



Standards for children having tests, treatments, examinations and interventions

Children Coming to Hospital event April 2023

The event was held at Edge Hill University on the 13th of April and aimed to share the ISupport rights-based standards with families.

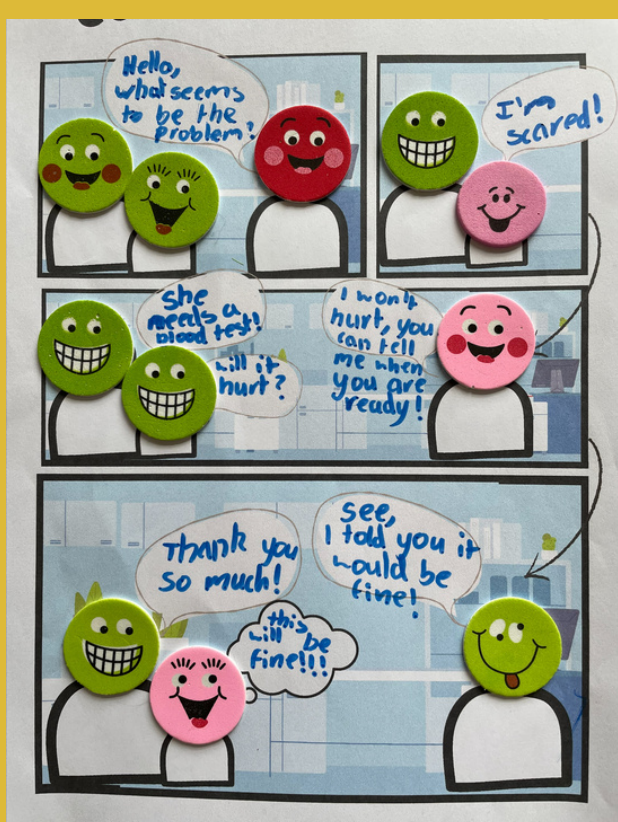
The event was advertised through social media platforms.

When children and young people arrived they were handed a lanyard which had a card for each activity station. When each activity had been completed a sticker was added to the card and when all activities had been completed a certificate and tote bag with some resources were provided. The different activities were planned around the different elements of the standards, with some additional generic activities.



The activities linked to the different elements of the standards included:-

- Thinking about where the children might look for information if they were poorly or due to visit hospital. This involved laminated cards and a podium to 'rate' different sources of information. We also asked parents and children about the best way for information to 'reach' families.
- Thinking about what is best for children by sharing the rights based standards and asking children to 'match up' the images with the different statements of the standards.
- Thinking about how keeping still is important for some procedures. There was a selfie frame and a 'buzzer game' to share ideas about keeping really still. There was also a game for older children to show how X-rays can be blurred if you move.
- Thinking about making choices and decisions using a backpack and laminated items for the children to choose what they could pack before a hospital visit to help them.
- Thinking about what 'good communication' should look like between children and health professionals by designing comic book scenes and colouring in cut out health professionals.



There were also additional play-based activities for different age groups, these included:-

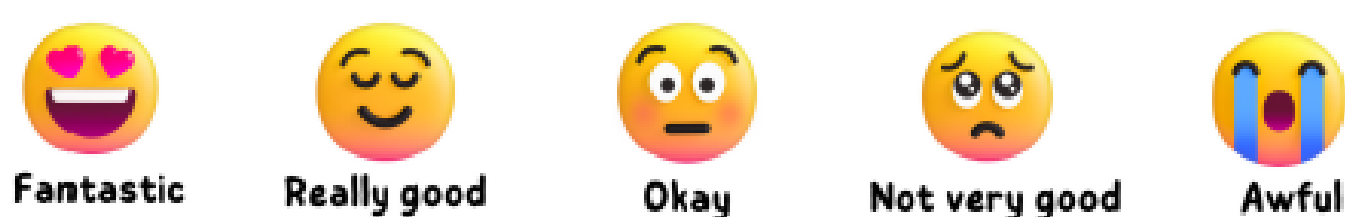
- Playmobile play hospital.
- Pretend fully automated mannequin from the clinical simulation suite.
- Support hospital with dolls who were poorly and needed looking after by administering medicine or bandaging.
- The X-ray and X-ray game to bust some myths about having an X-ray



Twenty-one children aged 5-15 and 10 parents attended the event.

All children and parents were asked to complete a short feedback card before leaving the event which were posted in a red post-box. 18 children and 2 parents completed the feedback forms.

The feedback was very positive with **16 out of the 18 children stating that the event was fantastic** and 2 reporting that they thought it was really good. Both parents who completed the forms stated that they thought the event was fantastic.



When asked **what was the best part of the event**, seven children stated that they had enjoyed the play activities (play hospital, poorly dolls), four had enjoyed the craft and colouring activities the best, three enjoyed the facilitated activities (rucksack and X-ray game) and two enjoyed the pretend patient. One child had enjoyed everything and one of the older children stated that.....

"The communication is outstanding, it gave me hope in the potential of hospital systems"

The two parents stated that the best part of the event was 'watching the children interact with the adults with confidence' and the 'activities'.

We asked the children **what could have made the event better** and most of the seven responses to this question stated 'nothing', one child wanted to see the full clinical stimulation suite and one had wanted talks for parents. The two parents stated that the event would have been improved by 'more people to facilitate the activities' and a 'larger audience',

The children were asked what is **one new thing you have learnt today?** The responses were varied. many of the things learnt were linked to the X-ray game with children stating;

- X-rays can take a while
- That you cannot move on an X-ray as the result will not come through
- X-rays aren't dangerous
- Stay still when you have an X-ray
- You do not have to lie down for an X-ray



"I have learnt not to be afraid of hospitals"

Children reported that they had learnt about 'keeping still', 'staying still' and that 'keeping still is hard'. Children also stated that they had learnt that 'Doctors aren't scary', 'Not to be afraid of hospitals' and 'what is inside a hospital'.

Some children stated that they had learnt 'What care should be like in hospital' and two had learnt 'lots of new things'

A feedback form titled "What did you think about the event today?". At the top left is the Edge Hill University logo and "Faculty of Health, Social Care and Medicine". At the top right is the "ISupport" logo. Below the title is a rating scale with five emoji options: "Fantastic" (smiling face with hearts), "Really good" (smiling face), "Okay" (neutral face), "Not very good" (frowning face), and "Awful" (crying face). Below the scale are two text boxes: "What was the best part of the event?" and "What could have made the event better?". At the bottom left is the question "What is one new thing you have learnt today?" with two horizontal lines for writing. At the bottom right are two radio button options: "I am a child" and "I am a parent/carer", with a pencil icon next to them.

The parents did not answer the 'what have you learnt today' question.

Thank you to all the families who came along to the event.

Please visit our website for more information about the ISupport standards

