



Dingley's  
Promise

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THE BEST START FOR EVERY CHILD

# Who are Dingley's Promise?

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- Established 1983 by parents of children with SEND in Reading
- Three early years settings delivering learning through play
- Family support programme
- Training and consultancy to build wider inclusion
- Using specialist early intervention to build wider inclusion
- Clear pathways into the mainstream (unlike special school nurseries)
- Entry exit pathway

# COVID-19 Response - families

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- closed Centres 18<sup>th</sup> March
- urgent switch to remote support
- high parent engagement
- reopened 1<sup>st</sup> June – now 50%
- family survey



# COVID-19 response - children

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- Continuity
- Structure
- Sense of belonging
- June 1<sup>st</sup> return patterns



# COVID-19 response - professionals

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- Referral partnerships
- Delivery partnerships
- Service partnerships
- Transitions work
- Training offer



# Impact on families

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<b>Area of decline</b>	<b>Lockdown effects DP</b>	<b>DCP National</b>	<b>Our impact</b>
Mental health of family	45%	70-80%	25-35%
Mental health of child	50%	70-80%	20-30%
Learning and communication	30%	86%	56%
Disability or condition	20%	64%	44%

**76% of the DCP respondents said all support for their family stopped during lockdown.**



# Lessons learnt for wider inclusion

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- some children thrived
- higher need children fell further behind
- huge appetite for EY SEND CPD
- online benefits
- value of meaningful partnerships





# Thank you

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Contact to discuss DP model, sharing of strategies, access to training,  
access to advice and consultancy to build early years inclusion.