**Feedback for Samiya**

**SenCom Sessions**

Day 1

Your warm up session went really well. It is harder on day 1 as we do not know the participants and they don’t really know us. It is always a good start to begin with name games and games/activities where they get to know one another and find out more information about each other. Your name game went very well. There was a wide range of ages in the room and we always need to take this into account. Call and response activities are fun and high energy, the younger members of the group enjoyed this but I did notice that the teenagers found this a bit harder, they didn’t want to look silly in front of each other. I would probably do something like Boom-Chicka a bit later in the day when they are all a bit less self-conscious. Though I will say that your energy and enthusiasm definitely helped and the younger members of the group loved the game and happily joined in. I also liked how you incorporated the different styles. It is definitely harder to plan when there is a wide age-range. 21 was a very good choice as it is a calm activity and allows the participants to add their own rules. One thing to bare in mind is not to panic if you don’t stick to you written plan – lots of different things effect a workshops – this could include time, mood of participants, other things that need to be done. Always be adaptable and ready to change things if needed, or even forget about doing something if needed. Rather than write a strict plan of activities, have a list of activities, and mix and match. If something doesn’t work out well, don’t be afraid to change the detail or add in ideas that participants may suggest. A great start to Day 1. Well done.

Day 2

Today’s warm up was a real mix of different games and activities. Having worked with the groups yesterday I think you made some great choices based on the groups abilities and interests. For a couple of the games I think that the explanation was a bit lengthy and always bare in mind that sometimes starting the game/activity and explaining as you go (or in parts) is often much more effective. This obviously takes practice and is down to experience also. I noticed that the older (teenage) participants were also more open to everything today, then had got to know each other and obviously felt more at ease in everyone’s company. Remember many of the warm up activities are classed as icebreakers – these are generally the ones that you should use on the first day/upon meeting a new group. You did choose some of these today – i.e. memory, rule games etc. You also incorporated some fun physical games, such as the Bean Game. Always think about your order. If you do a physical warm up/game/activity, generally follow it with a calmer sat down game, this is good to bear in mind if you have anyone with physical issues. As you develop you will begin to read the room – to understand people’s abilities and levels of understanding, you will have a feel for what may or may not work for the group. Amazing energy again today.

Day 3

Everyone was feeling more at ease today and were ready for your warm up, they were all really enthusiastic. This is where people will often ask to re-do games and activities that they enjoy. So always bare that in mind – or revisit things you have noticed that they really like. Mix it in with more new activities too.

The Building the Shed activity was new and I think there was a mixed reaction to it, again maybe an age thing. I think it was a great activity, though maybe something to do with a more established group, and with those who have a bit more experience of improvising. It would probably be a good activity to follow ‘Excuse Me, What are you Doing?’ or the Improvisation Circle’ – both activities that introduce people to the basics of improvisation and where people come into the middle of the circle and leave again quickly rather than stay in the middle and not really know what to do. I do think they enjoyed changing the style part of the activity, think about other activities that do this also – i.e. Hello, Hello, How are you, How are you . . .

Over just three days I think you developed brilliantly as a facilitator, your energy is wonderful and makes everything great fun. I think you could also identify what worked well and what didn’t work well for the group – all groups are different so you are always adapting and developing to suit the participating, and you are starting to do this really well. Well done Samiya!