

Good Day Programme Advocacy for All

report about making services
better in Kent



Hadlow
Pottery



Advocacy for All

Advocacy is when one person helps another person talk about their needs and wishes.



An **advocate** is someone who helps you **speak up** for yourself. They make sure other people **listen** to what you say and respect your **rights**.

Advocacy for All helps people in **Kent** when they need an **advocate**.



the Good Day Programme

The **Good Day Programme** is run by **Kent County Council**.

It works with different services in Kent to make sure they are **helping** people get **involved** in the community and have **jobs**.

The **Good Day Programme** is working with **Hadlow Pottery**.

Hadlow Pottery already makes **money** from **selling** things. The **Good Day Programme** thinks **Hadlow Pottery** might work **better** if it was **run** by someone else and **not** by the **council**.



the consultation



A consultation is when you find out what someone thinks about something.



The **Good Day Programme** wanted to find out what was **good** and **bad** about **Hadlow Pottery**.

They wanted to **find out** what people thought about **changing** who **runs** the service.



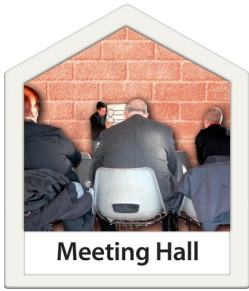
They asked **Advocacy for All** to help them find out.



The consultation **started** on **23 May** 2012.

It **ended** on **22 August** 2012.

what we did



- 1) we went to **meetings** to meet the **students** who use the services and their parents and find out about the **consultation**
- 2) we **met** students **on their own** to talk about how they felt about the changes
- 3) we helped the students have a **meeting** with students from **Yeoman's Landscape Services** to hear how their **service changed**
- 4) we **met** students **on their own** again to talk more about how they felt about the changes

The students also did some work with **Maggie**, a member of **staff** at **Hadlow Pottery**. This was **before** we started working with the students. They talked about things they want to **change**.

Hadlow Pottery
about this report

5

15

Hadlow Pottery



- **Hadlow Pottery** is based at **Court Lane** in Hadlow
- it used to be at the Bean Day Centre in **Rusthall**, then at the **Pagoda** in Tunbridge Wells
- it is open **3 days** a week and **24 students** work there
- the students make **pottery** items from **start to finish**
- the students go to **craft fairs** to **sell** the pottery



Who did the work?



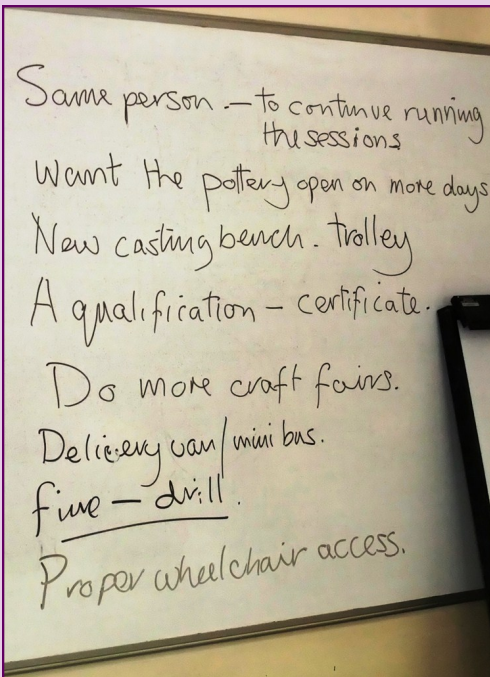
Chérie Reid

Read more about the consultation in the introduction, page 2.

group work with Maggie



- the **students** who go to the Pottery on a **Thursday** did some work with **Maggie**
- they talked about things they want to **change**
- they said they want the **same person** to carry on **running** the **sessions**
- they want:
 - ◆ the Pottery **open on more days**
 - ◆ new **equipment**
 - ◆ **qualifications and certificates**
 - ◆ more **craft fairs**
 - ◆ a **delivery van** or minibus
 - ◆ a **fire drill**
 - ◆ proper access for **wheelchairs**



group meeting



- **14 students** went to the first **meeting** about the consultation
- **Chérie** went to the meeting to introduce herself. She asked the students if they wanted to have a **workshop** or meet her **on their own**.
They all wanted **1 to 1 meetings**
- at the group meeting, the **students** were very **worried** about the **changes**
- **some students** thought **Hadlow Pottery** was **closing**. **Chérie** explained that it was **not closing**
- students said they **liked working** at the **Pottery**. They talked about how it has **changed**, and how it could change in the **future**

visit from Yeoman's Landscape Services



- **3 students** came from **Yeoman's Landscape Services** to talk about what happened when their **service changed**
- **10 students** from **Hadlow Pottery** were at the meeting
- **Yeoman's students** said they were **worried** too before their service changed
- **Yeoman's students** talked about helping to **choose** who **runs** their service now

1 to 1 meetings



- **23 students** had **1 to 1 meetings** with **Chérie** in May, June and July. **19 students** met Chérie **2 times**.
- **Chérie** helped them fill in a **form** about the **Pottery** and their **views** about the **changes**

what people said



about the work

- students **like different parts** of the **work** and **selling** the products
- **lots** of the **students** like **painting** the pots and **some** like **tidying up**
- **1 student** said it is **boring** painting cups every day

