

Balloon Project

Information, Activities and Events for deaf and hard of hearing children.



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Hello parents & welcome...

I'm Robyn Mowat and I am the Children's development worker, which means I organise social events for deaf & hard of hearing children (& their sibling) and their parents all over Cumbria. We come together each month trying new things, having fun and building friendships.

About the project:

The project has been running since 2004 and is known as the **balloon project** because that is what the children christened in. It is a jointly developed and managed by Carlisle and Eden Deaf Children's society and DeafVision (Formerly Cumbria Deaf Association) and is aimed at children who are deaf or hard of hearing between. We try to work closely with the teachers of the deaf, children's societies and other children's services.

The aims of the project from the *children's* perspective are to:

- ≈ "Go on trips...."
- ≈ "Play together..."
- ≈ "Have some fun with my friends"
- ≈ "Go to new places and do new things"

Professionally we aim to:

- ≈ Empower children to determine the direction of the project activities
- ≈ Assist in building peer support for each other.
- ≈ Build confidence and increase social interaction
- ≈ Liaise with other agencies and professionals when necessary.
- ≈ Support independent living and confidence with technological devices.

For you.

The project has been running for over 6 years and there are over 100 families already involved all over Cumbria. The service will now be extended to other families all over Cumbria and in Dumfries and Galloway who have a deaf or hearing impaired child. Most monthly activities are either **free** or subsidised and are varied depended on what the children and parents are showing interest in. There are also weekend and residential trips offered through out the year, that are hugely sought after, excellent fun and a great success.

Please come along and join in the activities and if you are interested in receiving information free of commitments please fill in the attached consent for. Enjoy the news letters and call me directly on 01539 773131 or visit the website, www.deafvision.co.uk, if you any enquiries.

Look forward to hearing from you

Robyn Mowat