the sessions are specifically for them and their needs. At present we are currently looking into making a go-kart.

Yate has a good community spirit which has been proven on several occasions, e.g. each time we have a big session such as a BBQ we get large numbers and a lot of support from parents and carers who are always keen to help and assist in anyway they can. The children also love to get fully involved, for example the older children are always helping the younger children.

### *Partnership Working*

We have been working with Yate WAG. A member of Yate WAG attends most sessions with both her grandchildren and is always spreading the word of the Play Rangers and encouraging new children to come along. As she works for WAGS she is recognised by a lot of the children and young people in Yate. She has had a large influence of the number of attendees in the sessions.

### *Promotion*

We promoted the Saturday session by putting up posters in the park and word of mouth. Many children attending the Yate sessions have also utilised The Play Rangers website to learn about upcoming events and the Play Rangers. During a successful BBQ session, we took the opportunity to promote the Play Rangers by writing report about the session, as well as taking photos and sending them to the Gazette. The Gazette printed an article on the Play Rangers. In addition we have had articles in school newsletters, Broadway School printed the article as an A4 page spread.

### *Additional Information*

During this quarter we have been in contact with the council about the basketball post in the park. It has been a regular occurrence that both footballs and basketballs were going over the fence into the river, whilst the children have been trying to throw the balls into the pole. We enquired to the council if it would be possible to either make the fence higher or to move the pole to another end of the park. We are still awaiting feedback. At the beginning of the quarter there was a drop in numbers due to extreme weather conditions, however the numbers picked up again as the weather improved.

## **5.6 Thornbury, Streamleaze**

### *Area*

At the beginning of the year the number of children and young people attending the sessions was very low, this could be explained by the poor weather conditions. As the weather improved the numbers began to increase. Many of the children's parents have attended and supported the majority of the sessions; some of the parents even join in. There are lots of ruts around the park, which are great for playing wide games such as manhunt. On the surrounding green are, the children like to play football and rounders.

### *Partnership Working*

We have been working with the local police, and PC Whyman came along to one of the sessions. We have also been invited to go back to Thornbury FM to be interviewed again.

### *Promotion*

In February we did an assembly at Gillingstool Primary School. Furthermore we have been sending information to the schools about the Play Ranger project to put in their newsletters.

### *Additional Information*

In the beginning of this quarter we contacted the council about cleaning out the ruts, as the children were finding lots of rubbish within them. Some of the parents also informed us that the council were thinking of cutting down the ruts. We therefore contacted the council about this issue to see if we could get involved as it would be a shame to cut all of them down, as they provide an excellent wide games area. Unfortunately we were not allowed to assist however the ruts were only trimmed rather than cut right down.

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## 6.0 Consultation

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Following up from the assemblies carried out in the local primary schools within each area, and the park analysis; we have been concentrating on the strategy of playground consultation and developing information for parents and carers. We have formulated a questionnaire to improve the Play Rangers scheme (Please see Appendix 1), which we intended to distribute across the areas. In addition we have identified the priority areas where the numbers of attendances could improve. Based on the Senior Play Rangers evaluation these areas have been identified as Patchway and Kingswood. This however changed due to the re-structuring that took place within the Play Ranger team. As we became a member short we felt it was more important to continue the consistency of the session carried out in the parks, therefore the consultation work was compromised. We are confident that within the next quarter we will be able to carry out the playground consultations and analyse the feedback to improve good practice.

