



Numbers for February 2022 were lower than anticipated as the weather and Covid continued to interrupt 'everything'. Stephanie has been busy rescheduling sessions and rescheduling rescheduled sessions. Numbers are 250% higher than pre-pandemic levels. Reminds me of our holiday plans. I think this one was planned and paid for over three years ago. Looking forward to Spring.

Thirty thousand pounds. £30,000. A grant just received by Riding for Smiles from Children in Need after a long set of discussions. We are absolutely delighted to get this grant as the bidding process was challenging. The bid to Children in Need contained a large number of quotes from headteachers, thank you so much. Thank you, Children in Need, and every one of you who donated to CiN.



RfS has revised its Strategy and Business Plan

1. To concentrate on partnerships with schools reducing the radius of influence to Northeast Derbyshire, North Nottinghamshire and areas of south, South Yorkshire.
2. To seek funding for three / four years to enable longer term planning and commitment to our suppliers, staff, and users.
3. To focus on four areas of activity.
 - a. The Mental Health Programme. (Funded to 2025)
 - b. The Deprivation Programme. (Sixty percent funded to 2025)
 - c. Working with other charities for the benefit of their beneficiaries. (Funded by visiting charities)
 - d. Working with a group of adults with mental health problems. (Funded by several grants)
4. To move to Blocks as the unit for delivery, costing and planning. A Block will comprise six sessions, for up to eight children / young people delivered over a half term. (Ease of detailed budgeting, forecasting and operational planning)
5. To actively promote the wheelchair accessible carriage to enhance the commitment to inclusivity.
6. To renew our commitment to the children and young people to treat them with respect and kindness and to strive to understand and meet their needs.

This plan is now implemented. Targets and budgets have been set and operational procedures are being optimised and detailed. Riding for Smiles is actively seeking to fill the funding gap of around £15,000 per year in the Deprivation Programme. The long task of developing bids continues!