

THE BEST START  
*Colin*  
**SureStart**  
IN LIFE



2020-21

ANNUAL  
REPORT

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## CHAIR'S ADDRESS



Theresa Brady, Chairperson



On behalf of the Colin Sure Start Management Committee, I am pleased to present the annual report for 2020-21.



This annual report highlights the work and vital services that the organisation was able to continue to provide in what was a very challenging year for parents and families with young children in Colin. This year was unprecedented in terms of the circumstances that meant many young children not being able to get out to our services in person for much of the year and for parents and carers, isolation during lockdown was particularly challenging. While understandably our numbers of new registrations was down on previous years, the organisation still was able to deliver services to a total of 1208 children, mothers and fathers across the Colin area, as well as 2077 home visits, deliveries or supports on a one-to-one basis, which is actually an increase of 37% on the previous year. We celebrate some of ways the organisation was able to find new approaches and formats to deliver for families and some of the outcomes in this report.

For many of our services, the year which began in April 2020 with a strict lockdown presented many challenges for our organisation, however I am proud of the way our team responded to the changing needs of families quickly with a range of programmes and supports that could still be delivered either remotely or packs delivered to homes. Partnership was crucial in this year in Colin and the strength of these relationships and sense of community was evident in many initiatives to support families with food, fuel or resources needed for young children to thrive provided by working together with CNP, Mount Eagles & Lagmore Community Associations, the SE Health Trust, PHA and local food banks just to name a few. More than ever it was crucial in this

year to be a listening organisation – seeking ways to involve families and children in decisions about how our services were delivered and acting on the feedback and views of those who were engaged in various activities.

Continuing to improve the quality and outcomes of our services is something we remain committed to here at Colin Sure Start, by listening to our families and also using a process of self-reflection. During this year Colin Sure Start was selected by the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) to be one of 10 Sure Start projects to receive an interview to form part of their report on how Sure Starts responded to the Covid-19 pandemic. The report acknowledged the creative ways that Sure Starts found to keep services going, the prompt and timely manner with which services were adapted, and how Speech, Language and Communication support to children and crucial Family Support on a one-to-one basis or through remote means was maintained. This is a positive reflection of the work and commitment of our staff team and reinforces one of the key principles that we strive for: responding to the needs of the community.

I would also like to thank the Management Committee for continuing to provide strategic leadership to the project in challenging times. Members of the Board have once again gone above and beyond the call of duty in supporting the project not just in the regular meetings, but with a range of additional support including advice, recruitment and operating in a safe way during Covid-19 times.



## PROJECT COORDINATOR'S REPORT

“ What is the meaning of resilience? It is a term often discussed in the context of young children's development, as it can have such an impact on how we react, learn and respond to challenging situations. Resilience is the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties, to bounce back, a kind of inner toughness. ”

The 2020/21 year, with all the challenges and changes brought about by the Covid-19 virus required us all to show incredible resilience – our children, as adults, parents and carers and also as an organisation too. Hopefully this booklet will reflect just some of the creative, innovative and positive ways that Colin Sure Start was able to continue to provide services and supports to our children and families in the Colin community.

So much of the early years journey, for children and also parents, is all about social interactions – developing new relationships, sharing with others, interacting and communicating and finding new ways to support our young children's development. So when April 2020 began with us in a strict lockdown, with parents and children cut off from these crucial experiences and staff unable to deliver the normal face-to-face supports and bring children and families together, we had to find new ways to do this – virtually, through individual 'garden gate' visits, through activity packs that could be delivered to homes, and via telephone and remote contact.

