

CHFANs PROJECTS

00:00:05:10	<p>AMY:</p> <p>Care Home, Friends and Neighbours, Intergenerational linking is an exciting national social action project that is linking young people aged 5 to 14 with older people living in care homes.</p>
00:00:15:15	<p>We have 11 projects located across England working to form sustainable connections between schools, youth groups and care homes.</p>
00:00:24:15	<p>When the projects first began, younger and older people started by introducing themselves and getting to know each other.</p>
00:00:39:08	<p>For some children it was the first time they had spoken to someone living in a care home.</p>
00:00:44:16	<p>Since then there have been so many creative ways that generations have linked together, despite the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic. There have been lots of shared artwork projects, words of wisdom exchanges, poetry performances and storytelling sessions over video call.</p>
00:01:16:08	<p>Others have been able to meet up in person for gift exchanges, theatre performances, exercise classes and even nail painting.</p>
00:01:37:04	<p>Nature activities have inspired some links, including planting bulbs and trees.</p>
00:01:54:22	<p>LOUISE:</p> <p>This project has been so important. It has helped to build community links and new friendships much needed after the pandemic, as well as boosting younger and older people's sense of wellbeing.</p>
00:02:06:09	<p>Both generations have learned new skills and young people have begun what we hope will be a long term commitment to social action and caring for others.</p>
00:02:26:25	<p>AMY:</p> <p>At Christmas, some children visited their linked care home and many sang carols together.</p>

00:02:37:13	CHILDREN SINGING CAROL
00:03:14:00	<p>YOUNG GIRL:</p> <p>Connect with them and include them in our activities because just because they are getting older and they might not be able to do as much stuff as a young child would be able to do. They still are developing new abilities of their own.</p>
00:03:40:19	<p>AMY:</p> <p>Hi, my name is Amy and I am from the Lincoln network, and over the past 13 months I have been leading the Care Home Friends and Neighbours Intergenerational Linking project here in Bradford.</p>
00:03:50:25	We have been supporting young people from schools and youth groups to link with older people living in care homes.
00:04:02:15	This has all been against the backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdowns, so we have had to be really creative in order to enable intergeneration opportunities and to bring generations together.
00:04:15:06	<p>YOUNG GIRL:</p> <p>We learn that a resident from the Lower Bank called Margaret used to come to our school.</p>
00:04:21:08	<p>AMY:</p> <p>There have been so many creative ways that generations have linked together from exchanging photo messages, to creating cards, to shared artwork together, and storytelling sessions on a video call.</p>
00:05:05:10	<p>YOUNG BOY:</p> <p>Even with word searches for things that they would like.</p>

00:05:12:08	<p>YOUNG CHILD:</p> <p>So we send them our leaves and then (INAUDIBLE) they sent their leaves over and their leaves were words of wisdom and ... (INAUDIBLE) ... we also made journeys words about our favourites journeys and why they are our favourite and (INAUDIBLE) ... like we did with the leaves.</p>
00:05:57:20	<p>AMY:</p> <p>Watching these meaningful Intergenerational relationship develop has been a joy. And our links are really looking forward to further activities together.</p>
00:06:10:16	<p>YOUNG BOY:</p> <p>Well I just felt really joyful because you were linking with other people, all of them (INAUDIBLE).</p>
00:06:18:08	<p>YOUNG GIRL:</p> <p>I felt good because like you are helping people who are older than you and it must make them feel happy as well.</p>
00:06:27:11	<p>YOUNG GIRL:</p> <p>If a sponsor should take part in linking with (INAUDIBLE) because it is a nice project to getting to know new people.</p>
00:06:59:16	<p>HARRIET:</p> <p>Hello. My name is Harriet and for the last 18 months I have been managing the Intergenerational Linking project, One Good Turn, here in Bristol.</p>
00:07:09:23	<p>Very early on in the project I think there were loads and loads of support from local schools and local (INAUDIBLE) and youth groups who wanted to reach out and send messages of hope to people living in care homes and say hey, we know we can't see you at the moment but you're very much valid members of our community.</p>
00:07:30:07	<p>We have tried to create as many opportunities as possible to link people together across the generations to form meaningful connections and friendships despite the challenges that Covid-19 has put in place.</p>

