

Acacia Court (formerly Kiln Court) Stakeholder Meeting
Thursday 17th July 2025, 2pm
MS Teams Meeting

Agencies and Services in Attendees
KCC, UAS Children's Service
KCC, Prevent
FTC, Councillor
Kent Police
Faversham Benefice of Churches

Kent County Council (KCC) – Faversham Town Council (FTC) - Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UAS Children)

Introduction
Introductions made and agenda shared.
Overview
<p>A KCC representative stated that the centre is Ofsted registered and regulated to provide support to children. The representative noted that KCC has responsibility for the children in its care, and that the centre was established following a court ruling involving KCC. Staff at the centre support children's educational and health needs, and are available on site at all times to provide necessary care.</p> <p>They explained that the children are fully engaged with the centre and contribute to the community. They are taught to understand UK laws and culture. There is a structure to each day for the children, which includes education and activities. They often participate in football and boxing. The children are at the centre for a very short period of time, but during that time they are given lots of opportunities to join in with activities and the community. Furthermore, they mentioned it has been good for the children to be able to participate in the community as it helps them integrate.</p> <p>The children recently attended the Faversham quiz trail and the festival of transport. They've also been participating in football games; it has been highly valuable for the children.</p> <p>The children also visit various centres throughout Kent. Recently, they attended a centre to participate in cricket activities, and they also visit a leisure centre for swimming sessions with children from other centres.</p> <p>The children are allocated a social worker who support the children during this process. The centre works closely with Kent Fire services and police. They acknowledged that when there has been missing person cases, the police have been excellent in their assistance.</p> <p>A KCC representative emphasised that the centre serves as a welcoming environment for children, providing them with a sense of belonging during their stay after a lengthy journey.</p> <p>A KCC representative said they coordinate with the local school and maintain open communication for any potential issues. The centre values being welcomed into the community.</p>
Stakeholder Feedback
<p>A KCC representative requested feedback from the stakeholder members.</p> <p>A Faversham benefice representative thanked another for their work, noting initial community concerns but no</p>

negative feedback since opening. They also mentioned running a mobile youth and children's games resource that visits sites to set up activities.

A representative from the FTC Council reported that, after conducting door-to-door outreach in the area, there have been no significant concerns raised regarding the centre. Although one resident initially expressed apprehension, they have since acknowledged that the centre does not negatively affect the community. The representative also enquired about the centre's collaboration with local health services and whether it maintains an active partnership with the West Community Centre.

A KCC representative stated that they work with health services, but the limited duration of children's stays has resulted in few instances where GP appointments are required. When medical needs arise, the walk-in centre has addressed them as needed.

A KCC representative stated that the children attend the gym at the West Community Centre, where they have received a warm welcome.

A Kent Police representative said they will keep visiting the centre as working with the children has gone well. Their visits have been well received, and community feedback so far has been entirely positive.

A KCC Prevent representative said there have been no negative issues. They were initially involved due to potential tensions, but concerns have lessened since the centre opened.

A Kent Police representative stated that there are no concerns at this time.

A KCC representative said the community has been very supportive. At the quiz trail, people offered children strawberries and assistance. The experience was welcoming overall. Although a local school had concerns recently, they were addressed by working with the headteacher.

A KCC representative stated that meetings will continue, but attendees can reach out at any time.

AOB

None raised