One of these new ways was to develop a weekly 'Live Show' which took the place of our Rhythm, Rhyme and Story Time. This involved our staff delivering a weekly programme filmed live and broadcast on Facebook Live with songs, games and interactive content tailored specifically to our audience of parents

and children here in Colin. Parents or Carers were able to leave comments ahead or during the shows with their child's name and age, allowing the presenter to interact directly with children, using their names, involving them in songs and games even though we were apart. Our audience grew steadily and we incorporated new themes, sometimes activity packs were delivered to families homes with books or resources relating to the show for that week meaning children could participate and follow along at home with the story or game. In total during the 2020-21 year we managed over 30 of these live shows, averaging between 200-3000 views per show, with lots of positive feedback from parents and children – of how it kept them connected during the lockdown periods and gave support to children's speech and language development.

Another support that was implemented during this 'Covid' year was our weekly fresh fruit delivery scheme. Without our face-to-face groups, parent and toddlers, and with most early years groups in the area and Nursery schools operating remotely for much of the year, children would not be benefitting from our daily snack of fresh fruit, so we put in place instead a home delivery scheme: each week between 10 – 20 boxes would be delivered to families who would have normally been in our groups or receiving supports. These boxes included fresh fruit, vegetables



and sometimes recipes and ingredients for healthy home cooked meals. In total over 450 of these boxes and parcels were delivered over the year.

A number of our facilitated parent support programmes were reworked by our staff team to be able to deliver these remotely. A great deal of work and thought went into planning and preparation to make these still a success and deliver the messages and still be a support to parents in these new formats. In total, 23 programmes of our Postnatal groups, including GroBrain, Baby Massage, Baby Time and Baby Yoga were delivered in these new ways, reaching 110 children. Our Antenatal and Breastfeeding Support services also found new ways of continuing to reach pregnant mums and dads and engage in supportive programmes even from their own homes – 5 programmes of Antenatal Yoga were delivered remotely to 27 mums, and a total of 34 mums benefitting from our Breastfeeding supports over the year.

Our partnerships with other services in the community proved more important than ever this year, and we continued working together with a range of local partners in the Colin area to provide a joined-up and coordinated service for parents including the Stewartstown Road Health Centre, Speech and Language Therapy services, Barnardos, Save the Children, Colin Neighbourhood Partnership,

Ionad na Fuseoige, Footprints Womens Centre, Lagan Valley Education Project, Colin Family Centre, Lagmore Forum, the Mount Eagles Community Association, the South and West Belfast Food Bank, the local Nursery Schools and many, many more.

Once again as Project Coordinator I would like to acknowledge and thank all the Sure Start staff, the Directors, other agencies and organisations who have worked with Sure Start, and particularly the families who use our services for their engagement and continued support throughout the year.

**Roger**  
**Project Coordinator**







## VISION

Colin Sure Start aims to reach out to families with children aged 0-4 years..... laying foundations, creating opportunities and working in partnership to give every child the best possible start in life.



## MISSION

Our mission is to help each child in the Colin area to reach their full potential by providing support to families and high quality experiences to children during the critical early years from pre-birth up to age 4. We do this by empowering parents and carers with social and educational programmes, home support and opportunities to have positive interactions with their children. We also aim to provide an environment where children are valued and respected, where they can access quality play, and where they develop imagination and skills through interaction with peers.

## OUR IMPACT IN THE COLIN COMMUNITY OUTPUTS

NEW CHILDREN  
REGISTERED 20-21

220

NEW MOTHERS  
REGISTERED 20-21

116

NEW FATHERS  
REGISTERED 20-21

35

ANTENATAL MOTHERS  
REGISTERED 20-21

21

### CHILDREN AND FAMILIES REGISTERED WITHIN SURE START

Number of  
Children  
registered



% uptake of  
Children using  
services



Number of  
Mothers  
registered



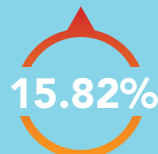
% uptake  
of Mothers  
using services



Number  
of Fathers  
registered



% uptake of  
Fathers using  
services



Number  
of Families  
registered



% uptake of  
Families using  
services



- 6072 Attendances across programmes and activities
- 2077 Home Visits completed
- 1587 One to ones took place
- 4493 Resources distributed to families
- 231 Signpostings
- 134 Individual Zoom Christmas Event attendances
- 95 Attendances at dads services and supports
- 466 Fruit & veg Hampers delivered
- 142 Safety in the Sun Packs supplied