00:08:21:08	LUCAS: Hello, Michelle, I am Lucas (Ivis) ... Windmill Hill City Farm with my family. The farm began as a community project in 1976. We saw a cow and its calf, some pigs sleeping in their barn, goats (INAUDIBLE), turkeys and some noisy geese outside the ...
00:09:14:08	CHILDREN SING: "LET IT BE"
00:10:19:15	HARRIET: The older people, um, get those messages and want to send them back into the community has been fantastic.
00:10:27:13	YOUNG BOY: I am really enjoying it. Um, and I am really happy that I am putting a smile on people's face.
00:10:54:23	JOANNA WELSBY: Hello. I'm Joanna Welsbey from (NAME) in Bury, and I would like to tell you all about our Intergenerational linking project.
00:11:06:05	At class we have been supporting younger people through local schools to link with older people living in care homes, and it has been a wonderful project for us to have taken part in.
00:11:24:25	Younger and older people have come together in many different ways. It has been brilliant to see how real friendships have developed. There have been many different types of activities taking place. Postcards have been exchanged. Bulbs planted to mark the Day of Reflection in March.
00:11:53:08	Children have made bird feeders.
00:12:01:11	Cards and gifts have been exchanged at key events during the year, such as Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter. There has been a presentation about Ramadan and Eid, and a recycling project.
00:12:17:04	The Jubilee led to lots of invitations for afternoon teas.

00:12:23:09	A regular weekly story time session was established and residence have been able to visit schools for events such as the end of term shows.
00:12:38:18	It has been wonderful to see how this project has impacted on both the children and the older people. It is offered children the opportunity to be part of community based activity promoting social inclusion, developing communication skills, empathy, confidence and self-worth.
00:13:02:00	JOANNA WELSBY: For the older people they have enjoyed taking part in shared activities together. This is fostered meaningful conversations where the children have been genuinely interested in hearing about the residents life experiences.
00:13:51:25	Our hope is for the project to continue and for residents in care homes and for the children, to develop positive friendships and a feeling of place in their local community beyond the immediate home and school environment.
00:14:35:00	ELLIE: Hi, I'm Ellie from Sensory Trust, and I would like to tell you about our Intergenerational linking project here in Cornwall.
00:14:41:04	At Sensory Trust we use nature and the outdoors to create accessible and engaging nature experiences. In this project we have been supporting local schools and care homes to link together, sharing experiences and form an ongoing connection.
00:14:56:04	It has been absolutely amazing to witness the relationships that have formed.
00:15:00:07	The generations have come together with incredible creativity inspired by the natural world. Children have decorated plant pots and filled them with bulbs, seeds and personal messages for their care home friends to read and enjoy. Others use herbs that were grown in the care home garden to prepare delicious meals together to celebrate the Jubilee.

00:15:21:22	One really lovely activity has been the Forest of Hope project which we developed with artist Naomi (Hannon) over the pandemic. The residents and pupils sent painted leaves with messages of hope written on to them. The (INAUDIBLE) acted like the wind and blew the leaves between the schools and care homes bringing hope and joy to the residents and pupils.
00:15:50:21	(NAME) exchanged hand made memory boxes for the children at St Catherine's Primary. Each box contained unique and personal items which the residents and pupils had carefully selected for one another.
00:16:01:22	Children and older people were able to revisit their memory boxes and this continued the connection when Covid meant they had to be apart.
00:16:09:11	ELLIE (Cont): (Name) School made a video for their linked care home introducing themselves, showing their classroom and sharing what they like to get up to at school. They also shared their garden and playground and told the residents that the different activities they like to do outdoors.
00:16:24:05	TEACHER: Right, who are you?
00:16:25:19	SERBA: I'm Serba.
00:16:28:06	TEACHER: And how old are you?
00:16:29:19	SERBA: I am 14.
00:16:31:12	TEACHER: And what are your favourite games?
00:16:35:08	SERBA: My favourite game is dominoes.
00:16:38:08	TEACHER:

