

# Champions for Change

Space is a fantastic resource and we look forward to collaborating with them regularly in future, both as Champions for Change venues and as a source of engagement and feedback from the children and young people.

We intend to implement the group's ambitions, firstly by generating interest among the special schools in Devon. We have invited professionals from the Council for Disabled Children to join our May meeting – they will be delivering a focus group with our champions, and will share the findings of the focus group with us and with the Department for Education – we are hopeful that the opportunity to have feedback heard at a national level will encourage more schools to attend this meeting and future meetings. With the size of Devon making it difficult to hold regular meetings in at a venue convenient for everyone, we intend to work towards a 'hub' structure, with schools in different parts of the county running Champions for Change meetings in their areas, feeding into whole-Devon meetings which will be held on a less frequent basis.

The champions raised the idea of going to visit schools around Devon, which we think is intend to implement, in collaboration with schools, attending their school councils, potentially speaking at assemblies, and even nominating Champions for Change 'inspectors,' who will go out and observe the way schools are supporting the voice of SEND children and giving their approval or suggesting improvements, eventually leading to Champions for Change becoming an ethos which runs throughout all schools' SEND decision making.

We have had meetings with DIAS who are keen to collaborate with us and to guide young people who have come to them for advice to towards Champions for Change if they appear keen to engage and to have their voice heard, so we are hopeful that this will be a fruitful partnership.