

March 2023



Project Play is a grassroots NGO that aims to provide safe spaces for displaced children in northern France.

32
Children

18
In GS

14
In MA

We work with children in the informal living site in Grande-Synthe (GS), as well as in independently run safe houses and day centres (maisons accueillantes - MA).

This month, we worked with 32 children. We expect the total number of children living in informal sites in northern France to be higher.

Sanitation

The State provides **no access** to fresh water for sanitation or drinking, a serious threat to health & hygiene. This month, we observed **4 children with black teeth**.

There are no toilet facilities provided by the State. On **30% of our sessions this month**, children were forced to go to the toilet in the open, with little privacy from adults.

Weather

With no State-provided accommodation, people rely on NGOs for tents and shelters, and have little respite from harsh weather.

This month, we recorded the site being extremely muddy, windy and cold on **85% of our sessions**.

Wellbeing

The children we work with are often trauma experienced, and the hostile environments they are forced to live in compound this every day.

This month, a mother expressed concern for the wellbeing of her children after **being on a boat for 8 days** and on the move for **7 years**.

New Hostile Legislation

This month, the French & UK Governments both proposed new Immigration and Asylum laws.

Illegal Migration Bill (UK)

If the Illegal Migration Bill is enacted, it will:

- remove the right to seek asylum
- deny access to anti-slavery protections
- detain people without appeal, incl. children.

Immigration & Asylum Bill (FR)

If the bill is enacted, it will:

- facilitate deportations
- restrict reunifications
- block access to healthcare

Hostile policies have been shown, time and again, to **fail in their aim of deterrence**. All these proposals will achieve is **to inflict further harm on those seeking safety**.



www.project-play.org

Contact us:
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No childhood should look like this.

Project Play is a registered French Charity, No: W594012083. We also operate under Donate4Refugees, Charity No: 1168435.