	Maddie, tell everyone what your favourite thing is.
00:16:41:22	MADDIE: Elsa.
00:16:42:19	TEACHER: Elsa from Frozen, isn't it?
00:16:45:19	TEACHER: What do you like playing out there with Adam?
00:16:48:11	BOY: Football.
00:16:49:08	TEACHER: Love playing football.
00:16:58:23	ELLIE: The project has fostered both the younger and older people's confidence and feeling of purpose.
00:17:03:01	Some of the younger people have taken leadership roles and become ('I Will') ambassadors as a result of the project. They have also developed an appreciation for the natural world and learnt ways that they can nurture their local green spaces.
00:17:15:13	Care home residents has become less isolated, sharing their stories and feeling connected to the children and their lives. They have rediscovered skills such as cooking, weaving and teaching skills with young people.
00:17:30:11	The highlight for me has been creating an opportunity for organic, authentic connection to happen between older and younger people.
00:17:36:12	In particular, seeing young people express and develop their empathy and understanding towards older people and seeing the older people light up when the young people enter the room. It has been rejuvenating, humbling and incredibly joyful.

00:17:53:04	At Sensory Trust we have always worked with younger and older people that have not focused on connecting generations. This is our chance to build some genuine connection between the generations and to test out a new approach.
00:18:05:06	In the future we are really keen to build on the connections that have been made through this project. We are exploring an Intergenerational group where primary school holds and after school club at their local care home each month. We are really excited to see where this leads.
00:18:40:12	SPEAKER: We would like to tell you all about Global Education Derby's exciting Intergenerational linking project.
00:18:46:22	Global Education Derby provides young people with opportunities to develop the the values and skills to survive and thrive in a complex rapidly changing world. We call our approach "Connect, Challenge, Change".
00:19:00:21	SPEAKER (Cont): We have been working with different schools and youth groups and supporting them to link with the local the care home. A quarter of our links involve classes of children with special educational needs and disabilities.
00:19:12:04	We wanted to get involved in Intergenerational linking with care homes because we hope that it would build deeper understanding between younger and older people, challenging misconceptions about attitudes and capabilities, increasing wellbeing and giving participants a sense of community connection and purpose.
00:19:32:18	Younger and older people started by getting to know each other. There were lots of card exchanges and children wrote letters and pen portraits for their new care home friends. They were thrilled when older people wrote back and shared some of the things they had achieved in their lives.
00:19:59:25	There were lots of artwork exchanges, including for bonfire night and Remembrance Day.

00:20:05:18	Residents of one care home knitted children some Christmas stockings. Later in the year the school pupils designed and built bird tables for the care home gardens in their technology lessons at their secondary special school.
00:20:22:09	Links also connected through music. One group compared popular musical artists today with the residents music choices, looking at the influences on popular music over time. Another group decided to record a podcast in their IT lesson to capture different perceptions on ageing, including interviewing members of the care home. It was really innovative and reflected the young people's interest in technology.
00:20:54:25	Residents at Alvaston Lodge and Year 1 children from Alvaston Infant and Nursery school learnt the same repertoire of songs in their own setting. At Christmas, a joint sing along was held at the care home with everyone joining in and playing instruments.
00:21:09:16	CHILDREN SING: "JINGLE BELLS"
00:21:18:09	SPEAKER: In the spring, children visited the care home garden to plant bulbs. It was such a success, the children returned to reconnect with and chat to the older people a few weeks later, whilst colouring in pictures.
00:21:29:09	During the last week of the summer term, the children performed their end of year play in the residents lounge.
00:21:38:23	We have also worked with a Saturday youth group from Derby West Indian Community Association. Children from the youth group explored the topic of older age and they made bath bombs and special gifts for the residents of their linked care home to enjoy. In return, the activities coordinator at the care home helped gather memories of Windrush from the residents. This supported children to explore their West Indian heritage. The activities coordinator said that the older people loved creating artwork for the young people and it gave them a real lift.

