

# The Outing



A newly appointed teacher was taking a bunch of assorted children for a walk in the park – some of them were confident and running off in all directions and learning from the experience, some were holding her hand and walking and talking alongside her, some were dragging their heels but getting there slowly, one child had a tantrum, refused to budge and threw all the sandwich boxes and coats out of the trolley.

Some thoughts crept into the teacher's head about excluding the child, referring others to the educational psychologist or whether she should change jobs. Of course if she had some decent help with the group the whole process would be so much easier and she might even reach her destination...

By the end of the year, the children, who had initially been suspicious of the stranger in their midst, were now enjoying the trips out together. The teacher knew everybody's names and what they liked. The children knew what the teacher was like and if they had a problem they felt they could ask her. Now they were due to move up a year, they might have to get to know another teacher.. what would that be like?



## KEY MESSAGES

- Change Up Consultants and Project Workers put in many more hours than they were contracted for. They have made the connections, put time and energy into instilling confidence in the consortium members.
- Many have been seconded from within the sector, ensuring some capacity building, as they will take their skills and experience back to their main areas of activity.
- It has been a trying but ultimately rewarding process for both sides and there is now an anxiety that all the skill, trust and knowledge that has been developed and nurtured will be lost.