

NEW-AM SCYPS OT TEAM

KICKS OFF 3RD DCD FOOTBALL GROUP WITH HACKNEY, TOWER HAMLETS OT TEAMS AND LEYTON ORIENT FOOTBALL CLUB (PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS PROGRAMME)



The Occupational Therapy Service for Children has rolled out its Developmental Coordination Disorder (DCD) Football Group on 11th June 2024, which lasted for 5 consecutive Tuesday sessions and successfully ended on 09th July 2024. This has taken place at Queensbridge Sports Centre and Kings Hall Leisure Centre in Hackney.

We are currently working with the Occupational Therapy Teams of Hackney and Tower Hamlets and Leyton Orient Football Club under its Premier League Kicks Programme. It has been a positive experience for all of the children and young people with DCD all throughout the programme.

The football coaches used the principles of "The Cognitive Orientation to daily Occupational Performance (CO-OP)", which is the evidenced based practice for DCD, under the supervision of Occupational Therapists. These are aimed to be further embedded in the upcoming cohorts to help the children in consolidating their skills when playing football.

After the football group sessions, we have gained positive feedback from the children and young people and their families. Some of the feedback from the children are: "It was nice", "I loved the dribbling" and "It was amazing during this week of playing".

The parents have thought that the football club has helped their child through these feedback: "It has improved my child to run fast whilst playing", "It has helped him with his skills and confidence", "My child is more confident around others",

"It helped him to feel more confident and learn how to do new things without being criticized by peers" and "It helped my child how to deal with different people".

Some of the feedback from the parents regarding the staff support are: "The coaches and staff were very cooperative towards the children", "They have really good coach and staff support", "My child got to learn new skills and make friends with people who struggle like him", "It was such a lovely atmosphere, very supportive and non-judgmental" and "They enjoyed playing together".

The 4th football group cohort will be resuming in the next academic year with the venue to be determined by the football coaches and Occupational Therapists.

Every after cohort, The Occupational Therapists review the structure and delivery of the sessions to further tailor intervention with the learning experiences and feedback gained from children, young people and families.



For further information regarding the role of **Occupational Therapy** in **Developmental Coordination Disorder**, kindly direct to our website through the below mentioned link:

<https://www.elft.nhs.uk/scyyps/our-services/occupational-therapy/developmental-coordination-disorder>

