

THE RESPONSE WE HAD WAS VERY POSITIVE, EVERYBODY TOOK A KEEN INTEREST AND WERE HAPPY TO SPEND TIME WITH US. THE CONDENSED VERSION OF THE MOST POPULAR IDEAS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

1ST FAVOURITE IDEA VOTES:

1ST PLACE - TRIM TRAIL

2ND PLACE - THE GARDEN

JOINT 3RD PLACE - THE STAGE AND THE PLAY AREA FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN.

2ND FAVOURITE IDEA VOTES:

1ST PLACE - THE STAGE AREA.

2ND PLACE THE GARDEN AND THE TRIM TRAIL

3RD PLACE - PLAY AREA FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN.

3RD FAVOURITE IDEA VOTES:

1ST PLACE - THE TRIM TRAIL RECEIVED

2ND PLACE – THE GARDEN, THE CLIMBING WALL AND THE GAMES ON THE GROUND

3RD PLACE - THE CLIMBING FRAME.

THEREFORE THE TRIM TRAIL, GARDEN AREA, STAGE AND PLAY AREA FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN ARE COMING OUT ON TOP AS THE MOST DESIRED PIECES OF PLAY EQUIPMENT. THE CLIMBING WALL/FRAME AND GAMES ON THE GROUND, COVERED SEATING AREA AND OUTDOOR SPORTS AREA COME NEXT ON THE LIST WITH THE CHALKBOARD, WALL MOUNTED GAMES AND SANDPIT GAINING THE FEWEST VOTES.

FEEDBACK:

ON TALKING TO PEOPLE SOME OF THE FEEDBACK AND COMMENTS WE RECEIVED INCLUDED:

CONCERN OVER THE MESS/HYGEINE ISSUE WITH THE SANDPIT.

CHALKBOARD - WOULD NEED TO BE VERY LONG IN LENGTH OR COULD BECOME A POTENTIAL AREA OF CONFLICT IF NOT ENOUGH ROOM FOR MORE THAN A COUPLE OF CHILDREN AT A TIME.

WALL MOUNTED GAMES - HOW WELL WOULD THEY WEATHER?

A NUMBER OF PEOPLE ALSO QUESTIONED HOW/WHO WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE GARDEN AREAS.

THERE IS A SIMILAR PLAY AREA FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN AT ANCRUM ROAD SCHOOL TO THE ONE WE SHOWED PICTURES OF AT BLACKNESS ROAD, APPARENTLY THE AREA IS REGULARLY TAPED OFF DUE TO PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE WOOD BECOMING VERY SLIPPERY WHEN WET, A METAL FRAME MAY THEREFORE BE A SAFER OPTION OVER A SOFT SURFACE.

MOST PEOPLE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE BEST FOR THE YOUNGER AND OLDER CHILDREN TO HAVE SEPARATE AREAS WITHIN THE PLAYGROUND TO AVOID ACCIDENTS ETC, ALTHOUGH NOT TO THE POINT OF EXCLUSION, I.E THE P7 SITE IN TOP PLAYGROUND THIS YEAR.

ALOT OF PEOPLE MADE COMMENT THAT THEY REALLY SAW THE POTENTIAL WITH THE STAGE/SEATING AREA IDEA, AND THE COVERED SEATING AREA AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING INSIDE LEARNING AND TEACHING OUTSIDE FOR SMALLER GROUPS, USING THE STAGE AREA TO CONDUCT PRESENTATIONS, TALKS, DEBATES ETC. FOLLOWING ON FROM THAT WAS AN IDEA TO INCORPORATE THE STAGE AREA WITH THE COVERED SEATING AREA, SO EVERYTHING WAS UNDER COVER AND COULD STILL BE USED IN RAINY WEATHER.

I SPOKE WITH A PARENT (CLAIRE BROWN) REGARDING AUTISM SHE GAVE SO VERY INFORMATIVE IDEAS WITH REGARDS TO EXERCISES WHICH ARE BENEFICIAL TO CHILDREN WITH ANUTISM AND HOW THEY HELP CHILDREN TO FOCUS BACK IN THE CLASSROOM AFTER CERTAIN MUSCLE GROUPS/LIMBS HAVE BEEN EXERCISED. (SOMETHING WE SHOULD KEEP IN MIND WHEN PLANNING/THINKING OF THE PLAYGROUND. THE PARENT I SPOKE TO IS TO FORWARD SOME INFO TO ME.FOLLOWING ON FROM THAT LIFF SCHOOL HAVE MADE A SENSORY GARDEN USING VARIOUS TEXTURES THROUGHOUT IN A SPARE AREA OF GROUND, APPARENTLY THE CHILDREN USE THIS AREA ALOT IN PLAYTIMES AND ARE VERY PROUD OF IT. A CONTACT IS MARGARET THROUGH LIFF GARDEN COMMITTEE SHOULD WE WISH TO ASK FURTHER OR ARRANGE A VISIT.

ANOTHER PARENT (STEPHANIE FORBES) INTIMATED A CLOSE RELATIVE HAS JUST GONE THROUGH THE LOTTERY FUNDING APPLICATION AND SHE IS TO FIND OUT FURTHER INFO.THE GYMNASTIC ELEMENT TO THE TRIM TRAIL WAS COMMENTED ON BY MOTE THAN A FEW PARENTS/CARERS WHO SAW THIS AS A POSITIVE ACTIVITY.

ANOTHER PARENT (DEAN ROBERTSON) SPOKE TO ME AT LENGTH REGARDING THE GARDEN ELEMENT OF THE PLAYGROUND, HE MADE THE SUGGESTION THAT STUDENTS OF HIS AT DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE COULD BECOME INVOLVED IN PROJECTS/IDEAS REGARDING THE DESIGN/DEVELOPMENT OF THESE AREAS. HE SUGGESTED MORE OF AN ALLOTMENT TYPE AREA WHEREBY THE TARMAC WAS DUG AWAY IN A CONTAINED AREA AND EARTH PUT DOWN SO THE GROWING OF PLANTS/VEG/FLOWERS COULD BE POSS, ALSO THE COMMUNITY GARDEN GROUP COULD MAYBE COME IN HERE HIS THINKING WAS TO MAKE THE MOST OF LOCAL PEOPLE'S SKILLS TALENTS WHICH ARE READILY AVAILABLE. MR ROBERTSON INTIMATED THAT WE SHOULD KEEP HIM IN MIND AS HE WOULD BE KEEN TO HELP AND BECOME INVOLVED IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.