

Improving Outcomes for Children with Additional Support Needs

Dunlop Early Childhood Centre
 Kirsty Mitchell – Depute Manager
 Isabel Mack – Early Learning & Childcare Practitioner

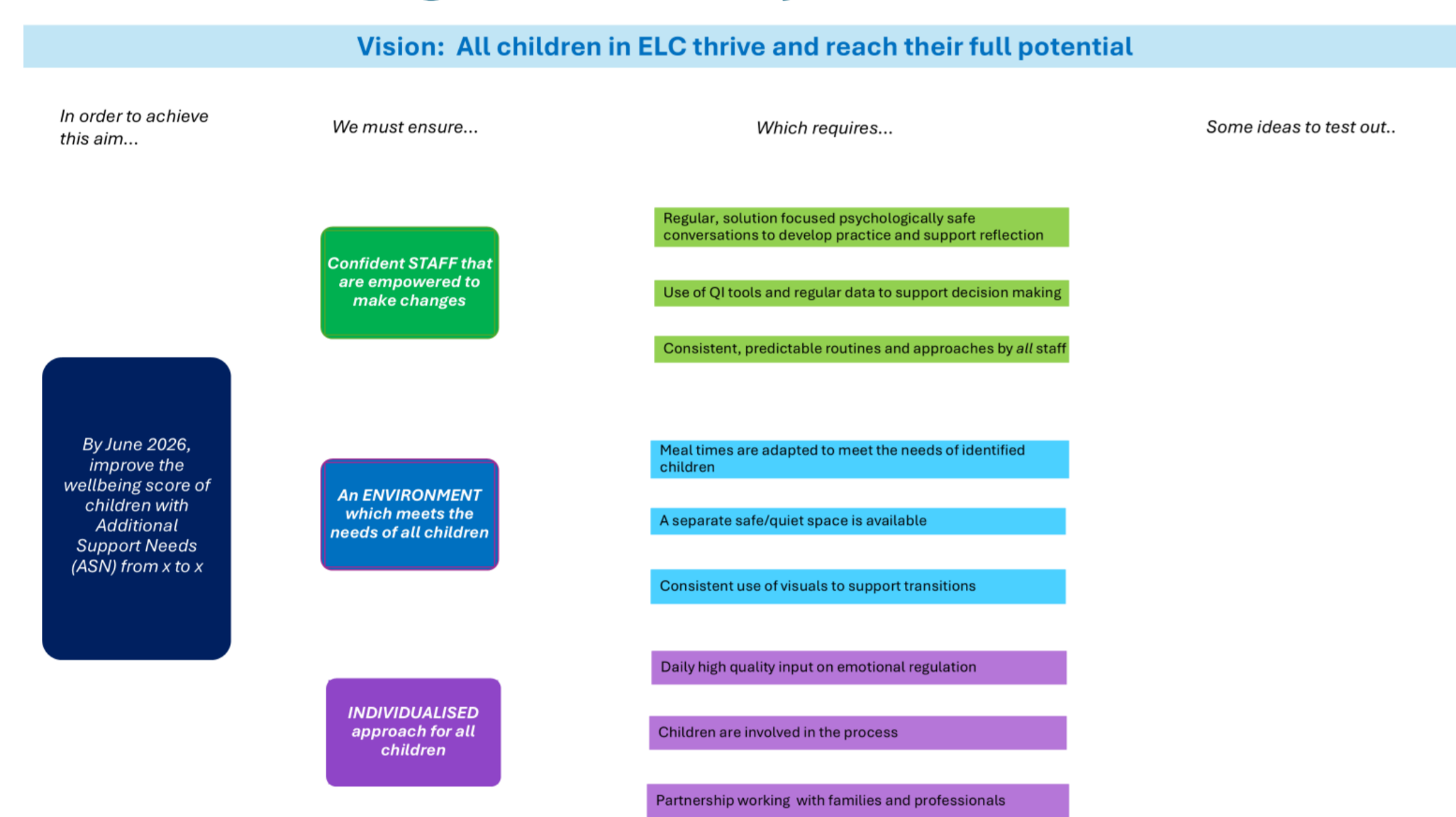
Aim

By April 2026, improve the average daily wellbeing score of children with additional support needs from 3.5 to 4.5 (using Leuven Wellbeing Scale)

Method

- Established an Improvement Team.
- Attended the East Ayrshire QI in ELC Programme.
- Began gathering daily data on children’s wellbeing.
- Used run charts to track variation and progress towards our aim.
- Completed a fishbone tool to get to the root causes and identify change ideas.
- Tested change ideas aligned to a secondary driver.

