

Multigenerational use of Children's Centres: ensuring an economically viable future

LEYF APPROACH





Connecting the Generations Across time
and Communities

Leading The Way Forward



“Winning leaders create and use future stories to help people break away from the familiar present and venture boldly ahead to create a better future. They not only describe the future in terms that are personal and compelling but they help others understand and why and what they must do to get there. Without being able to do that, would be leaders never get the sustained effort required to move their goal”.

Noel Tichy in *The Leadership Engine*

The LEYF model: Triple Bottom Line

- Socially inclusive
- Socially responsible
- Socially entrepreneurial



- **Delivers** financially viable childcare social enterprise
- **Invests** profits for social mission and triple bottom line
- **Builds** multigenerational community connections
- **Offers** staff development and involvement

Applying LEYF Measurement Model

(Measurement Analysis Rating Impact Indicators MARII)

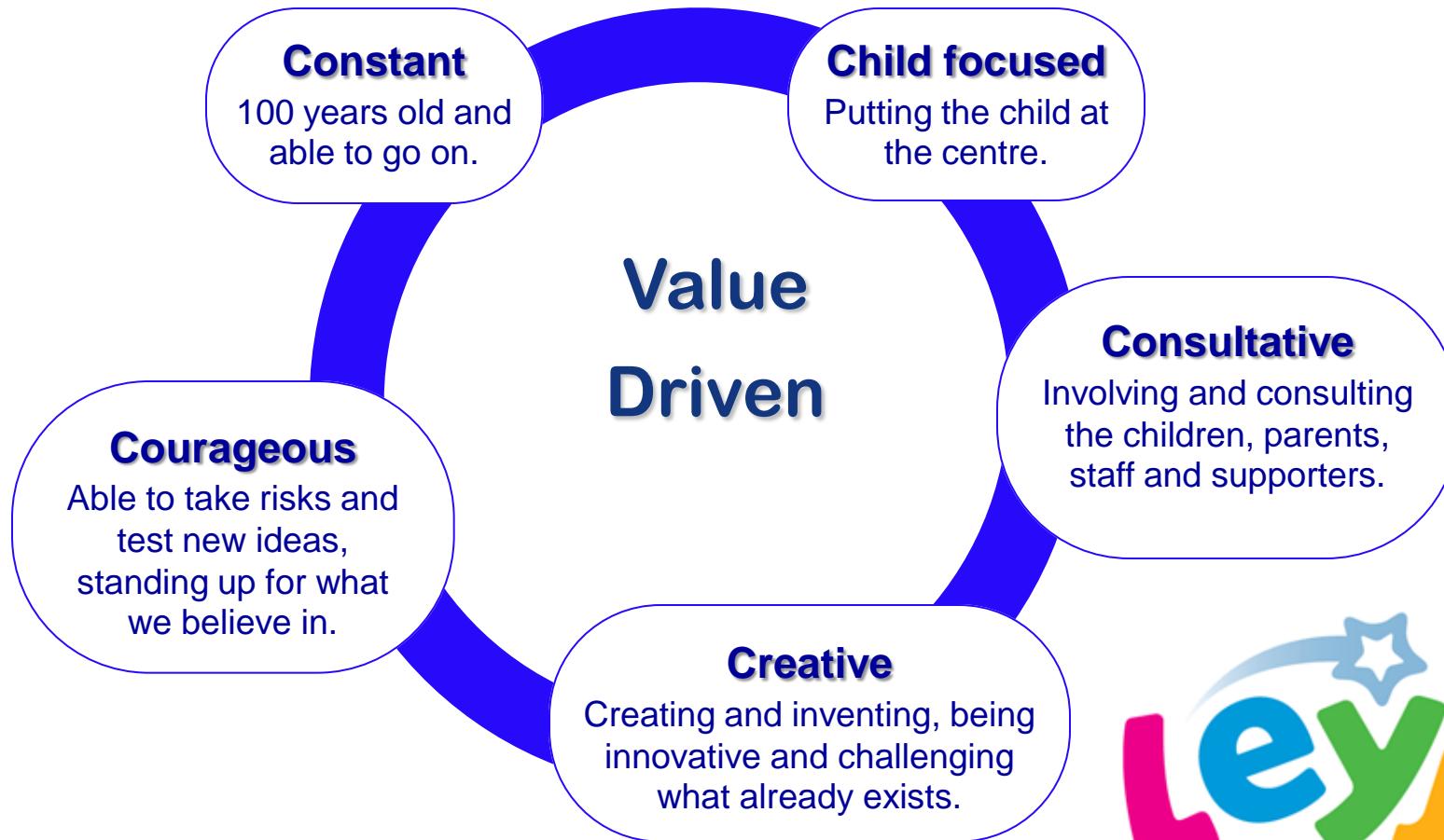


Input: Resources to run activity
(money / people/facilities / equipment)

