



MovementWorks
DDM Programme at
Marjorie McClure

Charlotte O'Brien
L. B. of Bromley
Winter 2014



MovementWorks DDM Programme at Marjorie McClure

During my visits to Marjorie McClure, I sometimes observe MovementWorks Developmental Dance sessions as some of the children with a visual impairment attend and it gives me an opportunity to see them in a different setting, away from the classroom, where they have a greater opportunity to move about. This allows me to assess how well they are able to use their vision and coordinate their movements to navigate around spaces, people and objects. It allows the child to develop their physical coordination and visual skills - such as scanning. In addition, it supports listening skills, partner and team working, expression and sense of self.

For example, I observed improvement in a child's physical coordination and scanning skills. During an observation in November 2014, M*** was careful to place her feet for an activity involving visual scanning but found it tricky to maintain.

Ali continued to work on the same activity over a number of weeks. I revisited the class towards the end of term. Gentle music was playing to encourage the children to do the task slowly and carefully. I watched M*** ...carefully place each foot... She did this very well and was more able to do the task than when I observed her in November. A different floor-based activity highlighted that M*** was good at spotting things in front of her and to her left but tended not to notice the things on her right-hand side. She mainly reached with her left hand.

Further Observations:

J***** during dance was listening carefully to the instructions and moved forward to stand closer to Ali. He joined in with the actions, watching carefully and copying the moves with his arms, legs and body. He really enjoyed the session.

I*** likes the dance class and is very vocal. She uses her walking frame, but will let go and stand without the frame's support to wave her arms and do the actions. She watches the teacher Ali, do the actions and copies as best she can. I*** remembered some of the actions from last week and called out the names.

The children engage with the activities and really enjoy them. I*** especially shows her enthusiasm by waving her arms and vocalising her enjoyment.

Charlotte O'Brien

Sensory Support Service Vision Team

Sensory Support Service | Education, Care and Health Services

London Borough of Bromley



MovementWorks The Basement Studio, 86 Adelaide Avenue, Brockley, London. SE4 1YR
T: 020 8692 3745 | M: 07956 569 455 | E: info@movementworks.org | W: www.movementworks.org
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