

Central Area Meeting Conference at Woodbrooke – 21st May 2022

Feedback from the children's group

Kyle, Lola, Amelia, Emilia, Fergus, Bethan, Daniel, Rose

1. Where do you love, what do you love and who do you love?





There was an adult in this group













2. What does love require (need) from us

The people we love need:

- for us to step into the darkness (the unknown) and to take risks
- hugs
- kisses
- understanding
- care
- trust
- for us to see them and acknowledge them



- nourishment
- exploring
- respect
- us to make memories
- care
- to be inclusive
- to be shared
- a vision for the future

The things we love need:

- love
- care
- space and time
- pride
- for us to try (and look after them; to do our best)

3. The Peace Path

A peace path is a place for connection, reflection and for learning something about ourselves.

We generated questions that they thought they could reflect on and adults could reflect on.

These were:

*Who needs love?

Why can't we all be happy at the same time?

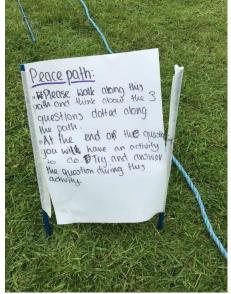
How does love affect our lives?

*How could things be different?

*What is love?

The children voted for 3 that they wanted to take into the peace path. These are marked with an asterisk.





Feedback – Who needs love?



Everybody My mummy Everybody in my family We all need love to make us feel better My family and my pets My friends and family Homeless, refugees, those in Ukraine

What is love? [The bookmarks were left on the tree]







A connection you make with your marriage

A warm fuzzy feeling and cake

Family

Warm

Hard work

How could things be different?







People could be kinder to others and the planet

Always make time (even if just a little bit) to listen to somebody who needs to talk

When there's no war, poverty and everyone feels love

Be kind and help Ukraine by donating money

When nobody cares about what our life is and sees everyone as an equal

Kindness to everyone

Be kind to people and they will be respectful to you unless you want them to be rude to you. Treat them how you treat others

Be more kind and listen to each other

To have flying cars and cats and people and talking trees, birds and leaves. I know be kind more.



We built meeting houses out of den-building equipment. The children chose to create their own meeting houses – Selly Oak, Cotteridge and Stourbridge.

They included the children's room at Cotteridge and a garden. At some point, Daniel then suggested joining the meeting houses because we are Area Meeting and everyone should be together. Stourbridge MH was beginning to fall down at this point so by joining together they were able to hold them all up – a useful metaphor!







We sat inside the structure and discussed the future of the Meeting Houses, Area Meeting and any questions the children had about the meetings

What hopes do you have?

Having the opportunity to do more children's things together, like today

More stuff for younger children

Working together to achieve something

That everyone will still be there in the future

Do you have questions for the adults?

What do they do in the room?

Is it just thinking or is it something else?

I don't know why they sit in silence. It's boring

What are they listening for? Because it's silent, there is nothing to hear.

Do you use the outside space?

We use it after the meeting.



We can't make a noise in the garden because it might disturb the adults when the windows are open

I say hello to my dad's (brother?). We scattered his ashes in the garden and so I go outside and say hello to him.

Do you talk about Quakerism at school?

Not really

We did a diversity week and my dad came to talk about it.

I don't know how to explain what being a Quaker is to my friends. People don't really know much about it.

Do you know what the testimonies are?

Not really. I'd like to talk about it more.