## OUR IMPACT IN THE COLIN COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

### BABY TIME

The Baby Time Programme has increased my confidence to support my baby's development at this stage.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

From attending Baby Time I have an increased knowledge in these areas – speech & language and play skills.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

### GROBRAIN

By participating in GroBrain I feel more supported on my parental journey.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

I am likely to recognise my baby's different cues as a result of the GroBrain programme.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

### LITTLE RAINBOWS

The parental engagement (home resources) aspects of the programme were carefully thought out and supported my child's development.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

The staff knew my child as an individual and catered for their needs.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree



## WEANING WORKSHOP

I have increased my knowledge of weaning and infant nutrition.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

I am likely to recognise the signs of readiness of weaning my baby.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

## FAMILY SUPPORT

The advice or additional support I received from my Family Worker helped improve my family situation.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

I found the family support resources very useful.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

## BABY YOGA

I feel assured that I can perform a Baby Yoga routine at home.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree

I am very likely to continue to practice Baby Yoga at home.

**100%**  
Strongly Agree



Supporting children's speech, language and communication is a key aim in all of our Sure Start programmes and groups even in a pandemic!! The Speech and Language Therapy team continue to work with all members of the Sure Start team and parents to make "Communication Everybody's Business".

Our RRSST went virtual from 25th March 2021. Thank you to all our Sure Start staff who worked so hard each week to bring fun rhymes, songs and books to our screens on Facebook and YouTube. Thank you also to all our boys and girls who joined in at home, singing, dancing and making some crafts to interact with us! We had lots of positive feedback, regular attenders and photos from parents trying out different craft ideas at home!

The Book start corner group had to move online in November and we had lots of fun connecting with children in their own homes. Parents were happy to receive the beautiful book packs to their door and had the opportunity to discover these at home

with their little ones. Dear Zoo is one of our favourites for learning new words!

As part of the Baby Time Group we ran our baby party on Zoom giving out key messages to parents about the importance of singing, talking and playing with their baby to help their baby's brain development. All parents reported learning some new rhymes and activities that they would try out with their babies throughout the day. As a result of the session one parent said: "I am going to sing more rhymes, I know now how to structure the play to have it really fun for them and to engage more".

Our Help Kids Talk partners have been running Speech and Language Awareness webinars, training and keeping Facebook

**"Thank you very much for delivering the Bookstart pack today. M LOVED Dear Zoo and we have read it several times already"**





and Instagram updated with lots of ideas on how to promote children's speech language and communication. Check out Help Kids Talk to get more ideas and advice on how to help your child's speech and language development.

"Thanks so much to all involved. Was great to watch at home with B. She had a ball and knew immediately when the hello song came on what she was in for as she's there every week. Delighted her attention span lasted the whole time also! Keep Safe!"

We kept in touch with our DP23YO children through activity packs provided to each family throughout the year. Gillian also recorded a video with some speech and language top tips which were shared with all our parents via the Seesaw app. When groups opened again we had lots of fun completing LEAP groups and watching

our friends play and learn.

Our SLT team is available to support all Colin Sure Start staff members and any families that have queries and concerns in relation to their child's development. Please feel free to contact us on 02890601417 if we can help. Thanks to Gillian Dyer, Wendy Elliott and most importantly YOU the parents for all your hard work during the year! Remember you are your child's first teacher and everything you do is a language learning opportunity.

**Jennifer McGranahan**  
Speech & Language Therapist

"I love Colin sure starts constant engagement as it still shows they are there supporting me and my daughter. Thank you for constantly being amazing even during these exceptional times...please keep it up"

## DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMME FOR 2-3 YEAR OLDS



The Colin Sure Start Developmental Programme for 2-3 Year Olds is a play based programme that focuses on child led activities which promote development in the 4 key areas – social, emotional, speech & language and exploring and thinking.