00:22:10:00	As part of the project we also formed a local advisory group who were so helpful at signposting to useful resources and delivering training and workshops on dementia for teaching staff as well as dementia friendly training for pupils in school.
00:22:26:10	Both younger and older people found that project activities allowed them to express themselves and feel appreciated and valued. For younger people it developed their empathy, understanding of others, cooperation and collaboration skills. Older people felt less isolated and more connected with their own community and childhood memories.
00:22:46:03	It also gave care home staff a boost to feel that their work was seen as important within and beyond the care home walls.
00:23:02:07	Our project has been special because it established a community keen to share their knowledge and experience for the benefit of the older and younger people in their care. It provided an enriching window into a different world for all participants, widening horizons and helping everyone to step out of their comfort zone within a supportive framework.
00:23:21:08	<p>SPEAKER (Cont):</p> <p>Our hopes are that the partnerships established will continue to flourish and build further opportunities for meaningful interaction, active citizenship and enjoyment for all participants.</p>
00:23:56:00	<p>EMMA:</p> <p>Hi, I am Emma from ETSP and I'd like to tell you about our amazing Intergenerational linking project here in Enfield.</p>
00:24:03:01	ETSP or Enfield Town Schools' Partnership, is a collaboration of schools within Enfield, North London. We manage relevant and engaging activities for children and young people to help them thrive. And we formed collaborations with our member schools and partner with other organisations to respond and identify to our community's needs in a holistic way.

00:24:24:11	We wanted to take part in Intergenerational linking with care homes because of the wellbeing benefits for older people and younger people, and social interaction from friendships that could develop. We wanted children to recognise the importance of mixing with people who are different to their own school community, to help develop tolerance, cohesion and acceptance which all play a part in building a progressive and cohesive society.
00:24:49:20	This project has given many children their first experience of a care home and meeting the older people who live there. It has been really special to see all the creative ways, both big and small, that our schools and care homes have come together.
00:25:06:08	Younger and older people have spent time doing jigsaws.
00:25:11:15	They've taken part in lots of different Christmas activities.
00:25:21:20	And even been to the local park to feed the ducks.
00:25:27:04	The Queen's Jubilee was another great opportunity to bring everyone together.
00:25:49:17	One group of children made a video of their school so that their new care home friends could see what it was like.
00:25:54:07	EMMA (Cont): The children narrated the video in different languages, spoken both by themselves and by the residents in the care home. And this made the connection that much more personal and meaningful.
00:26:16:22	CARE HOME RESIDENT: Hello. I live here. And I am going to show you around the home that I share with other people.
00:26:31:03	EMMA: The real highlight has been our collaboration with local theatre company Chicken Shed. They facilitated such amazing workshops bringing younger and older people together in a really inclusive way. Seeing everyone linking arms, singing and fully embracing the activities was amazing and such a privilege to witness.

00:26:47:08	Some of the warm-up exercises were led by older people and they chose what actions they wanted to do and the children copies them. And this was really empowering and set a positive example to the children that age shouldn't stop you participating and that older people still have plenty of moves to share.
00:27:01:22	OLDER AND YOUNGER PEOPLE SINGING AND DANCING
00:27:18:13	EMMA: Children and young people do like their social skills, supporting positive attitudes and behaviour and we have seen increase in confidence in children. Children have developed empathy, they have become more considerate and they have become more mature in their decision-making.
00:27:31:15	Older participants have had the opportunity to share their stories with the local area and of their own cultural experiences growing up in Enfield. And this has given residents a feeling of purpose and they really look forward to the visits from the children.
00:27:43:09	The project has helped develop a strength of community connections and we have seen friendships develop, not only between the residents and the pupils, but also between the care home staff and school staff which has been lovely.
00:27:54:06	EMMA (Cont): I think the project has been special because of the impact it has had on individuals. A resident who usually just sits in the corner of the room and cries, engage with the session and happily interacted with the children for their entire visit. And it is things like this that have just made it so impactful and so enjoyable to be part of.
00:28:10:23	We are really motivated to continue to support our community of schools to connect meaningfully with older people in the community alongside other ETSP enrichment initiatives.
00:28:20:10	We have already held a training session for staff on Intergenerational linking which was really well received, so we are going to provide some additional training alongside a networking opportunity. We are also going to invite other schools and

