

Acorns is accepting referrals as usual, for all services. Please see our website for the most up to date version of our referral forms and accompanying guidance. We urge people to ensure that all sections of the referral form are completed and that consent has been gathered before making referrals in order to cut down the processing time. Our waiting lists are around six to eight months at present, although it is important to remember that multiple factors can impact on this. We would encourage anyone who is on our waiting list to familiarise themselves with our website or follow us on social media to keep up to date with opportunities, workshops and events. Please note that our First Response Service will still operate during the summer. This service provides immediate, short term support for young people 11+ in response to crisis. More information about First Response can be found on our website.

Later this month the Acorns Youth Panel will be hosting a screening event of a video that they have been working on. We are very excited to showcase their creativity and look forward to celebrating their success. Our ever-popular Summer Programme includes a varied set of activities and is available to those families that are currently working with us or have been accepted to our waiting list. For those that enjoy keeping active we will be running surf camps, kayaking and SUP sessions as well as beach games down on Longsands. During the last 3 weeks of the summer holidays we will be running a Family Forest Craft programme at Meadowell Connected, with the aim of promoting the benefits of the outdoors and bringing families together. Finally, the Acorns Summer Fun Day will take place at the end of August, closely followed by our annual fundraising event, the Charity Golf Day at Tynemouth Golf Club.

We continue to build in a range of opportunities for parents and carers. We are still running regular Coffee Mornings with a range of themes and offer a specific Introduction to Acorns session for new families to come along and learn about the Acorns journey. We recently held a Volunteer Event, inviting prospective volunteers to come and chat to us about their skills and abilities and we hope that this will support us to develop increased peer support with our parent and carer services. We have also recently partnered with local surf school Surf Yonder, providing confidence-boosting Surf Camps for a small group of women, which we hope to continue in the future.

In other news, we have just opened recruitment for three new posts, an Operations Manager, a Children & Young People's Mental Health & Wellbeing Worker, and Children's Outreach Counsellor/Play Therapist. We hope to have these positions filled by September.



**acorns**

*Together, we stand tall*