At the heart of this programme is the concept that the child's primary carer is their 1st educator and during lockdown, with the introduction of the SeeSaw app and resource packs, allowed for greater communication and support among families and staff. These new ways system of contact to allow parents to contact us if they needed to. Seesaw proved such a vital and useful means of communication with families, so much so, that it is still in use now in the settings.

Zoom calls between the staff and families also took place, this was really beneficially as it helped the children build on that relationship with staff and get to know

them better so that when they returned to the setting there was a sense of familiarity. Resource packs were delivered as well as fruit and veg and health promotion packs by the teams on garden gate visits ensuring families were not missing out on things such as oral health advice just because the setting was closed. Staff were on hand to support the families through these garden visits and try as much as possible to support the parents to build on their child's speech and language, play skills, social, emotional and physical development. It was also vital for families to know that during this time there was a means of support if they needed.

'Thank you so much for everything you have done for wee Brody, he has come on leaps and bounds in the programme and absolutely loved it'

## PLAY2LEARN



Once again, due to overwhelming demand for the DP23YO, we were able to offer spaces on our additional programme Ply2Learn.

Under normal circumstances the aim is to run 3 x 12 week blocks with 10 spaces in each, but unfortunately with lockdown we could not accommodate all these blocks. However, for those families who did attend, staff ensured the families received their resource packs and updates /information through SeeSaw.

Like our DP23YO the teams at the settings had regular contact through SeeSaw

'I just want to say a big thank you for everything you have done for Christine. To see her develop within the year has been fantastic. Without your help I don't think I would have seen so much improvement. It was amazing'



and garden visits, this helped as much as possible to support parents with their child's development and maintain familiarity with the staff, making it easier for their children to return.





## EARLY YEARS SERVICES

The lockdown due to Covid 19 meant changes to how we engaged with the parents of children in our Early Years groups. We were required to find new ways to keep the lines of communication open with families, and one way we did this was through weekly resource packs and the use of technology, such as the SeeSaw app, phone calls and garden gate visits. Resource and activity packs were developed by our Early Years teams that could be done in the home, giving children and parents an activity to do together during those tough weeks of lockdown. Families were encouraged to share photos, videos and comments on SeeSaw, and this gave our staff a way of keeping in close communication with the children in our group and their continued development at home. Seesaw also gave us the opportunity

‘Thank you so much for everything you have done for wee Brody, he has come on leaps and bounds in the programme and absolutely loved it’

to keep parents up to date with the latest information, share messages about learning and provide tailored or individual parental engagement activities. For example a staff member would send a video of herself introducing new Makaton signs to a child with communication difficulties and who was already learning these prior to the 2nd lockdown.

As we emerged from the first lockdown over

the summer and in September of 2020, we began to roll out some face to face programmes again, but these were much changed from as they had been delivered before lockdown – smaller groups, pre-booked and this required our staff team working very hard and being really creative to come up with new ideas and ways that the same experiences for parents and children could still be achieved within the restrictions.



### TALK & TODDLE

Our Talk and Toddle groups were still running during lockdown for 6 week blocks.

We contacted the parents and asked them if they would be happy to receive an activity pack to do at home with their children, all of the families we visited were delighted to receive these. In these packs we had number of activities including, Arts and crafts, Sensory, Nature trails to promote getting outside for their health and wellbeing, and a number of activities to help their child's development. We also included a book and a library membership to encourage language development, a toothbrush and toothpaste to promote oral health.



Once a week we were able to meet with a family on a 1-1 basis in Cara House, with restricted numbers, and following COVID-19 guidelines. This was a chance for the children to get out to engage and interact with their parents and myself. Most of the 1-1's we did sensory/messy play the children has great fun and really enjoyed these sessions.

