UCL Consultants, UCL Institute of Health Equity and 4children work towards a common goal

It is widely believed that inequalities in early childhood can often set the pattern for a child’s later life. However, without an evidenced-based, user-friendly outcomes framework it has been difficult for everyone involved, from parents to professionals, to assess the impact of children’s centres on young children and their families.

Which is why Dr Jessica Allen and Dr Angela Donkin of UCL’s Institute of Health Equity, with the assistance of UCL Consultants Ltd, are currently working with 4Children (www.4children.org.uk) to develop such a framework.

Cameron Logan, Contract Manager for this project for UCL Consultants, commented that the project got off to a flying start, which augurs well for its success, “The speed and ease with which the terms for this important work were agreed and implemented was highly gratifying.”

The framework, which looks at which outcomes are particularly important in the early years for children’s development and how to successfully develop them, will be a useful tool in a number of key ways.

These include:

• Supporting practitioners, commissioners, parents and others to develop pathways for different groups of children and families, and tackle those early inequalities

• Providing data to children’s centre managers and staff that will empower them to make decisions about their programmes and services and their reach

• Assisting local leaders and practitioners to analyse and decide their local priorities and then design programmes to achieve them

By helping children’s centres to maximise their value by focusing their efforts on the most effective ways of improving children’s lives, this tool can be a force for good as children’s centres move into a new phase

“It was great to help with the implementation of a project that will hopefully have a significant impact on local children’s centres and develop a framework that will benefit child development in our communities.”

Cameron Logan, Contract Manager, UCL Consultants Ltd.
About UCL
UCL (University College London) was established in 1826 and is ranked as one of the world’s top-ten universities. The university is a modern, outward-looking institution, with more than 4,000 academic and research staff committed to engaging with the major issues of our times. It has a global reach, with 34% of its students coming from outside the UK, from almost 140 countries.

www.ucl.ac.uk

About UCL Consultants
UCL Consultants Ltd was established by UCL to bring its academics together with national and international clients, providing access to UCL’s leading-edge expertise and world-class facilities. UCL Consultants offers a one-stop office for academics wishing to carry out consultancy work, providing comprehensive contractual, tendering and administrative support, enabling UCL staff to ensure timely, high-quality delivery to meet clients’ requirements. It has extensive experience in working with a wide variety of clients including multi-national, governmental organisations, space agencies, international companies and SME’s.

UCL Consultants is affiliated with UCL Enterprise, which provides UCL’s structures for engaging with business for commercial and societal benefit.

www.uclconsultants.com
www.ucl.ac.uk/enterprise

About Consultancy
Consultancy at UCL plays a major role in showcasing the offerings from our academic community to the commercial world and generating research impact. UCL Consultants Ltd is the consultancy office of UCL representing UCL staff undertaking private consultancy work for external organisations. UCL staff undertake consultancy for industry, governments and global corporations, as well as public bodies and SMEs on projects that can range from a short-term, one-day consultancy, through to large multi-party projects, providing a gateway to the critical specialist knowledge available across the university’s 72 departments.

www.uclconsultants.com