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## 7.0 Training

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The Play Ranger team are constantly renewing training and gaining additional skills to provide a good service. Please see below for details of training that took place and who attended within QT4, year 1: -

- Drug Awareness All PRs
- Autistic Spectrum Disorder Introduction Barry, Emma and Matt
- BTEC Forest School Skills BTEC Emma and Clare
- “All Of Us” Exploring the Inclusion Checklist for Settings All PRs bar Ian
- 12 Hour First Aid Course For Child Care All PRs bar Matt and Barry
- South West Play Opportunities Conference All PRs
- Behaviour Management with Conflict Resolution Emma and Clare

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## 8.0 Promotion

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The Play Ranger project is constantly looking for new ways and new places to promote the project. Promotion is an important resource to the success of the project. Please see below for details of promotion. Please note this only includes articles, promotion at larger events and a general overview of how we have promoted the project: -

- The Chase and Kings Forest Community Project Newsletter
- Childrens Playlink Newsletter
- Schools Newsletter
- Extended Schools Conference
- South West Opportunities for Play Article
- Bradley Stoke Matters Publication
- Filton People Publication
- Scrap Store E-bulletin
- The Gazette
- The Play Rangers web page
- Posters and leaflets distributed within the community



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## 9.0 Comments

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The Play Rangers value the comments made by children and young people, parents and others within the community. Comments, both positive and negative, help us to maintain a high-quality service and help us improve the service that we provide. Please see below for comments: -

### Comments from the Children:

*"I like the Play Rangers because they play lot's of games!"* Girl aged 7, Thornbury.

*"I love coming to the park now"* Child, Kingswood

*"You should come to this club it's cool"* Boy aged 11 to another child, Filton.

*"Play Rangers are amazing, awesome, and totally unique, we love them!"* Girl aged 10 Patchway.

*"Play Rangers is a good idea because not many people used to use the park but now the Play Rangers come lots of other children come along too"* Boy aged 8, Yate

*"Why don't you do this on a Friday, then I would be able to come more often"* Boy aged 10, Kingswood.

*"We love getting messy, this is so cool, adults don't have mud fights with us!"* Girl aged, 9 Patchway.

*"We go to gardening club at school, but this is way better because we get to use big spades, and see massive worms"* Girl, aged 10 Patchway.



*"I like you (Clare) and Matt because you push me on the swings all the time"* Girl aged 5, Filton.

*"I think Barry is loud, Nicky is funny and Carrie is weird but they are all fun to play with in the parks with"* Girl aged 8, Yate

*"I didn't realise I was that good at shooting in basketball"* Child, Staple Hill

*"We never get to cook at our BBQs at home"* Boy, aged 10 Patchway.

"Some from my class are in a gang, they don't like Play Rangers they think it's stupid" Girl aged 11, Staple Hill.

**Comments from Parents/ carers:**

"We are new in the area, this is a good way for her to meet new friends" Mother of girl aged 8, Kingswood.

"I forgot I could ride a bike" Grandparent, Kingswood

"I hope I can join in to, it looks like fun" Father of girl aged 6, Staple Hill.

"My two kids love Mondays and Wednesdays. They look forward to those days. They like to meet the Play Rangers... (daughter) calls them Park Rangers. The children especially like the BBQ's and the treasure hunts! Even I join in a game of rounders or football, I enjoy the sessions just as much as the kids do and I help out too" Parent, Thornbury.



"He never runs about like that, he looks shattered" Parent, Kingswood

"Every Monday and Wednesday morning the boys wake up and say, 'Excellent Play Rangers at the park after school'. Play Rangers bring children from different schools together, helping to develop relationships in the community. As a parent school governor I feel the Play Rangers are valuable in encouraging children to play outside and get them away from T.V and games consoles" Parent, Thornbury.

"I can't get him to leave he enjoys it so much" Mother of Boy aged 8, Patchway

"I'm glad that there are finally people working in the area that care about the children, and that want to get involved within the community" Member of Filton People, Filton.

"My Grandchildren love coming after school. My Grandson says, 'It is a happy place.' The Play Rangers have dealt with some older more challenging youngsters very well and are aware of the needs of different age groups. This is an excellent scheme. I would like to see more like it" Grandmother, Yate.