## TOY LIBRARY LENDING SERVICE

One new idea that came out during this year was our Toy Library Lending service. This was in response to the restrictions due to Covid, but also our commitment to continuing to support parents to give children these

**'I just want to say a big thank you for everything you have done for Christine. To see her develop within the year has been fantastic. Without your help I don't think I would have seen so much improvement. It was amazing'**

sensory and exploratory play experiences in their own homes. The service would deliver a 'tough tray' – a large plastic washable play surface with a low edge around the outside, along with a pack of ingredients to make a sensory play material – play dough, moon sand, oats and hay or others. The resource pack also included a set of toys that could be incorporated into the sensory play material. These sets were delivered out to families and left for a week for them to enjoy and get immersed in these activities at home, and then at the end of the week our staff would collect them, sanitise and restock, and the family would receive the next version – with 4 different options in total. This service

proved a success and gave us a way to continue to support this type of play at home right through lockdown – in fact we are still keeping this popular programme going now!

## BABY TIME

The team during lockdown were fantastic at ensuring families didn't miss out on those fantastic opportunities that they would have previously got at groups etc. During lockdown the team delivered groups via zoom. Baby Time was one of these groups. Each week families received a delivery of resources to their door with everything they needed to participate in the programme. Each week had a different theme and provided opportunities for their babies to explore sensory materials, develop their brain, speech and language and encourage physical development. It was also an opportunity for parents to get that precious 1:1 time with their babies to strengthen that bond and relationship.





The beginning of April 2020 was met with a sense of uncertainty by the family team. An initial 3 weeks closure with the hope of reopening to normality was increasingly unlikely. Our thoughts were about the families of Colin and how we were going to continue to offer family support and facilitated programmes while remaining safe and well. We quickly reacted to virtual provision with our first 4 week online Baby Massage programme in July 2020. This was following extensive training and support using online platforms such as Zoom. Much consideration also had to be given to the content of the facilitated programmes – how could we adapt a programme that historically was face to face! We did it though alongside guidance from the organisations who trained the Family Team – this included GroBrain, Infant Massage and Cook It!

Baby Massage was the first programme delivered via Zoom while working from home! It proved to be very successful.

‘Great. It’s difficult over zoom but staff are doing the best they can in the circumstances, can’t think of any ways to improve I really appreciated the little additional touches of the little gifts in the pack.’

### COOK IT!

During 2020-2021, the Family Team delivered 3 Cook It! Programmes all from a different angle! Maire and Bernie Cook It programme was a weekly LIVE delivery cooking alongside the parents and their children. The timing of this was very important to the team so it was delivered

at lunch time allowing families to prepare their lunch together. Mandy and Patricia approached the second programme from a different angle where families joined



## FAMILY SUPPORT

**'They are amazing at supporting both parents and child'**

This was one of the key services of support for families throughout 2020-2021 was Colin Sure Start Family Support Service. Families were being asked to stay at home; parents were either having to work from home while caring for their children or they were on Furlough Scheme through their work meaning resources were being stretched and having to provide for their families.

them via zoom on a weekly basis for key information on food groups and the family were then sent a link to a video which should them how to make the meal. This approach suited many families as it meant that they could access the video when it suited the family and less pressured. The Final delivery was a Facebook event whereby

**'Very well organised and the trainer was lovely, easy going and made me feel confident and chilled.'**

**'Fantastic! I really enjoyed it and the resources were great. The girls were full of knowledge.'**

Margaret had prepared 10 recipe packs and ingredients and parents contacted the office and they were delivered out to the family home. All approaches worked really well and very much responded to the needs of the family at the time. All ingredients and recipes were provided by Colin Sure Start and the teams delivered them to the family home.

**'Yes! It's great to know you are not alone and there is people out there with knowledge and resources to help you'**

Colin Sure Start team responded quite quickly to the situation with regular telephone contact with families and door step resources for the children. May key statutory services were suspended meaning families that were undergoing referrals for more specialised services for their child's development so the Family Team remained a constant support for them.

