



Monthly Impact Report

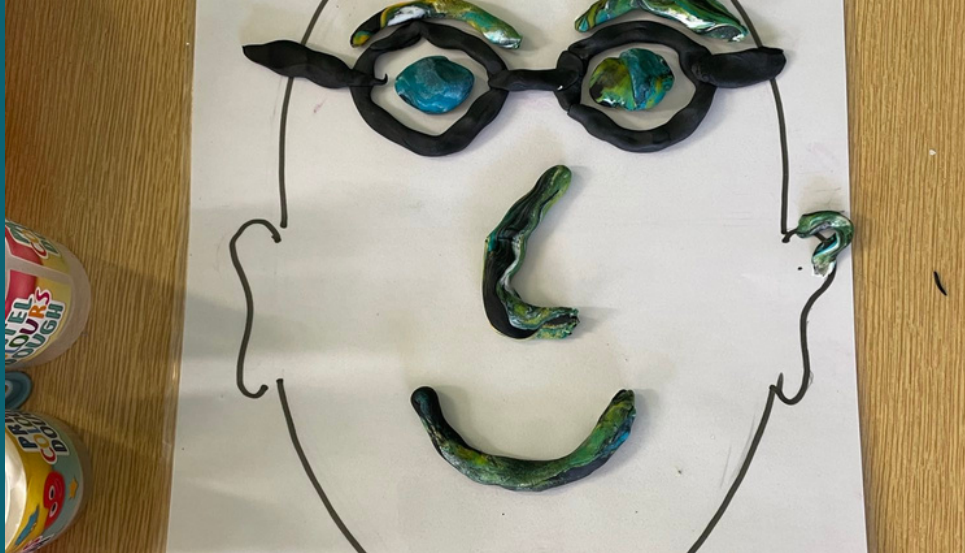
AUGUST 2025



AUGUST

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

17

SESSIONS

WE WORKED WITH

131

CHILDREN

WE PLAYED FOR

47

HOURS

In August, we worked at **four locations**, including independent safe houses and community centres. External factors meant we ran fewer sessions, yet we were still able to reach a high number of children.

Session Spotlight!

In August, one of our favourite weekly themes was emotions! We learned about the different facial expressions and created emotions masks to express how we were feeling. We played themed games, mimicking different emotions and explaining what made us feel that way.

Exploring these different emotions helps children understand and identify what they feel, supporting emotional awareness and helping promote tools for emotional regulation.



Parental Support & Casework



In August, we handled **seven case files** for families in need of specific support.



We made **9 referrals**, mainly for clothes and shoes, tents and medical care.



We revisited our partnership agreement with **Youth Kaleidoscope**, to strengthen provision for teenagers and young people.



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NEWS and UPDATES

From the border:

The number of people, including children and families, present at the border has increased - as is common for this time of year. 12 children attended each of our sessions on average, a **20% increase from last month**. There has been a **large number of unaccompanied children** in some sites in Calais, and we have been working with partners to ensure that they can access the services and support they need.

Key issues:



With no state services and organisations stretched by increased demand, many **children are unable to access basic needs** - contravening their right to an adequate standard of living under Article 27 of the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child.



One child spoke to us of **instances of racism** against them and their family, with them being denied service in supermarkets. This is not uncommon amongst the children we work with, contravening their rights to non-discrimination and further impacting their ability to access the services they need. (A.2 UNCRC).



This month, **we have taken some testimonies of particularly intense police violence against children** during crossing attempts, including the use of **physical force resulting in injury**. These UK-funded operations by French authorities threaten children's rights to protection from violence (A.19 UNCRC) and to life, survival and development (A.6 UNCRC).



In the News:

This month, at least **four people were killed trying to cross the Channel**. These deaths are the direct result of policies that deny people access to safe routes to seek asylum.

Simultaneously, the UK and France implemented their new **"one-in-one-out"** agreement. Whilst ostensibly creating a safe route to asylum in the UK, the scheme not only relies on the deportation of others but involves multiple barriers to access. **We have worked with many families who wish to access it, but are unable to.**

We are supporting challenges to this impractical and unworkable scheme. We repeat the call for **safe and genuinely accessible routes to asylum** - which do not use the lives of some as bargaining chips for others.



GALLERY

some favourite
moments
this month! 



Parachute games are a real highlight of our sessions. The children love moving with the parachute and exploring how we can work together on different games. The colours are also a beautiful sensory experience!



Collaborative activities are often a part of our sessions - creating space for children to develop their creativity and social skills.

We love preparing sensory boxes for the children to explore - aligned with our weekly themes, of course!



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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.

VOLUNTEER

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

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.