	care homes who may be interested in taking part in Intergenerational work to promote the benefits to participants.
00:29:01:17	HANNAH LANGDANA: Hi, I am Hannah Langdana and I am from Leeds DEC and I would like to tell you a little bit about our Intergenerational linking project here in Leeds.
00:29:09:08	Leeds DEC is an education charity which helps young people prepare for a rapidly changing and very unequal world. We support schools and communities to nurture values such as respect, cooperative thinking and fairness, to help create a more socially just, sustainable and equitable world.
00:29:29:02	We wanted to get involved in Intergenerational linking to address the Intergenerational gap that exists between younger and older people, especially in particular parts of our communities, and start building strong and sustainable relationships between the local schools and care homes in order to foster wisdom, empathy and understanding.
00:29:50:23	We launched the project with an interactive workshop for our participating schools. Children take part in different activities designed to get them thinking about older people. Their childhoods and the lives that they may have lived.
00:30:05:01	HANNAH LANGDANA (Cont): They played with Meccano; dressed up in 1950s clothing and learnt about foods and household objects from the past. Children also learnt about wrinkles as a sign of adventure, wisdom and laughter. And they wrote postcards to say hello to their new care home friends.
00:30:22:12	Older people loved receiving their post and they were soon getting to know each other, writing letters and telling the children all about their lives.

00:30:40:12	At Christmas time there were lots of exchanges of festive cards and crafts. Some children were able to visit their care home friends in person for the first time, singing carols together with the older people, and enjoying hot chocolate at the care home.
00:30:55:05	Others took part in gardening projects.
00:31:02:08	Created shed artwork.
00:31:06:09	And met up at the care home to play different indoor games like skittles, hook a duck and dominoes.
00:31:12:16	A lady called Marjorie visited Year 3 children at Whitecote School and answered all their questions about her life. The pupils were amazed she used to write on a slate. Afterward, Marjorie said she was not tired at all from her visit and she felt energised like she had not felt for years.
00:31:30:02	Even when Covid meant face-to-face visits couldn't happen, the generations found ways to stay connected. Students from Springwell Leeds Academy North enjoyed showing off their school dog, called Chipolata, to residents on a video call.
00:31:47:20	Meanwhile, at the Gables Nursing Home, older people shared their hopes and wishes for the New Year with the children.
00:31:59:17	This project helped young people think in a different way about their own lives. It helped them to grow in confidence, develop skills like empathy and communication and get involved in social action.
00:32:13:03	Young people were enthused by their contact to the care home residents and fascinated by anecdotes about their lives and learning about the similarities and differences with their own lives.
00:32:24:14	HANNAH LANGDANA (Cont): It brought joy and increased wellbeing to both young people and older people, and brought a broader perspective to pupils by enabling them to connect with older people outside of their own families. For residents, it helped them connect back into the world outside the care home, and, making meaningful connections to young

	<p>people which gave them a chance to reflect on and share moments from their own lives, which brought them a real sense of purpose.</p>
00:33:15:21	<p>I think the project has been full of really special moments. On Valentine's Day a class of 7 year olds handmade red paper roses for every resident in their linked care home.</p>
00:33:27:11	<p>The wellbeing leader at the care home said she was so overwhelmed by their kindness and it meant the world to everyone.</p>
00:33:34:07	<p>Some of the ladies living at the care home made cards to send back and they wrote their own poetry inside. Things like this have just been magical.</p>
00:33:47:14	<p>So far over 450 young people from different Leeds schools and residents from 10 care homes have taken part in Intergenerational linking together. We really hope we can continue to support these existing links and help sustain them as well as help to develop new links that are in their infancy.</p>
00:34:30:00	<p>RUTH: Hello. I am Ruth and I am the Linking Project Officer at St Philip's Centre in Leicester. And I am really excited to be able to tell you all about our wonderful project, Leicester Intergenerational Linking.</p>
00:34:44:20	<p>Partnerships have been between young people from schools and youth groups and older people from care homes.</p>
00:34:52:20	<p>Our Intergenerational partnerships have come together and connected in lots of different ways, remotely and with wonderful face-to-face activities.</p>