Resources were individually created for each family and their child's needs. Colin Sure Start worked very closely alongside Foodbanks and Colin Neighbourhood Partnership and the Colin Response Team providing families with fresh fruit and Veg hampers. Many referrals came from families themselves but also health visiting, Housing Executive and the local hostels.

## ANTENATAL SERVICES



Virtual Delivery of 4 Antenatal Yoga programmes during 2020-2021. This was a very popular programmes for the pregnant mums and allowed them to access services from home. It was important for these mums to link in with other mums as they went through their antenatal journey during a pandemic which had a detrimental impact on maternity services and reduced visiting and attendance at antenatal appointments

'Just wanted to drop you a line to say thank you so much for all the support throughout my pregnancy.'

'Baby arrived safely very late on Friday night weighing 6lb 6oz. Delivery went much smoother than her big sister's had and I really benefited from using the different breathing techniques we had practiced in yoga as well as some of the positions. I gave birth stood upright which is something I would have never considered and used birthing breath rather than pushing - so much more effective! Thank you!!'

## BREASTFEEDING SUPPORT SERVICES

During the early part of 2020, we were unable to provide face to face group support for breastfeeding mums. We changed our delivery to an online format and while uptake was poor we still had mums who joined us online to chat about any breastfeeding challenges or were pregnant and planning to breastfeed. We were still able to provide garden gate visits and telephone support.



groups were introduced again in the latter half of 2020-2021, we were very mindful that mums had missed out so much on peer support during their breastfeeding journey we were very keen that the Breastfeeding Support Group was one of the first groups to return face to face. The group underwent a rigorous COVID risk assessment and moved to larger premises. Attendance was fantastic for that short period of time before resumption again to online delivery.

Our breastpump loan service was busy and a vital service to many mums. When

We were delighted that despite the COVID pandemic and the restrictions

it placed on our organisation we were still able to progress with our work for UNICEF Baby Friendly training, auditing and supporting staff through this rigorous process alongside the other Sure Start

organisations within the South Eastern Trust area. In early 2021, Colin Sure Start successfully passed the Stage 2 application for UNICEF Baby Friendly for Breastfeeding with plans now underway for Stage 3.

## EVENTS

CHRISTMAS!



Christmas Event went VIRTUAL! Children were treated to come along and visit Santa and Mrs Claus at their home in the North Pole and had a sneak peek at the elves working away in the workshop. While this was happening online our very busy elves were driving about Colin making sure that the children received all their goody bags for Christmas!

SUMMER!



Despite restrictions in place, Colin Sure Start were very keen to have Summer provision for the families in Colin. We were unable to provide our ever popular trips to the Beach or Carnfunnock or our Annual Evening Family BBQ. Despite the restrictions Colin Sure Start delivered 10 events throughout July and August 2021! All events were held outside and we

took a chance that the weather would be fine AND IT WAS until the very last day but it didn't dampen any spirits and the show went on. Our format took careful consideration to allow social distancing and our session were limited to 60 mins with a reduced number of families participating at any one time. It was a resounding success!



## ADDITIONAL NEEDS SERVICES

Little rainbows families were continued to be supported via home learning packs delivered to their door, we connected with the parents on seesaw and videos were sent home with guidance and advice for the parents to complete the home activities. Parents were then able to send back photos, videos and comments regarding their child's learning and how they felt the activity went. Fruit and veg hampers were also provided when required. Families also received regular garden gate visits to keep in contact with staff and their child's progress.

Families were contacted weekly via phone calls from their child's key worker and were also offered one to ones in centre with play activities set up for the individual child and their parents.

Play and grow continued to run this year on a one to one basis in a venue and all resources were provided for the family to continue the work at home.

Family support also continued to run as one to ones in venues, garden gate visits and phone call support.

The additional needs team also continued to liaise with external professionals such as SLT, psychology etc through the period of time.

