

Dear Headteachers,

Community Learning Services sits within Portsmouth City Council's Economy, Planning and Transport Directorate and is funded by the Department for Education. Based at The Learning Place in North End, we have proudly delivered *free* Family Learning workshops and courses to Portsmouth schools for the past 20 years.

In recent years, we have observed a significant decline in school engagement with Family Learning. We fully recognise the increasing pressures schools are facing—particularly around behaviour, staffing, parental engagement and space—and we appreciate how challenging it can be to prioritise additional activity.

However, this reduced take-up is now raising concerns about the long-term viability of the service. If engagement continues at the current level, we may be forced to consider withdrawing the offer altogether, which would be a huge loss for the families who benefit most.

Before making any decisions, we are keen to understand your perspective. We would be grateful for:

- Any comments or feedback you can share on the challenges or barriers affecting engagement
- Your view on whether Family Learning continues to meet the needs of your school community
- Whether you would be willing to meet so we can explore, collectively, how best to strengthen participation and ensure that families continue to access this support

Our aim is to work in partnership with schools to maintain a service that has proven value for learners, parents and wider school communities.

Thank you for your time and continued support.

Kind regards,

Sue Parkes, Operational lead.

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