ABCDE Learning Sites: A partnership in continuous learning
Eight Touch Stones

- OFinding a Circle of Connectors
- ORecruiting a Community Animator
- OHosting community conversations to discover assets and what people care about
- OEngaging community groups and associations
- OBuilding connections through social interaction and sharable opportunities
- OVisioning and planning
- OImplementing change (doing and reviewing)
- OFostering celebration
Our UK Learning Sites

- **Our Learning Sites in the UK** include: Bristol, Croydon, Kirklees, Leeds, Gloucestershire, Thurrock, Lichfield, North West -Manchester, Wirral, South Ayrshire and Fife.

- **Outside of the UK** we have a strong presence in East Africa: Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan. We have also worked in South Africa and many other countries around the world.

What is a Nurture Development Learning Site?

Neighbourhood areas that become local community-led examples of ABCD in action.

1. Ayrshire & Arran
2. Bristol
3. Fife
4. Gloucestershire
5. Kirklees
6. Leeds
7. Lichfield
8. North West (Trafford)
9. Thurrock
10. Torbay
11. West Croydon
12. Wirral
Eight Touch Stones
We don't mean this...
We mean this...
Communities are complex, they demand continuous learning
Touch Stone 1: Finding a Community Connector circle

Start your Initiator group
The main protagonists:

- **Leader** – someone that can bring people together to work on an issue

- **Gift Giver** – a person that is willing to contribute their asset to work on an issue.

- **Invisible Person** – a person that has not yet been “discovered” or been convinced to use their assets to help achieve their dreams or address their concerns in the neighborhood.
The unsung hero!

- **Community Connectors** – an individual that is good at discovering what people care about and where their assets can be used. Not a single issue person!
  - Gift centered
  - Well connected
  - Trusted
  - Believe they are welcome
Touch Stone 2: Recruiting a Community Animator
The Characteristics of Community Animator

- A facilitator/includer
- A community builder in their own life
- A child-like curiosity/with an adult presence
- Never does for others what they can do for themselves
Touch Stone 3: Hosting Conversations to Discover Assets and What People Care About.

Appreciating what's good about the community

Discovering, Mapping and Connecting

What do people care about enough to work on?
Ask what else they want to do, who else they know who might be interested in an ideas fair?

Informal social networks

Do your map

e.g. Faith communities, sporting groups, environmental groups etc
Associational Life

Citizen organisations/groups/networks where members do the work and are not paid
Touch Stone 5: Building Connections Through Social Interaction Activities and Shareable Community Opportunities
Seed Swap

Repair Cafe
Touch Stone 6: Visioning and Planning

3 Key Questions:
1. What can we do?
2. What do we need outside help with?
3. What do we need outside agencies to do for us?
Touch Stone 7 - Implementing Change (Doing & Reviewing)
Touch Stone 8: Fostering Celebration
Eight Touch Stones

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