00:35:08:09	<p>RUTH (Cont):</p> <p>We wanted to take part in Intergenerational linking as an extension of our other school linking work, as we have seen the powerful impact linking has on bringing communities closer together, challenging stereotypes and addressing community cohesion issues.</p>
00:35:27:02	<p>Some of the benefits for the younger people who took part include developing a stronger sense of connection within their local community; building a sense of pride that they are able to bring joy to others. And of course developing this sense of social action, responsibility as active citizens.</p>
00:35:53:16	<p>Children who have languages other than English, such as Punjabi, Gujarati or Urdu, have been able to use those languages as a way to really directly and closely communicate with some of the older people. This has meant that the communication has been that much deeper and much more special. And seeing the pride that those young people have was really lovely.</p>
00:36:20:19	<p>For the older people, of course the project helped to reduce isolation and loneliness. But it also gave them an opportunity to share their skills and talents and their interests and to offer life advice and words of wisdom to the younger people.</p>
00:36:36:07	<p>Two residents of Graysford Hall Care Home attended our advisory group meeting and they took part in a fabulous conversation explaining all the benefits that they felt the project had for them.</p>
00:36:54:04	<p>One particular highlight of our project has been the amazing collaboration with One Planet Matters and their growing communities project. They have developed different gardening projects specific to the needs of our individual school and care home links. Asra House Care Home and nearby school Abbeymean Primary Academy took part in tree planting together. They formed a really incredible partnership and we are so pleased it is going to be sustained into the future.</p>
00:37:54:19	<p>Intergenerational linking has been an amazing experience for everyone. As one care home resident said: "This project has made us all feel really young again."</p>

00:38:05:09	RUTH (Cont): We have now embedded this project into our linking work and hope to sustain it over the coming years.
00:38:35:15	POPPY: Hello, I am Poppy from Woven Nest Theatre, and I am going to tell you about our Intergenerational Linking project which has formed some amazing connections between schools and care homes across the west end of Newcastle and the Coalfields area in Sunderland.
00:38:50:07	Woven Nest Theatre specialises in engaging older people through creativity. One of the ways that we do this is through facilitating Intergenerational activities which are accessible for older people with dementia.
00:39:03:12	There has been so much creativity and joy through this project. It has been so amazing to see the ways that individual links came up with their own ideas about what they wanted to do with the project.
00:39:18:21	<i>TEACHER:</i> <i>Do you like the band over there ...</i>
00:39:22:08	<i>TEACHER:</i> <i>Class ... one ... of the alphabet and it is six letters.</i>
00:39:33:03	POPPY: Newbottle Primary Academy and Paddock Stile Manor Care Home had some great connections, including four garden meet ups to create the wackiest of stories together.
00:39:47:08	When it was winter and they could not meet in person, children interviewed residents over Zoom about their favourite things and created a series of bespoke artwork for their care home friends.
00:40:00:02	Then, with the help of a local artist, we installed them into the care home. Residents love getting involved with deciding where each frame should go.

00:40:09:01	CARE HOME STAFF: What do you think then, Aphelia?
00:40:10:12	APHELIA: Oh, they're lovely.
00:40:11:17	CARE HOME STAFF: Are you pleased with them?
00:40:12:21	APHELIA: Oh, yeah, yes. Very. They're ... fortune for them ...
00:40:21:01	POPPY: Meanwhile children at Dogma Academy became food waste warriors. At Halloween they gave residents recipe cards for different ways to eat pumpkin. And then they also used food scraps as fabric dye and stamps to create four table cloths for their Intergenerational tea parties.
00:40:37:06	West Rainton Primary and Springfield Lodge Care Home decided to hold the Festival of Cool and celebrate all things that were cool to them.
00:40:45:15	Visitors from Springfield Lodge came along to the school and enjoyed popcorn and hotdogs; tried their luck in a raffle; got their faces painted and saw the children parade their handmade banner. It was definitely very cool.
00:41:12:14	Isaac and our team led workshops for children from Hawthorn Primary School and they were exploring the topics that they would like to look at with the residents from St Joseph's. As part of these workshops they worked on characterisation, voice, confidence building, teamwork skills. Next, we sent the questions over to St Joseph's and recording their answers. And they created a story of their own too. And from there, the radio show was born.
00:41:37:19	CHILD: Throughout the summer holidays I made a chocolate brownie cake. It was so yummy. What about you? Did you do anything nice?

