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Cygnet South Fest Brings Joy to Care Residents

Residents at social care services across the South coast recently united for the first Cygnet South Fest.

Cygnet Social Care run numerous services across Hampshire and Dorset, all of which support individuals with autism and learning disabilities. The five sites include Amberwood Lodge, Devon Lodge, Nightingale, Oakhurst Lodge and The Squirrels.

Staff and individuals supported at the services brought the festival spirit to Avon Heath Country Park, where they enjoyed a day of music, games and creativity.

Georgia Grou, Activity Coordinator at Nightingale in Bournemouth, highlighted the success of the first Cygnet South Fest.

She said: "It was a really enjoyable day, jam-packed with activities. The atmosphere was vibrant and positive and there was a lot of fun and laughter.

"The people we support were able to build new friendships, find common interests and have lots of fun with each other. Days like this are so important for our Cygnet Social Care residents as it lets them spend time together away from their usual routines and environments."

Residents at the Cygnet Social Care services worked hard alongside the Activity Coordinators to pick the activities for the day, make decorations and help with the set up.

The festival included games such as Connect4 and Jenga as well as face-painting, colouring and a temporary tattoo station. Live music on a handmade stage added to the relaxing atmosphere and attendees socialised whilst enjoying a barbecue.

Georgia said: "The day also gave staff the opportunity to meet and exchange ideas so we can organise more collaborative events like this. The success of our very first Cygnet South Fest means we're already planning for the event to return next year. Everyone is looking forward to it!"