

Felixstowe Town Council,
Town Hall,
Undercliff Road West,
Felixstowe,
Suffolk IP11 2AG,
United Kingdom.

12th February 2026

Feedback on the Home-Start Suffolk Volunteer Training Project, Felixstowe

Dear Felixstowe Town Council,

We are very grateful for the £1,500 grant awarded in October 2025 to support Home-Start volunteer training in Felixstowe. I'm pleased to share an update on how this funding has strengthened support for local families.

Your funding contributed to two volunteer training courses specifically targeting residents of Felixstowe and the surrounding area. This included our full 25-hour Volunteer Preparation Course for new volunteers, alongside a Top Up Training course for existing volunteers wishing to refresh or extend their skills.

Six volunteers completed the full 25-hour Preparation Course, meeting our target of recruiting and training six to seven new volunteers. Existing volunteers also attended the Top Up Training, further strengthening local volunteer capacity.

Following completion of their training, the six new volunteers have been matched with local families, each supporting a minimum of two families. In addition, we have welcomed two new volunteers to the Stay and Play group at Trinity Methodist Church, Hamilton Road, Felixstowe, the most recent starting this term in January 2026.

This increase in volunteer capacity has enabled us to respond more effectively to local demand. Families are receiving consistent, relationship-based support which helps parents grow in confidence, strengthen relationships with their children and widen their links within the community.

Feedback from volunteers highlights the value of the training:

"The trainers really made the course enjoyable. Their extensive knowledge of Home-Start made it easy to understand the different protocols, procedures and expectations. I thoroughly enjoyed the training course and am very much looking forward to my volunteering journey."

"I found the training extremely helpful and informative. It was great to meet different members of the Home-Start team and share the experience with other volunteers, all bringing such a wide range of experiences."

The courses were delivered free of charge to volunteers from Felixstowe and its surrounding communities. We have used our CharityLog system to track volunteer training, matching and ongoing family support to ensure accurate records of engagement and outcomes.

We are sincerely thankful to Felixstowe Town Council for enabling this work. Your support has made a clear and practical difference in Felixstowe, helping ensure that more children have the best possible start in life. We have also acknowledged the Council's support in our promotional material for the project, helping local people see the impact of your grant.



Stay and Play activities November 2025

Should you require any further information or wish to visit one of our sessions, we would be delighted to welcome you.

Yours sincerely,

Gaynor Vincent,
Grants and Trusts Officer
Home-Start Suffolk