

Highams Park Community Plan – Ideas List

Education and Childcare & Facilities for Young People (ECY)

Description	Comments
New uses for existing buildings (e.g. Budgens / Regal)	
School (Primary & Secondary)	
Nursery for disabled children	
Under 5 and young children activities (e.g. Soft play)	What about older children? Needs parking
School Places	
Review catchment for school admissions to prioritise local children	Cut-off distance for good schools getting smaller and smaller
More school places required	Due to further housing developments. Both Primary & Secondary mentioned. Handsworth Primary reception has 65 children.
Reserve Focus site for new school/sports/youth centre	If no money to build now, reserve site for the future.
Activities	
Youth Club for older children	Funding of youth clubs is easier, eg up to £30,000 can be bid for to employ a youth worker for 3 years --“London Federation of Youth Clubs”. “Awards for everyone” – entry level funding. Explore use of Mallinsons. Lessons should be learned from other clubs currently open (all Saints & Aldriche Way) and also those that have recently closed due to lack of kids (Winchester Rd Methodist).
Involve pupils from school to find out their ideas for street scene	
Create some “Play streets”	As in some other London boroughs
Talk to children in local schools about responsible dog ownership.	
Working with the Schools to educate children about keeping their environment tidy and litter free.	

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Create some 'play streets' like other boroughs have done	
Skate Park	On Focus site or nearby
New play park	On Focus site or nearby
Skating\boating\cafe in the park	
Indoor climbing frame	
Education to prevent drug & alcohol use	
Indoor play centre for younger children	
Extend library hours and facilities offered for young people	
Homework clubs in library	
Adult Education centre to replace Friday Hill	Assume this means provision of the service in another existing building.
Children's centre and outreach services	Assume this means provision of the service in another existing building.
Use Mallinson's Scout Hut in forest for youth facilities	Has been offered free. Emphasis is youth activities in and around forest (rather than venue).
Could Signal Box (when refurbished) have a use for young people?	
Playground Facilities	
Bigger play area in park more equipment for:	
	Under 5s
	Under 10s
	Teenagers
	Perhaps an Adventure Playground
Scooter park like the one in Lloyds Park	
More facilities for teenagers, ie sports/skate park	
Refurbish existing playgrounds	Vincent Road has been done, The Highams Park hasn't
More Playgrounds	
Better well maintained playground in The Park	

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More things for older children	
Adventure playground in forest between lake and park	Assault course within the forested areas was raised as an idea for older children
Upgrade Highams Park play area, very old, no toilets or cafe – Like Lloyd Park	
Bigger play park	
The park need “play” facilities for teenagers, like a skate park similar to Lloyd Park, a BMX	
Make more use Highams Park for older children	It was raised that local teenagers should be consulted through HP school to raise ideas for the facilities that they would like to see in the area. (Competitions could be held with small prizes for the young people to come up with ideas)
See model –replicate traffic area in Lordship Recreational Ground. Great for all ages! Bikes, street safety, unique, preserve green space.	
Other	
Young people’s local “council”	
Community soft play area	Group were very keen on this idea and thought there was a need and demand for a soft play activity area - Potentially as part of the development of the Tesco site or focus site
Fun activities for kids	
Revamp Vincent Park Children’s play area	Done
Something for 7+ kids	To be linked in with the youth clubs
Youth clubs	Schools could be consulted on what clubs already in place - Youth clubs being run in Church halls

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Youth projects	
Local child care advertisement	
Educate children in sensible eating habits.	There are too many fast food shops in Highams Park. Children need to be educated not to use them.
Library under 5 group/ Reading challenge for children	
Communicate about HP Plan by asking schools to hand out letters to pupils for parents	
Take forward idea of finding out what children in area want via a survey / focus groups.	Schools are interested in supporting this