'Honestly can't thank all you girls enough. You've given Nathan the best start to his academic life. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You're all amazing x x x'

'Thank you so much Rebecca - You have been amazing and I can't thank you and the girls enough for hopefully preparing odhran for nursery. I wish I could take you with him x'



'Thank you girls Stephen loved the short time he was there and we loved watching the changes in him and of course the pictures every Monday and Tuesday night they were the highlight of our week thank you and have a lovely summer Stephen will miss you'



## FATHERS SERVICES



Throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic work continued supporting families, and services for fathers had to adjust themselves to allow for us to continue to provide programmes and activities to dads and kids in a manner that abided by the regulations, were productive, and fun.

All of our activities were outdoors, based in the local area and utilizing local resources which are plentiful, and allowed for us to build and maintain friendships, give fathers and children an outlet for all of the stresses relating to lockdown and social-distancing to be overcome, and maintain sound physical, mental, and emotional health. These activities included forest walks and activities which focused on engaging in outdoor pursuits, like games which asked the children to identify trees by the shapes of their leaves, as well as dam building in the Colin River, den building in the woods, and growing food at the local allotment. We also provided many arts and craft materials so that children could spend time with dad learning to draw and make whatever their imaginations could come up with, and we particularly focused on reading and, and Colin Sure Start made a point of providing as

many books and reading materials for dads as we could so that the relationship between father and child could be strengthened by that night time story where dad reads and the story becomes something which they both enjoy, feeding the child's imagination, and giving them a great start in developing better vocabularies and literacy skills, all of which aid them in their educational journeys. We also made sure that health and nutrition was not going to suffer as a result of Covid-19 or any government policies which could have an adverse impact on health outcomes, and we provide many fruit and veg parcels to our dads, as well as online cooking classes aimed at making simple but tasty and nutritious meals for all they family with the ingredients which we delivered to the door.

All in all we helped in the communal response to the challenge of Covid-19, helping to strengthen the community and withstand many of the more damaging effects that the last year and a half have had on us, and while the pandemic is not over yet, we continue to support those families with programmes that allow for a better range of activities.

## PARENT FEEDBACK



'My daughter Portia was enrolled in the Colin Sure Start 2 Year Old Programme whilst in the pandemic. This could have been detrimental for her progress, however, the Colin Sure Start team did a great job of keeping in touch.

We had weekly activities to try at home and there was constant engagement on the SeeSaw App. Portia did not easily forget her friends and school and it encouraged me as a parent to do daily activity and post to the app. Portia would love to show her teachers her activities and home learning and I had support if needed.

When school reopened with social distancing, I felt as a parent that my child was in a safe environment with the measures put in place. The efforts of Colin Sure Start team to come and do door step visits was great and helped build relationships with Portia.

My daughter has made an easy transition to nursery and I fully believe her confidence has stemmed from the 2 Year Old Programme and their efforts in such a difficult year.'

Martina Clarke



**SAFETY  
IN THE  
SUN**

**60  
PACKS  
DELIVERED**



## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

THERESA  
BRADY

CHAIR

DIARMUID  
MOORE

DIRECTOR

LYNDA  
VLADANU

ADVISOR

CARLA  
FRASER

SECRETARY

JUDITH  
SEARLE

TREASURER

ISOBEL  
LOUGHRAN

DIRECTOR

FLORENCE  
DAVIDSON

DIRECTOR

MERVYN  
REID

DIRECTOR

DAVID  
SIMPSON

DIRECTOR

## SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

ROGER  
WINTER

PROJECT  
COORDINATOR

CAROLINE  
MCAREAVEY

FINANCE  
MANAGER

JULIE ANNE  
MURPHY

FAMILY  
COORDINATOR

MANDI  
RAFFERTY

PROJECT SUPPORT  
COORDINATOR

MARGARET  
CLINTON

LEAD FAMILY  
WORKER

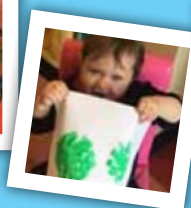
KELLY  
WATSON

EARLY LEARNING  
COORDINATOR



## AUDITORS

LYNN DRAKE  
& CO.