00:41:45:03	CHILD: Yes, I have actually. I have been playing with my cute little rabbit. There is two foods that they really like, it is cabbage, celery.
00:41:54:12	AVA: My name is Ava, what is your favourite film.
00:41:56:08	CARE HOME RESIDENT: Well Ava, I think my favourite film was Sound Of Music and I loved the way they run up the mountains, it looked lovely.
00:42:05:04	CHILDREN & CARE HOME RESIDENTS: SING
00:42:12:23	MAN: Watching the young people of Hawthorn Primary and the residents of St Joseph's listen to their radio show for the first time was an absolute joy to witness. They all laughed at the right parts, which is a good sign, and as a witness, it felt like rather than seeing two communities of people whose age and lived experience separated them in a room together, it was like watching one team, a group of people who had come together to make a radio show and make one another laugh. And that felt really special.
00:42:46:20	POPPY: There have been lots of moments of really magical connection. On one Zoom call an older lady called Pat kept mentioning how much she liked bubbles. So a few weeks later the children visited the care home and ties baubles to the trees to look like bubbles.
00:43:01:20	Seeing Pat's eyes light up was so special.
00:43:07:25	The project has brought younger and older people together and they have both benefitted so much from being in each other's company. The young people have been so committed to the project throughout and have shown so much patience and thoughtfulness for the older people in their community.
00:43:24:06	When the young people have been able to visit the care homes in person, their energy has been infectious.

00:43:30:17	My favourite bit of the project has been seeing young and older people laughing together. For example, a few weeks back in Isaac's session, we turned around and the young and older people are creating secret handshakes together. After the children had left, the older people were still practising their secret handshakes and laughing together. That's what it is all about.
00:43:53:16	POPPY (Cont): Now that the links between the schools and the care homes are established, we just hope they continue.
00:43:58:10	Lots of the schools have already launched the project with a new group of children and we have already started planning for more in person activity next spring. So watch this space.
00:44:35:20	FRAN: Hi. I am Fran from Caritas Plymouth and I am here to tell you all about our Intergenerational Linking project across Plymouth diocese.
00:44:44:16	We have been working alongside schools from Plymouth CAST, a multi academy trust, and linking them with nearby care homes. And it has been such a joy to witness real friendships form.
00:44:55:18	Caritas Plymouth supports social action by the Catholic Church. We wanted to get involved in Intergenerational Linking because it supports Catholic social teaching in action, living out gospel values, connecting communities and bringing about the social change needed for healthier older age.
00:45:19:21	Younger and older people started their links by getting to know each other. Children wrote letters introducing themselves and asking questions about the residents lives and hobbies.
00:45:33:23	Children created beautiful artwork for their new care home friends. Older people sent their own artwork back, demonstrating their artistic talents and creating shared displayed that could hang in both the school and care home as a reminder of one another.