I love painting and I do like fettling and making things look nice

I like pouring, cutting things, making it

I like my jobs and work

painting, sharpening all the pencils, mopping the floor



about training

- **some students** said they would like to get **certificates** in **pottery**

it teaches me how to do it. I can learn new skills

I would like a qualification to help me to be confident

I wouldn't mind doing NVQs in pottery

what people said



about staff

- **most students** want to **keep working** with **Maggie**
- **2 students** talked about how **Maggie** deals with **stress**
- **some students** want **more staff** to help Maggie

I like Maggie. Maggie knows my ability very well and that is why we want Maggie to stay

will Maggie still be working here?

when I'm upset, Maggie will take me to a quiet place and talk to me. When other people are stressed, sometimes Maggie makes it worse, and the people get more stressed. She doesn't mean to. I think it only happened once

I think there should be 2 staff here

she's got time to work with us all. She makes everybody clear what she says. Everyone can understand and that

Maggie keeps getting worried – getting all stressed over it [the changes]. It upsets people

what people said



about having friends

- **most** people talked about other students as their **friends**
- **lots of students** come to the Pottery to **see** their **friends**

mixing with other people

I like being a team and having our own organisation

I like coming here all the time to see my friends

we get on very well together



about having a paid job

- **12 students** want to have a **job**, now or in the future
- **lots** of the **students** want to work at **Hadlow Pottery**
- students talked about **training** and **work experience**

I wouldn't mind doing that here

I used to get paid at Rusthall

I would like to work in a sweet shop

what people said



about where the service is

- students said **Court Lane** is much **better** than **Rusthall** or the **Pagoda**
- **6 students** would like the Pottery to be **bigger**
- **2 students** like **travelling** to the Pottery **on their own**
- **some students** said the **toilets** need to be **better** for **wheelchairs**

we like it how it is, with more room and that

more people and bigger

people who got wheelchairs can't get through the disabled toilet door

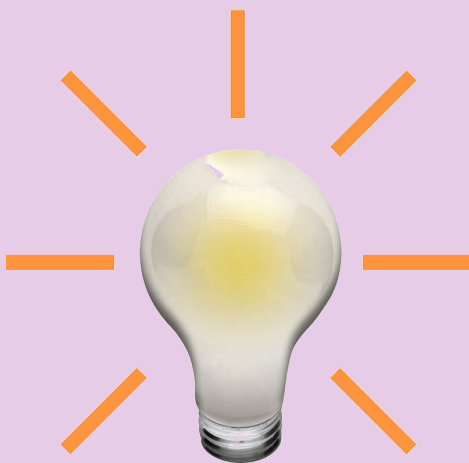
it's extremely autism-friendly

I come on the bus on my own. I like that

I like walking up here

just try and find a way of making the toilet better because it's useless

what people said



about changing Hadlow Pottery

- **12 students** were **worried** about **changes** to the Pottery
- people were **worried** about **different things**
- **11 students** said they would be **less worried** if **Maggie stayed**
- students had **ideas** about how the **Pottery** could be **different**

I thought at first the pottery was going to shut down

if we don't know who it is, we are not going to feel very comfortable

more craft fairs

better equipment, new casting bench

new kettles, new tables, new chairs

I feel worried about vulnerable people... who not understand

yes to a new company. A good idea

make sure that Maggie keeps the job

what people said



about choosing who runs Hadlow Pottery

- **3 students** said they want to help **choose** who runs **Hadlow Pottery**
- **14 students** said they want to be **involved** in any **changes**
- **4 students** were **not sure**

I want to help choose a new company – making sure they are nice and sociable

I'd like to go on the interview panel

if I am going to be involved in it, where is that going to be – the meeting?

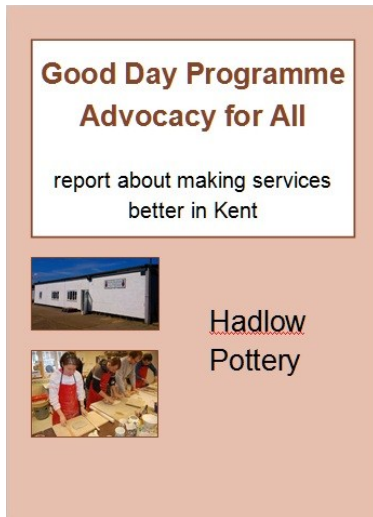
I would like to see the new company, but I'm not sure I would be able to answer the questions that they would ask me

about this report



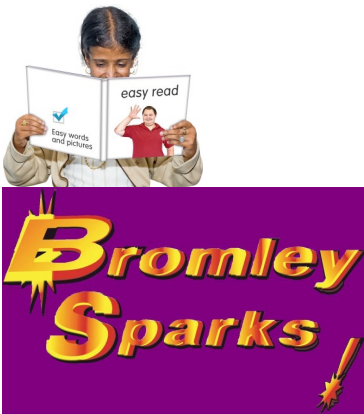
Everyone had a chance to say what they think at **group meetings** and in **private meetings**.

Students said it was **good** to **talk** about the **service** where they work.



This **report** shows their **views** and **ideas** about the services **now** and in the **future**.

This **easy read report** was put together by **Bromley Sparks Easy Read Group**.



The **Bromley Sparks Easy Read Group** are a group of people with a **learning difficulty** who make sure things are **easy** to **understand**.

