

Catalyst Psychology

Review of the year 2020/looking ahead to 2021



Beyond school visits and reports, 10 additional achievements from 2020 to celebrate (despite the current challenging situation).....

Coming in at number 10...

your engagement with significant changes to our IT systems and remote working, using iPads for assessments and beginning to get to grips with new laptops etc. We will see the benefits over the coming 12 months, but I appreciate the process has been difficult at times and appreciate the uncomplaining way in which you have all got on with the job...

9...Paula has finished writing the How 2 Relate intervention programme (a LOT of work over the summer) and has secured a firm booking from a school that wishes to pilot this in summer 2021 - watch this space!



8...the Sandwell Charter Mark work is well underway in 5 pilot schools with encouraging results so far. There has been a pause during the Covid disruption, but schools are picking the work up again and we are expecting a lot more interest in this over the coming year, given the concerns for mental health and well-being in schools.



At number 7... in spite of the exceptionally challenging circumstances, we have still managed to launch 2 new areas of service delivery: a specialist Early Years Service (EYISS) and an Emotional health and Well-being service (EWISS). Both have been well-received and both areas are likely to provide plenty of work in the foreseeable future.

Moving up the table to number 6...

We were delighted to be well represented at the online AEP conference this year, with seminar presentations accepted from Rebecca (decolonising EP practice) and from Ruby & Lucy (delivering interventions to children online)



Tim comes in at number 5...because I believe that without the training Tim provided for us early on in the pandemic we would not have found the knowledge, insight and resilience to provide what has since been so highly valued by schools and families - thank you Tim!

In the top half of the table at number 4...

Focusing on the training and development we have undertaken for ourselves and delivered for others, highlights include the work Rebecca has led in response to the Black Lives Matter initiatives and the mental health and resilience focus in training that we have all provided for so many schools this year



at number 3... we received grant funding from the Social Enterprise Support grant and the National Lottery, to enable our assistant psychologists to continue to deliver much-need interventions to children and young people. We have been overwhelmed by the demand for this work and hopefully, will be successful in

future finding applications.

Success breeds success

at number 2... the Catalyst Courier: a fantastic team effort throughout the summer, including the work the Hannah and Paula put into the Facebook page. This weekly support was much appreciated by the 200+ people who received the weekly Courier, and led to an 'honourable mention' during a Children and Young People's scrutiny committee meeting, and public thanks from a SENDCO in a local radio interview.

Topping the table at number 1...is a wide and general thanks to you all for being a fabulous team continuing to provide a high quality and highly valued service. During the holiday I was out walking along the canal in Poynton with members of my family when we met a headteacher who is the executive head for 3 schools we work with (their current Link EP is Beverley). This head stopped for a (socially distanced) chat and was very keen to tell me (and my family) how much he and his staff had valued the support of Catalyst, particularly the many ways in which we had continued to provide a service and the fact that we have continued with school visits when schools have been open. He pursued his thanks and appreciation at some length (the rest of his family and dog were way down the canal by this point). His praise made a big

impression and helped to confirm my impression that we are indeed doing the very best we can, and this appreciated by our schools.



I hope this gives you courage for the term ahead, and some positive thoughts to build on as we look ahead to whatever 2021 may bring.