

Reviews at 2 – Case studies



& Childcare Clubs

Last year I heard at the early year's conference how the integrated reviews at two were to be managed and like many others in the audience was a little sceptical and yet hopeful as for many years I had been advising parents with niggling concerns around their young children, to speak to their health visitor. The feedback from them was not always helpful, mostly due to the enormous workload the Health visitors undertake.

On returning to my setting I rang our local Health visitor team to identify link and spoke to them. I invited her to visit our setting, to meet us, and also to observe a child whose behaviour we were concerned about and whose parents were feeling very worried about. When she came she observed them and then we set up a visit, which she then attended in the child's home to further explore their concerns.

We then had a joint meeting with the child's parents in our setting, and it was really helpful as we all agreed strategies we were using. The Health visitor was very reassuring with the parents explaining everything we were doing at the setting to support the child, with behaviour management, toileting, and working 1 to 1 with them to develop their communication skills. We also all agreed to make a referral to the Early Years Special Education Needs Intervention Team (EYSENIT) and also to the community paediatrician through the GP.

For me, as the setting's manager and SENCO, it was really helpful working together in this way. After this episode I have consulted our Health Visitor on several other occasions with varying concerns around young children. They have in return also contacted me with their own concerns around siblings of children (funded 2 year olds), to establish what we knew of the child and when we could offer them a space. As we were unable to take them we agreed to encourage the parents to visit playgroups as well as talk to them about ways they could develop their skills, when they came to drop off older siblings, who already have a place with us.

We also now wait to receive the postcards to enable Key persons to carry out a two year check with parents, and we ask to see the red book on settling visits so we can note Health visitor points raised. All in all it is early days however I can see the benefits for the children, families, our setting and health teams when we work together in this way and will be aiming to further develop this relationship.

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