Output: Direct and tangible products from the activity
(number of people training / occupancy)

Outcome: Changes that take place in stakeholders as a result of the activities
(++ parents into work / reduced dependence on benefit)

Impact: Are the outcomes adjusted for deadweight + displacement
(effects of what would have happened anyway + the extent to which the outcomes displace other orgs)



Can Children's Centres address poverty and disadvantage? Maybe ...



If we

- Frame our conversation within the concept of early intervention
 - Break the intergenerational cycle of underachievement and enable our communities to heal themselves over time
 - Reject the idea that we are broken and that government, academic and statutory organisations can fix us.
 - Create social networks using a shared language and give many more people the opportunity to contribute so that by bonding and bridging we create trust, openness and reciprocity.
 - Influence policy and campaign to make legislation and government policy work for us such as accessing community assets.
 - Show the benefit of everything we do through case studies, throughput data and longer term outcomes and the overall social return on any investment (SROI)
 - Understand the concept of social capital and how Children's Centres can help create social capital which gives everyone a better
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The Place of the Child

- “*...Child development is powerfully shaped by social capital...trust, networks and norms of reciprocity within a child's family, school, peer groups and larger community have wide ranging effects on the child's opportunities and choices and , hence behaviour and development”*

Putnam (2000) pg 296



Step One

The Multi-Generational Leyf Centre

Put Children Centres at the heart of the Public Space. They must be more **local** and more **visible**. To do this Children's Centres have to unlock their doors and be really welcome many more people. Children's Centres must be multi- generational.



Step Two

Every centre must have a plan to support children under five to achieve their potential. This will be mainstream and targeted.

There needs to be a link to a local community nursery and access to a good quality crèche.

The service needs to be led by an experienced, capable and highly qualified leader who likes and understands young children and their role in the community.



Step Three

Every Children Centre needs a Parent's College providing a range of creative activities and approved parenting programmes designed to meet the challenges and isolation parents face helping build confidence to parent in a complex world.



Step Four

The Children's Centre needs to be the place where **public health** is visible and available to as many people in the community as possible.

Communication services must be central.



Step Five

Its not just about small children



Children aged 5 to 18 years need a level of additional after school support which should be a feature of the Children's Centre.

Programmes can include art, creativity, sport, reading recovery and mentoring and support; involving the community in the life of the centre.



Step Six

Apprentices



A programme of training for those young people who are **not in education, employment or training**. This can be led by local voluntary and statutory services working together. Links with local employers are critical to give local young people a chance to get placements, work experience and employment.



Step Seven

The Children's Centre needs to be a Time bank.

Many local people and parents want to share and exchange their skills in return for other nursery, community opportunities or just donate them to the community pot.

Time Bank



Step Eight

A community organiser and a community action team based in a Children's Centre prepared to draw people in to use and run a range of services.

We need people who are interested in giving to their locality to be able to contribute at every level.

Community Organiser



Step Nine

Can it be a Business?



Ask local people and organisations to become members of their local Children's Centres for a nominal fee so they have a share in something and create a CC local network.



Step Ten

A Children's Centre needs to operate as a **community resource**, connecting people of all ages and stages across the local community through a network of activities and support. It must be **social and enterprising** and open its doors and use the collective intelligence to developing and implementing new ways of thinking and doing.

Community Resource



Children Centres: Weaving Connections



- *We say a person is a person through other persons. We don't come fully informed into the world. We learn how to think, how to walk, how to speak, how to behave, indeed how to be human from other human beings. We need other human beings in order to be human. We are made for togetherness, we are made for family, for fellowship, to exist in a tender network of interdependence... This is how you have Ubuntu - you care, you are hospitable, you're gentle, you're compassionate and concerned.*

Archbishop Desmond Tutu quoted in Battle, 1997 pg 65

Come and Visit

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