

“ have your say,
**hear my
voice**”



**a consultation with deaf children
& their families in Sunderland.**

Saturday 28th February 2009




**Sunderland
City Council**

a report for deaf children & young people in Sunderland

what happened?

Sunderland City Council and the National Deaf Children's Society ran a family fun day for deaf children and young people, to find out what they wanted to do in their free time. Boxer Tony Jeffries, TV's Denise Robertson and Sunderland Football Club mascots Samson and Delilah came too.

This report is to let deaf children and young people in Sunderland know what happened and what will happen next. A longer report for adults and a DVD have also been produced.



who came?

23 deaf children and young people came with their families.

what was there to do?

The stuff to do just for fun was

- Football
- Arts and crafts
- Bouncy castle
- Mural art
- Dance mats
- Fit for Fun games
- Swimming
- Using computers on the Liaze bus



We found out what deaf children and young people wanted to do in their free time by

- Small groups talking to Tyron Woolfe from the National Deaf Children's Society
- Using maps of Sunderland to say what is good and bad
- Voting using hand-held key pads
- Being interviewed on camera like in the Big Brother diary room

There were stalls where parents and children could get useful information.

what did deaf children & young people tell us?

Deaf children and young people told us they want...

- More deaf friends
- To meet more deaf role models
- Deaf and hearing friends
- Better acoustics in the places they go
- Clubs with deaf friends of a similar age
- More deaf awareness to get rid of ignorance

“I like people to accept me for who I am, and don't talk about my hearing.”

what did mams and dads say?

Mams and dads said they want...

- More support at school for their deaf child
- Public awareness of deafness and sign language
- More information about things for deaf kids to do
- More t-loops in community buildings



what will happen now?

This was the first event at which deaf children and young people had been asked what they want.

To make sure people listen, and that it makes a difference we will:

- Give the report to the people in the Council who make decisions about children and young people
- Make sure the messages from the day are included in the Council's plans and strategies
- Ask someone in the Council to be in charge of services for deaf children and young people



thanks...

Aiming High for Disabled Children in Sunderland and NDCS would like to thank

- The deaf children and their families who came along and had fun
- All the staff and volunteers who helped make the day a success



want to know more?

For a copy of the full report and DVD contact:

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