## FUNDED PARTNERS

In 2017 Colin Sure Start funded a number of local partners to help us to deliver core services in the Colin area. We would like to thank these partners for their continued

cooperation and dedication in delivering early year's services in the Colin vicinity.

### THESE FUNDED PARTNERS ARE:

#### IONAD NA FUISEOIGE

Colin Sure Start provided funding to assist Ionad Na Fuisioige to deliver a Developmental Programme for 2 to 3 Year Olds and also morning and afternoon crèche services.

#### SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST – SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY SERVICE

Colin Sure Start provided funding to assist the SEHSCT in delivering various early year's speech & language services in the Colin area. These services included the early identification, intervention and prevention screening in the Developmental Programme for 2 to 3 Years Olds, Rhythm Rhyme and Storytime and other early years services.

#### BARNARDO'S TRAVELLERS EARLY YEAR'S SERVICE

Colin Sure Start provided funding to assist Barnardo's in delivering their Traveller Early Year's Services in the area. This included one to one support, sessional day care, parent programmes and media initiative training / cultural awareness sessions to nursery units.



## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- IONAD NA FUISEOIGE
- ST LUKE'S FAMILY CENTRE
- BARNARDOS TRAVELLERS AND REFUGEE SUPPORT SERVICE
- CHILDCARE PARTNERSHIP
- SOUTH EASTERN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE TRUST
- DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
- CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH
- LAGMORE COMMUNITY FORUM
- COLIN NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
- NICVA
- EARLY YEARS THE ORGANISATION
- SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION & LIBRARY BOARD
- ORTUS
- FAMILY SUPPORT HUB
- CHILDREN IN NORTHERN IRELAND
- CHURCH OF THE VINEYARD FOOD BANK
- SOUTH / WEST BELFAST FOOD BANK
- LAGANVALLEY EDUCATION PROJECT
- CASH FOR KIDS
- PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY
- SAVE THE CHILDREN
- MOUNT EAGLES COMMUNITY FORUM
- FOOTPRINTS WOMEN'S CENTRE
- BUSY BEE FRUIT & VEG
- BELFAST CITY COUNCIL
- HOUSING EXECUTIVE
- SUPERVALU
- AMH – NEW COLIN COUNSELLING
- COLIN FAMILY CENTRE
- BROOKE LEISURE CENTRE
- PARENTING NI
- LYNN DRAKE ACCOUNTANTS
- COLIN EARLY PARENTING PROGRAMME
- DEPAUL, IRELAND
- COLIN COVID RESPONSE TEAM
- TARA THOMPSON – LITTLE YOGA HOUSE
- PATRICIA MCSHANE – TRANQUIL RETREAT
- NIKKI MCMILLEN – TRIBAL FITNESS
- LEEANNE MARLEY ZUMBA
- LOUISE BERRY - FIRST AID
- LEANNE DALY - AQUABABES
- MARIA MCALEESE INCREDIBLE YEARS









'Fantastic; we all had a really great time. The event was really well thought out and prepared and all the staff were friendly and worked hard to make social distancing work. The medals and trophies were a lovely touch too'.



'More events like these please! Lockdown has been so hard on families but today's event really cheered us all up and showed us how it can work. Brilliant to get the kids outside and be active'.

'Very well organised, felt like a safe environment given the situation we see in and really fantastic to be able to enjoy some activity with the kids again'.

'Amazing, you made little girl very happy. wonderful and magical'.



'Thank you so much, so happy logan got to see santa, amazing...use guys are so good, I really appreciate all you do , merry Christmas from myself and logan'.

'Absolutely fabulous event. My daughter loved it. Merry Christmas'.



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