00:45:49:22	At Christmas time cards and gifts were exchanged, with some children visiting their linked care homes to sing carols with residents and spread Christmas cheer.
00:46:04:07	It has been really special to see younger and older people as equal partners in the project, sharing ideas and collaborating on projects together.
00:46:16:08	FRAN (Cont): St Peter's Catholic Primary School in Plymouth, held a Jubilee tea and invited along residents from Underhill House Care Home. The children carefully decorated the school hall before dressing up as butlers to serve their homemade scones.
00:46:31:16	During the tea, one resident taught the children how to do shorthand. A few weeks later some of the children went to visit the care home to spend more time chatting with their older friends and hear more about their lives.
00:46:52:03	When Covid-19 prevented face-to-face visits, (Linx) found really creative ways to keep connecting.
00:46:59:20	Upton Bay Care Home decorated their minibus for Children In Need and drove to their linked primary school.
00:47:06:09	Children stood in the playground and both generations waved to each other through the bus windows. They also had Zoom calls together using the Care Home's big cinema screen.
00:47:17:09	Meanwhile, St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Swanage created lovely sun catchers to hang in residents' bedrooms when they were isolating.
00:47:26:16	In some schools there was a group of children known as Mini Vinnies who took part. The Catholic priest, St Vincent de Paul, dedicated himself to serving the poor. The Mini Vinnies are inspired by his example and pledged to live out the gospel values by engaging in social action and making a positive difference in their local communities.
00:47:53:09	It has been so lovely to see real friendships develop between younger and older people.

00:47:57:17	PUPIL: Hello, we are children from the St Mary's School from Swanage and we are here to tell you about our link with Clifftop Care Home.
00:48:04:13	PUPIL: I enjoyed doing the (INAUDIBLE) as it was very personal and they got know us.
00:48:09:20	PUPIL: I like the gifts for all the staff because the chocolates that we gave them, I think it just made them happy for how hard they worked.
00:48:17:21	PUPIL: I think it is good that we get to connect and we get to meet up with them.
00:48:45:22	FRAN: Our vision is that more schools and parishes across the diocese develop a connection with their local care home and create hundreds of new Intergenerational relationships built on dignity and respect.
00:49:22:25	SUSANNE: Hi, I am Susanne from Windmills Foundation, and together with my colleague Helen, we would like to tell you about our Intergenerational Linking project here in Sefton.
00:49:32:03	Windmills Foundation supports young people from local primary and secondary schools to link with older people living in care homes, to share their lives, to build relationships and to enjoy the huge benefits gained to each generation.
00:49:48:02	It has been amazing. It has helped young people, builds their confidence and their creativity, their communication skills, it has inspired them, it has helped them give empathy and understanding and respect and certainly for the residents, the older people, it has given them a sense of purpose. They have contributed and shared their life experiences and their wisdom with the young people. It has been ... given them a sense of youthfulness, fun, feeling alive and inspired, happiness and a sense of belonging

00:50:17:05	In spite of Covid restrictions and what we have had to go through, we have still managed to bridge and build fantastic relationships through postcard exchanges, through Zooms, through writing about each other and exchanging about lives.
00:50:30:01	And then when we finally got to go to meet face-to-face, the impact was absolutely amazing between the children and the residents. No barriers, just straight in there.
00:50:42:17	One of my favourite moments was when the children got to meet the residents, English Martyrs School, and the linked care home, Orchard Lodge. The residents sat in the Year 4 classroom, they told the children about the Coronation of the Queen and the children were so inspired and enamoured that only one person in the street had a black and white TV.
00:51:01:05	SUSANNE (Cont): The residents got to see first hand how the children enjoyed learning technologies, whiteboards and computers and laptops. It was just an incredible experience.
00:51:12:01	HELEN HAWKINS: One of my most memorable moments was when Bedford Primary invited their linked care home, Cambridge Court, to their Jubilee party. The older people got involved in dancing and singing to “The Farmer Wants A Wife” and the “Hokey Cokey”.
00:51:27:16	Although their mobility was limited trying to get to the playground, once the music and singing started they were flying. I could hardly keep up. It was brilliant.
00:51:40:08	Another wonderful Intergenerational linking activity was when Baron Court invited their links group, Savio College, to do armchair exercise lessons. The older residents thoroughly enjoyed it. They were laughing, smiling, enjoying the interaction with the younger people.
00:52:01:25	Eva, originally from Germany, also shared her experiences of living through World War Two with the pupils. Afterwards, she puts some memory crosses for the fallen soldiers of Bootle.
00:52:16:04	Meanwhile, over at Crosby High, pupils cleaned up the Tithebarn Care Home sensory garden as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award.

00:52:35:03	SUSANNA: It really has been special for everybody involved and huge benefits gained by all.
00:52:57?12	(END OF RECORDING)