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| Fieldnote Note | 12 | Date | 31/5/21 |
| Locations | Bungalow 1 – Outing | Weather | Hot and sunny weather |
| Child interactions | Dennis, Daniel, Brian, Graham, Jonny | Staff Interactions | Thelma, Sammy and Avril |
| Times | 2pm -7.30 | Total Time in field | 5.5 hours |
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On arrival in Bungalow 1 today, Thelma advised that they were planning a ‘family day out’ today with all the boys and staff. After some organising, I went with Avril to pick up Daniel and then to pick up Brian from his high school some miles away. The car ride over to pick up Brian was filled with questions from Daniel who quizzed me on why I was there and why we were going to a park and not back to the bungalows as normal. He started to need the toilet while we were waiting on Brian coming out of school and so Avril took him to the reception at the school to use the toilet and I waited with Brian as he arrived out shortly after they had left. It was a hot day and I was glad Brian could open my door in the car as I was in the back and the child locks were on.

Brian chatted away and we all made our way over to the park by car, which took about 40 minutes. When Daniel was repeating a question or point, Brian took a few moments to explain to me that Daniel ‘gets fixated on things’ with some non-verbal communication to let me know not to worry about him doing this and that this was his thing. It seemed quite parent/staff-like in a way. Wifi/hotspots are a premium resource and can be tapped into with the iPads etc and various activities on these devices were undertaken during the journey. Once parked up, Brian headed off on Jonny’s scooter, which we had in the back of our car, and he was pursued by Daniel. We eventually located Thelma, Sammy, Jonny, Dennis, and Graham near a skate park and swing park.

Over the course of a couple of hours, the boys played football, went on the skate park and into the swing park and by and large seemed to get on well. This was apparently the first time they’ve all been out together in 18 months as it has been quite tricky. BBQs were arranged and sausages made, although not everyone ate and there seemed to be some concern about general attitudes to food and eating expressed about Jonny and Daniel in particular. Lots of fun and ‘in jokes’ between the boys and the staff as well as play – I was playing around a fair bit with Graham who ‘took me down’ a few times. There was plenty of this kind of rougher play as well between Sammy and some of the boys.

The car journey back was a bit more tense – Avril kept taking wrong turns and it took us a while to get back and there was needle between Brian and Daniel from the start of the journey, which continued throughout with periods of escalation.