

WANNA DANCE?

DECEMBER 22 UPDATE

How might we dance together...?

The WannaDance artists in residence have been busy working in Lightfoot Lodge and Canal Street centres on Mondays throughout Autumn.

We're over half-way through the first set of sessions with Adam, John & Elaine from Lightfoot Lodge and Marcos & Vicky from Canal Street and we'd like to share some images and initial responses from staff and family members about the project.

Its been great to get the project underway and settle in to the routines of working across both the centres.

One to one working has enabled each person's movement preferences to be supported and celebrated. In the sessions there has been opportunity:

- for dancing, singing, playing musical instruments,
- to choose what we do, when we start, finish, if you want stay or leave.
- to work non-verbally
- for moving, listening, sensing, choosing, asking...
- to listen to our favourite music and discover new music
- to lead, to follow, to join together in dancing...

Individual record sheets completed by Vivo staff/dance artist have captured observations from each session providing records of experience. These will be reviewed by staff and dance artists at the end of the phase, drawing out individual movement preferences to support ongoing understanding of how each individual likes to dance and therefore, how we can create and support further opportunities to dance together.

"John is more engaged in this session than the group dance sessions – the one to one works for him. Really good to see him choosing instruments, making decisions. He's responding really well to the engagement.

He loves it on a Monday!"



"It's great for him to have the choice...the sessions get him engaged – he's laughing and screaming. I think changes in his alertness levels are because of these sessions...he's developed every week showing good eye contact and recall."

"Seeing Vicky with Jane reminds me...has shown me how to interact, keep V engaged, go with her natural responses.

I realise I'm trained in giving support...and because her needs are complex, a lot of time is spent in learning and doing that.

When V is lying down, we tend to think she wants to rest, to sleep but now I think that maybe we can still be with her, interact when and as she needs."



"She lights up when she hears Jane walk into Canal Street!"



"He seemed to love the speed of people moving, it seemed to excite him...the wind, the air moving in the space."

What is Adam getting from the session?

..."enjoyment, interaction - moments when it feels like he really gets you. Great to see him having 'moments' of working with others. I can see the incremental development within the sessions across the weeks."

What are you gaining from the sessions?

"I'm getting more involved...I engage with him in a multisensory way and I'm learning off Jane with the aim of taking it forwards, maybe running a session by myself."



"Marcus really gets excited about the session with Jane. He really uses his energy – gets slightly out of breath and gets hot. He loves the singing too...picking up on the words of the songs."





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DANCE & PEOPLE WITH PIMD

NEXT STEPS:

WHAT

Staff Training

Complete Phase 1
Sessions

Prepare for and start
phase 2 sessions.

Creative project

WHEN

4 x Lightfoot Lodge/Canal Street (30th Jan & 12th Jun)
2 x All Vivo Care Staff/PMLD Dance Network Group
(Dates TBC May & Sept)

Last session: Monday 23rd Jan
Staff 1:1 training: Monday 30th Jan

Start date: Getting to know new partners 20th, 27th
Feb and 6th Mar.
Sessions start 13th Mar.

July 2023



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FURTHER INFORMATION

The Wanna Dance Programme is a partnership between Cheshire Dance, Vivo Care Choices and University of Central Lancashire.

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