

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 27 February 2024 09:09  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Family Hub asset transfer request

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing in support of Plus's application to use the Family Hub, as I believe it would be a really good fit for all.

Our family - especially our son who's autistic, dyspraxic and has learning difficulties - have been involved with plus for around 14 years; Plus has supported us in too many ways to mention here, but I wanted to offer a small picture of some of the work they have done and their successes with our family and others', which has enhanced our lives and enriched the community more generally.

Plus has always been very holistically family-orientated - they consider other family members/wider circumstances, and how services and activities affect us all, but have kept the well-being and needs of our son at the centre. The team worked hard to get to know us all, and to suggest and offer appropriate and carefully-thought-out activities and staff, all of which have developed as our son grew from nursery to post-school-age. Plus is sensitive to his needs and to ours, as well as being flexible. They have helped him towards more independence and offered interesting experiences suited to him (trips out on the train, group activities, peer support, etc), and at the same time giving us desperately-needed respite, where we never have to worry about him. Plus also support him at college - otherwise he would not be able to attend.

All in all, Plus has been a lifeline which we would seriously have been lost without. This is fantastic for us ourselves, and we know many families who feel the same. However, Plus also contributes to the local community and environment through things like the support work for volunteering nearby, and small supported projects, not to mention assisting the young people to get out and about in the local area, and offering employment opportunities on the Plus staff. So Plus has a positive effect on the surroundings as well as personally - for example our son has been to the Reuse Hub near their current office, and has helped with improving the grounds there too. Because the staff are experienced and flexible, it has been possible to integrate with the local communities and use nearby facilities like Common Ground, the Macrobert and local businesses, which has boosted confidence and raised awareness of the diverse communities, as well as contributing to the local economy and building social cohesion.

We have been around long enough to see the severe difficulties caused when the Plus base has had to move - not least for the children and carers, when they've had to let go of a place they feel comfortable and safe in, and feel pride and ownership over. My son is not the only young person deeply affected by change, so he is anxious at the organisation having to move premises, and the uncertainty of where that might be, and when it might happen again. It would be wonderful if the next move could be to a truly stable, accessible and central place such as the Family Hub.

With best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]