**Engaging with parents through play**

As part of our training offer for Holiday Hub settings, we were delighted to welcome Holiday Hub practitioners from Notts, Stockton, Coventry, Wigan etc to a thought-provoking and interactive training session entitled ‘Engaging with parents   
through play’.

The workshop was delivered by Kanu Patel and Nicky Probert (pictured) from Family Action’s Training and Consultancy team.

The aim was to help Holiday Hub practitioners engage vulnerable parents through encouraging playful interactions with their children, drawing on the principles of attachment theory and   
social pedagogy.

The activities encourage different aspects of the building blocks for attachment using the Theraplay © principles of structure, engagement, nurture and challenge.

Practitioners fed back that they are already looking forward to drawing on these activities in future Holiday Hub sessions.

*‘Thank you for a lovely day. We really enjoyed it and took away a lot of new ideas.’*

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| Example activity:  **Engagement**  *Aim:*   * To establish a connection with the child   *Sand memories:*   * The parent/child take turns to colour salt using chalk and to tell each other what positive memory the colour represents, for example, blue might be a fun day at the seaside. |

Find out more about Holiday Hub at [www.family-action.org.uk/holidayhub](http://www.family-action.org.uk/holidayhub)