



Monthly Impact Report

JANUARY 2026



JANUARY

in

PLAY



We are a grassroots organisation supporting children and families on the move in northern France through **play**, **parental support** and **casework**. This month:

WE FACILITATED

14

SESSIONS

WE WORKED WITH

44

CHILDREN

WE PLAYED FOR

35

HOURS

We worked at **four locations**, including independent safe houses, community centres and informal camps - adapting our provision to continue reaching children in the quieter winter months.

Session Spotlight!

This January, we continued to explore many worlds, but our favourite was the world of dinosaurs! We encountered many different species, imagined them living in communities and even tried walking like them, with their stomping legs!



Parental Support & Casework



In January, we provided support to families and parents, helping connect them to **essential services**.



We made **8 referrals**, mainly for accommodation and medical needs.



We also made a referrals for support for an **unaccompanied child**, working with our partners at Croix Rouge and Utopia 56.



NEWS and UPDATES

From the border:

January was a relatively quiet month for Project Play, with many children being able to access longer-term state accommodation instead of staying in informal living sites. However, the provision of this accommodation is far from perfect, and many people face barriers to accessing it. As a result, numerous families were still sleeping outdoors, during cold and harsh weather.

Key issues:



We have particularly noticed in recent months that many children have been thinking about school, often talking about previous memories from school, their wishes to go to school now or worries about missed learning.



Every child has the right to education, but children on the move in northern France are often excluded from education for long periods of time, so in response to this we have adapted our service to provide more targeted education support.



In addition to supporting children with literacy and numeracy, and other learning goals they express an interest in, we are increasing our scope to take testimonies on this topic and record the instances and impacts of this violation of children's rights.



In the News:

In January, a large-scale parliamentary inquiry was opened in France into the impact of the Le Touquet Treaty on the human rights of people on the move.

From this treaty flows the bilateral agreements between France and UK, determining funding and operations for border 'securitisation'. This includes regular eviction operations and violence police interceptions on the beaches. This inquiry is a significant development as organisations - including us at Project Play - will be able to testify and present their evidence to key actors. Hopefully, this will contribute to much needed change.



GALLERY

some favourite moments this month! 🎈



Our dinosaur week activities helped us imagine dinosaurs living in communities, and to build our own through collaboration and team work!



Our "Distribution de Joie" at a makeshift camp near Dunkirk has been really successful - facilitating space for adults and children to play and relax in a living site with very little support.

Designing our own board games, and putting them to good use!

The sensory delights of slime are always a firm favourite!





Thank You!

ENGAGE

[Follow](#) Project Play and our partners in northern France to stay informed, and [sign up to our newsletter](#) to receive our updates.

SUPPORT

We rely on our community of supporters to run our service. [Click here](#) to find out you you can [help us keep playing](#) - and keep fighting for change.

JOIN US

Join our [team of playworkers](#) in northern France, or join us remotely - we're currently recruiting a [Chair for our Board](#).