*"Please keep it going it is great for children to mix and learn to do things on their own and as a team" Parent, Thornbury.*

*"It's good that they can play safely in the woods, it's reassuring that you are there with them" Mother of Girl aged 6, Patchway*

*"I have noticed how the children are resolving their issues with each other now that the Play Rangers are here. My Grandson has certainly benefited from the Play Rangers being in the park as his confidence and mobility has improved no ends. Before the Play Rangers came to the park he would only have the mobility and confidence to*

*climb the first level of the spider-climbing frame, now thanks to their encouragement and support he can now nearly climb to the top. I really believe that most of the children that attend the sessions come along to see the Play Rangers. When I passed the park the other day after school nobody was using the park even though the weather was lovely. When the Play Rangers come along children use the park even if it is raining" Grandmother, Yate.*

*"It's a shame about the incident, because what you do looks good. We were saying that earlier, it's good to see children using the park as it should be used" Leisure Centre Manager, Filton.*

*"I hope that the fighting doesn't stop you from coming, it always happens this way in Filton" Mother, Filton.*



## **10.0 Future Development**

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The team will be looking into further funding to support the sessions within the areas. We will also be involved in several large events taking place in the up coming months.

In November there will be a national Play Rangers conference. The manager is currently involved in the planning process for this conference.

Three of the Play Rangers have been signed up to do a CACHE level 2 in Play work, starting September 2007.

As a result of re-structuring within the Play Ranger team and training, which has taken place in this quarter, several of our policies and procedures have been or are in the process of renewal. This includes our 'bad weather' policy, meaning that when the weather is severe we will not attend sessions in the park but stay in the office. As a result this will be more productive, as we have experienced from QT3 and QT4 that when the weather is severe, no children or young people attend the sessions.

## **11.0 Supporting information**

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As mentioned previously in this report, the Play Ranger team has undergone significant changes, resulting in the team becoming stronger and more determined. As Emma Bevan took over as manager, the Senior position for Staple Hill and Kingswood was open for the sessional workers to apply. Three sessional workers applied for the new role as Senior Play Ranger. They had to give a presentation with the title ' Plan a fun Day in Kingswood Park' (this was chosen as we were in the process of planning a Fun Day in Kingswood Park for April) and answer a series of questions. The panel consisted of Jane Spence (Childrens Playlink Manager), Tara Price (Childrens Playlink committee member) and Emma Bevan (Play Ranger Manger). Clare Cammish and Barry Dolan, Senior Play Rangers sat in on the interviews. It was a great learning experience for them to be a part of this process, and the quality of the presentations was exceptional. Ian Masters, the Sessional worker for Staple Hill and Kingswood, got the new position as Senior Play Ranger and will be starting in late April. Carrie Zapata, 'Rotating Ranger' will take over as sessional worker for Staple Hill and Kingswood, however not until a new team member has been appointed. The interviews for a new team member will take place in the near future. We have found a young person who regularly attends the Staple Hill sessions to sit on the panel in the interviews.

During this quarter each PR has been given additional responsibility in addition to their usual tasks. This will enhance the team as we are using the divers skills within the team. Please see blow for details of PR and additional responsibility: -

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<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Additional responsibility</u>
Emma Bevan	Senior PR	Training
Clare Cammish	Senior PR	Press officer
Barry Dolan	Senior PR	Promotion and web page
Ian Masters	Sessional PR	Researcher
Matthew Thorne	Sessional PR	Seeking and sourcing additional Materials
Nicola Burnage	Sessional PR	Purchasing resources and equipment
Carrie Zapata	Sessional PR	Consultation

The majority of sessional workers have been working on other projects relating to play, this includes Crèches, Special needs Play Scheme, Play 4 All in Yate and they are currently working on a team building project to secure additional funding.

Since October the Play Rangers have been holding Saturday sessions; one in each area every month, however this approach was unsuccessful for one reason; Children were not accessing the sessions on Saturdays, despite the promotion. We therefore changed the structure of the Saturday session. We now operate on a 7 weekly rota, allowing a session to run in each park and a Saturday off for all PRs. As a result, it enables us to have more PRs at each individual session, which in turn means that the scope of our activities can be broader. An additional benefit of this rota, is that PRs have a chance to experience the other parks and work with other PRs. The Sessional PRs would take it in turn to organise themes and activities for each block of sessions, giving them the opportunity to lead sessions.