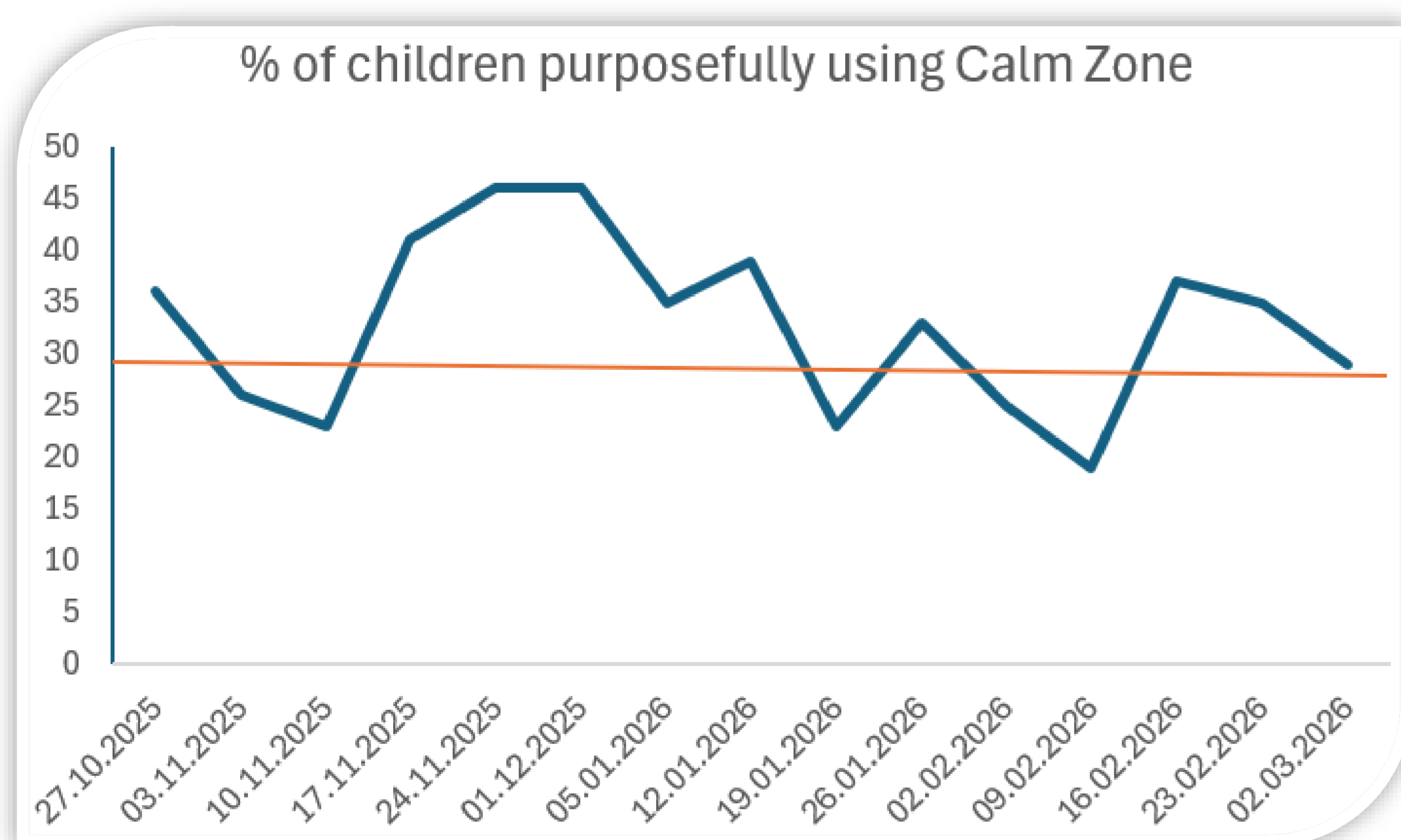
Our Change Theory



Change Ideas Tested

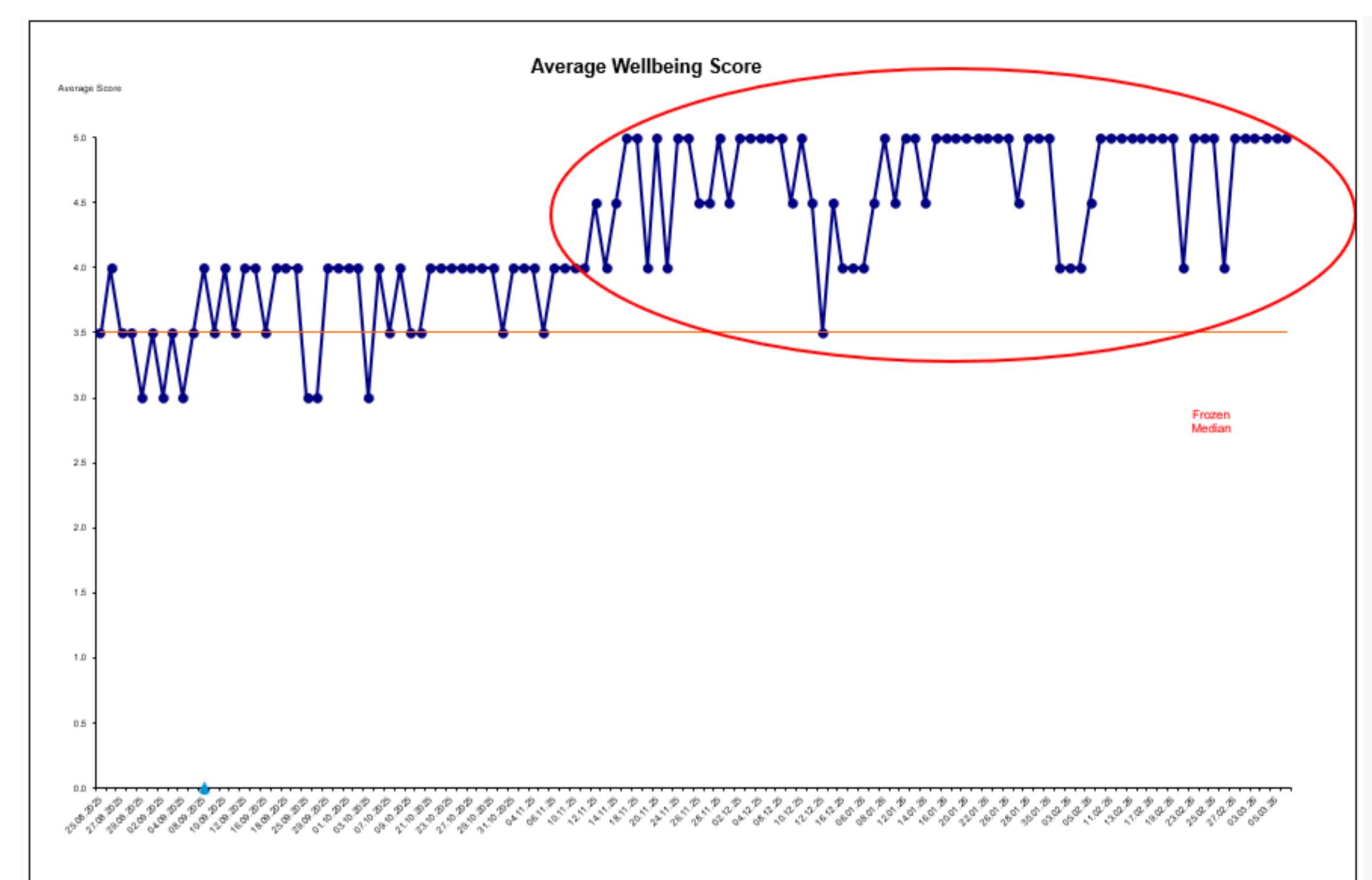
We focused on improving our Calm Zone and tracked how and when children were using it:

- Removal of artwork, move position of Promethean board
- Staff modelling purposeful use of the area
- Addition of sensory resources and soft furnishings



