

## **d:two Family Centre**

In the aftermath of the closure of the Henley Children's Centre in March 2017, the d:two Family Centre based at d:two and under the charitable umbrella of Henley Baptist Church, opened to children and families on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

The project outcomes so far have far exceeded our expectations specifically in the area in the number of families attending and the enthusiasm of those who have visited the centre. There have been more than 5000 recorded visits by children and their parents/carers in the first year of opening.

Families can enjoy the soft play equipment and many other varied activities including water and sand play, hunting for dinosaur bones and craft work. The garden space has evolved into an outdoor classroom with lots of learning opportunities through play. Feedback from families has been extremely positive.

Funding to help set up the centre in it's new format, came from a substantial one-off grant set-up grant, from Oxfordshire County Council alongside a £10,000 grant from Henley Town Council. The Trustees of Henley Baptist Church and Family Centre Staff are very grateful for the support from the Town Council.

There is a charge made to families using the centre and it is hoped that, with a further grant pledged by the Town Council and some additional fundraising efforts, the project will be sustainable for many years to come.

**Karen Ashton | d:two Family Centre Manager**

**March 2018**