For the first block of sessions an obstacle course with certificates for children that completed it. These sessions are promoted word of mouth, handing out leaflets, hanging up posters and promoting the sessions on the PR website. So far the sessions have been more successful, with equal or more children attending.

**Appendix 1 – Consultation Questionnaire**



**Play Rangers**  
Questionnaire for Parents and Carers



Question 1 What are the ages of your children?

Question 2 Do your children use ..... Park?  
(please write park name here) 

<b>Yes - go to Q3</b>	(Delete as appropriate)
<b>No - go to Q4</b>	

Question 3 How often do your children use the park per week? Circle as appropriate (go to Q5)

<b>1-2 times a week</b>	<b>3 –5 times a week</b>	<b>Most days</b>	<b>Mostly at weekends</b>
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Question 4 Why do your children not use the park? (go to Q8)

Question 5 Do they come to the park alone (*without an adult*) ?

<b>Yes (go to Q8)</b>
<b>No (go to Q6)</b>

Question 6 If not, why don't they access the park alone?

Question 7 What, if any, changes, would allow your children to access the park alone?

Question 8 What would you like to see to being done to increase childrens chances to play safely in the park?

Question 9 Are there any changes you would like to see in the park?  
( I.e. play equipment, layout, security, other?)

Question 10 How many minutes walk do you live from the park?

mins
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Question 11 Were you aware of the Play Rangers scheme?  
(delete as appropriate)

Yes	No
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Question 12 If yes where did you hear about play rangers?

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Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.  
If you have any further comments you would like to make, please do so on the back of this sheet,  
or contact our office on; 01454 865629 or via [www.playrangers.org](http://www.playrangers.org)

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**Appendix 2 – Partnership Working**


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Meeting dates and details of meetings attended in QT4, YR1 by the Play Rangers.

*Kingswood: -*

18.01.07 Kingswood Community Safety Meeting  
 18.01.07 Friends of Kingswood Park  
 01.03.07 Friends of Kingswood Park

*Staple Hill: -*

11.01.07 Friends of Page Park  
 16.01.07 Community Safety Meeting  
 05.02.02 Staple Hill Steering Group for Play  
 20.02.07 Staple Hill Community Safety Meeting  
 15.03.07 Staple Hill Regeneration

*Patchway: -*

22.01.07 Patchway Community Safety Meeting  
 02.03.07 Summer in Patchway, Cat Snooks - Patchway YC  
 05.03.07 Patchway Open Public Meeting

*Filton: -*

09.01.07 Filton Youth Group Meeting  
 18.01.07 Walk Round Filton  
 25.01.07 Pre Project Meeting – Filton  
 30.01.07 Filton Town Council Presentation  
 13.03.07 Filton Youth Group Meeting

*Yate: -*

N/A

*Thornbury: -*

N/A

*Miscellaneous: -*

15.01.07	Youth Service Meeting	Jo, Emma, Clare, Barry
17.01.07	Pauline Barker South Gloucestershire	Clare and Emma
17.01.07	South West Play Ranger Forum	Jo
31.01.07	Children Now- Sustainable Play	Jo
01.02.07	Playwork Partnerships Employers	Jo
13.02.07	Youth Service Presentation	All bar Ian
26.02.07	Play Conference	Barry
07.03.07	Community Sports Network	Carrie and Nicola
13.03.07	Extended Schools Meeting	Emma, Nicola, Carrie
14.03.07	Engage Festival Meeting	Emma
16.03.07	Community Sports Network	Emma, Nicola, Carrie
27.03.07	Sports Development Project Board	Emma and Nicola
28.03.07	South West Play Ranger Forum	Emma

## A Partnership Project Between Childrens Playlink and South Gloucestershire Council

### The Play Ranger Team



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Barry Dolan	Senior Play Ranger Yate & Thornbury
Nicola Burnage	Sessional Play Ranger Yate & Thornbury
Ian Masters	Sessional Play Ranger Staple Hill and Kingswood
Carrie Zapata	Rotating Play Ranger

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