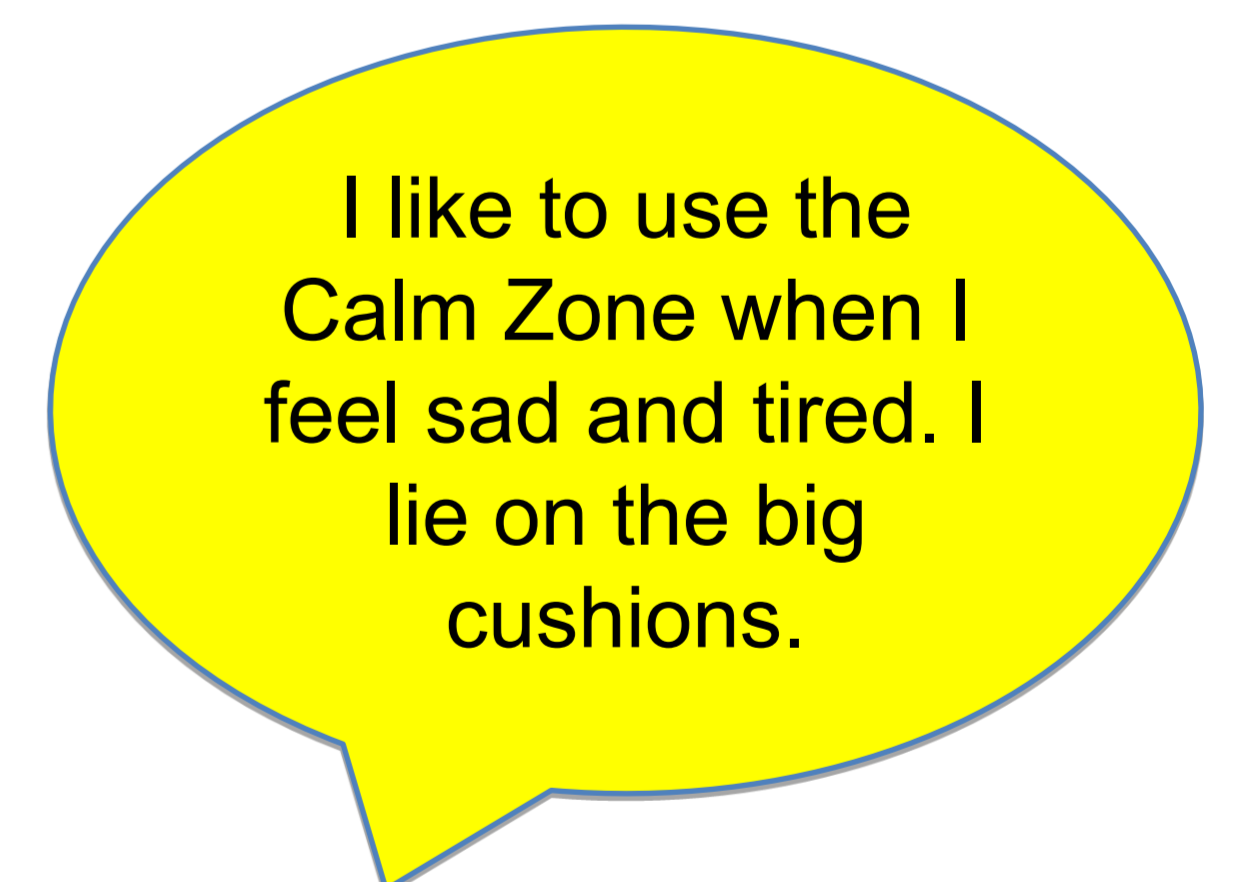
Results

- We exceeded our aim by achieving an average wellbeing score of 5!
- Whilst our project focused in on 2 children we noticed an improvement across the Centre.



Conclusions

- Consistent approach among staff makes the biggest difference.
- Role modelling purposeful use of Calm Zone really helped the children.



Key Learning Points

- Consistency is key when undertaking change.
- Sharing best practice with colleagues across the authority is invaluable in improving outcomes for children.

Next steps

- Continue to encourage use of the Calm Zone as and when required.
- Continue to track the wellbeing of children through the daily emotional check in.