

Children's Comments about the Ssf Workshops

"I loved Callum"

"I liked the games"

"The lady was funny and nice"

"I liked the film best"

"When Shona got asked to play the kissing game she was told not to tell, but she did, she told her mum."

"Sheila was good at teaching."

"Safe strong and freeeeeeeeee!"

"Strangers are people we don't know"

"Mummy and daddy keep me safe"

"We don't walk away on our own"

"We don't talk to people we don't know"

"I like the safe strong and free. I liked when my friend played the boy running away from the stranger."

"I liked the songs we sang."

"I liked the songs too, they help us to know what to do."

"I liked the video about the stranger."

"I liked playing with the puppets."

"I loved the puppets."

"We liked the lady – she was fun and made us laugh."

"I liked the books we got."

"A stranger is someone you don't know"

"I liked the puppets"

"I enjoyed the story on the computer"

"I know how to do a special yell with the spider across my tummy"

"A bully is someone who hurts you or makes you sad all the time"

"The puppets were good"

"Don't talk to strangers"

"Say no"

"I liked when I needed to stand up and see how close people were."

"I liked running away"

“Saying no when someone pushes you.”

Nursery Staff Comments

Positive

“After asking a good while after, most of them could tell me something relevant. Good sessions for the children and it obviously works as the children can remember it well. Keep up the good work.”

“We thought Sheila was great with the children. The workshops were very good and got the point across to the children about staying safe.”

“All staff felt Sheila was very good at keeping the children focused and involved in all the workshops. The children enjoyed the hands-on involvement it was particularly helpful to the more reserved children. We feel these workshops are an important part of the pre-school curriculum and hope they continue in the future.”

“We found (the project worker) warmer and more engaging than any other Ssf visitor for years.”

“I feel that overall the children’s recall of what they had learned was good, particularly on the third week which makes me think that a slightly longer programme would be even more beneficial. The use of the puppets, in particular the children’s use of the puppets, helped to reinforce the important messages of Ssf. Shonda helped to make the children comfortable and was very patient with the children when trying to get them to recall what they had learned. During each session, the children seemed confident when they were discussing the workshops and chatted each time about the messages from the workshops with nursery staff and parents. It is very important that the messages of Ssf are introduced early in the children’s lives so they are familiar/comfortable with these messages.”

“I feel all the workshops benefited the children greatly. They all engaged very well and retained the information. There were signs, within the nursery setting, that the children were implementing what they had learned also. The content of the workshops was all relevant and delivered in a way that was fun for the children and helped them take in the information. I feel the success of the workshops had a lot to do with Shonda’s delivery of the workshop. She was very good with the children and responded well with those who had struggled. The children enjoyed the puppet work. This definitely reinforced the work Shonda had done when she role played with the puppets. They also liked taking home the story books. This gave the children the chance to discuss at home. Overall the workshops were enjoyed by all and I feel are very important to the children’s development.”

“The course has really benefited the children to a great extent. It is a course which is interesting and keeps children’s attention. It is put across in a lively way and good interpretation with puppets, video etc.”

“They all knew to tell their mums if they were sad, worried, frightened”

“Michelle is absolutely brilliant with the kids and covers a sensitive topic in a way that children can deal with. She has a lovely manner that children respond well to.”

“We received an email about the possible Ssf training... we would be VERY interested if you were able to offer any training, either on Saturdays or at night in the future!”

“Another amazing and successful workshop where the children were very focused over three weeks. Cannot express strongly enough how good Yvonne is capturing their attention and getting the importance of these workshops over. If we can manage to get one small seed planted in their minds to protect them from any future harm, we are doing our jobs right. In our opinion this should definitely be funded and refreshed in P1,3 and 7, rather than a free school meal. Well done Yvonne and her team.”

“The parents who came back at the end of workshop three were very impressed, felt their children looked happy and confident. Well done Yvonne!”

“Excellent delivered sessions.”

“Our children in the group really enjoyed the workshops and seemed to have gained a lot from the workshops and still talk very highly of them nearly three weeks later.”

“I personally feel that this is a very good project as these three topics are hard to discuss with children in a way that you don’t scare them, though Ssf does it in such a nice way.”

“During discussions with the children at the workshop, Sheila was able to reign in the children if they went off track and delivered the message in a fun yet effective way. Her workshop was enjoyed by staff and children alike.”

Neutral

“At nursery we feel we can reinforce the messages but would like the workshops earlier in the school term so we have more opportunities to reinforce the messages.”

“We were interested to find a teaching resource pack online, it would be good if Ssf could promote this useful resource to all preschool centres.”

“I feel the workshop would be better a little earlier in the term so the children would benefit more by the nursery staff reinforcing the messages. As the last term is so busy, especially towards the end of term and the children have a lot of different activities there is not a lot of time for spending on these topics.”

“We are sorry to learn that the Ssf visits to P1s are discontinued, as the reinforcement of the workshops’ message is valuable. We find that our 4/5 year olds this year have absorbed, and will probably remember, the various messages, but this is not always the case.”

“Messages which are proper in towns and cities are not always appropriate for us. For example, we rely on tourists in many businesses, and tend to be open and friendly with strangers.”

Negative

“For the first time in our experience of the Ssf workshops two parents reported that their children had been upset, distressed, worried in relation to the ‘stranger danger’ workshop.”

“Please could we be informed of any changes regarding workshops – we were not told about the change of venue.”