

- Q Julia Bishop (researcher)  
Q2 Beth Nutbrown (researcher)  
A Lindsay (mum)  
C Noah (9)  
D Jacqueline (5)

Q We've sort of started this conversation the other day but I thought it would be really nice if you could just tell us a bit more about yourselves, yourself, your family, who you are, your ages, what you do, that kind of thing. It would just be nice to get to know you.

A So yeah, my name is Lindsay. I am a parent of two, Noah is 9, Jacqueline is 5. It's just us who live here, it's us three. Yeah, and we very much enjoy each other's company. We love toys. Very much into Playmobil over any other brands, I suppose, toys.

Q How has that come about do you think, the Playmobil thing, I'm intrigued?

A I was never into it when I was younger.

C It weren't out when you were younger.

A Yes it was, it was. I've jokingly told my dad since I've got into it that I feel deprived from not having it as a child! I'm like 'Dad, what is this?' I came across it when Noah was about 4 and absolutely fell in love. And I know it sounds really sad when I say it, but the quality of the plastic, I absolutely loved it. I was like 'Oh my God, it's really good' and the things that they make. And lots of toys break and they're not good plastic, Playmobil is robust, I love it, and eventually got more vehicles and more vehicles and then more things, and it just escalated. And then obviously having Jacqueline....

C My first vehicle was that fork truck.

A Yeah, you've still got that, perfect. Yeah and it's escalated by....

Q And do you think that's sort of had a knock-on effect on the children as well?

A Yes. I mean even now I'm sort of 'Let's not buy Playmobil' because I am aware that Noah is now 9, he's going to be 10 at Christmas, his birthday is Christmas Day by the way. It's 'Wow, what a lot of presents'. And yeah, so I honestly don't know where their toys are going to go. I honestly do not know what to buy them for Christmas or where it's going to go. So it's quite bad.

Yeah so we, yeah we're very much into toys. And then we like play, we like outdoor play, parks, swimming, movies – love movies – we love watching movies at home and we love watching movies at the cinema. So yeah.

Q And I think you mentioned you're a dinner lady?

A I am a dinner lady at Abbeycliff School. So I'm out on the playground though, not in the dinner hall, so I'm a lunchtime supervisor basically. So I'm out with the Year 1s and Year

2s. Yeah. And I really like it, I love it, I love interacting with the children and sorting them out and....yeah I love all that.

Q Oh that's great. How long have you been doing that job?

A Two years. So I've been doing that, yeah.

Q And do you do other work as well or is that your main?

A No that is....well I am looking for more work. The reason why I had that one is because we were in a [longterm] relationship and that finished in October last year. So now, being a dinner lady is not ideal because I only do six and a half hours a week, so I find that quite stressful. But I want to....I need another job, I need a job, I need more income, more stability, more....as I am the sole provider.

Q Yes, I can completely understand. But I can see how the dinner lady job would have fitted in so beautifully and it keeps you sort of in contact with your children at the school and stuff.

A Well I don't actually deal with....Noah's on the other side of the school so he's in....

Q Oh is it separated by Key Stage 1/Key Stage 2?

A Yeah. But Jacqueline will be in Year 1 when she goes back, so she will be in that playground. Before she was in the next playground and she'll wave to me and she'll be like 'Mum', I'm like 'I can't, I'm busy' and I'll wave to her. And then all her friends will shout at the gates 'Jacqueline's mum, Jacqueline's mum' and I'll turn round. And I can't go up there because I'm doing my job you know, and I'll wave, you know. But it is quite funny, it's cute, she loves it, she's like....

Q Yeah. Well you seem a very playful person that you're drawn into a job like that and you love playing with them and so on.

A Yeah, I enjoy children. But I find myself drawn to the naughty ones – seriously. Because I will sort it out. And a lot of the naughty ones like me because I will play with them and I will joke around with them, but they know my standards, they know not to misbehave. And obviously you get.... there is some who just don't care, but the majority of them they do listen and they know. And quite often they run past another dinner lady to get to me and go 'Lindsay, can you do this. Lindsay, they're hurting. Lindsay, that's happening, they're having a fight'. And sometimes I'm like...you know because I'm like on the other side of the playground and I'm like 'Alright', because I will deal with it. And quite a lot of the naughty ones – I say naughty, they are challenging, there's a few children who have got challenges – they're cheeky, but there's ways around to get them to stop or to listen or....you know. So I enjoy that.

Q It must be quite satisfying when you can get through as well.

A Yeah I enjoy that. It's this particular age of the girls who are my least favourite. When you....I've not come across it, I mean maybe she's one when she's at school, but the girls in the playground when they come and they're teary and I'm like 'What's wrong?' and they are

real tears, and it will be a case of 'Because she wants to be a princess and her friend said that she's not a princess because she's a princess'. And I'm like 'Well why don't you both be princesses?' 'No, no, no'. And it's that. And I'm like 'Both be princesses' and they're like 'No, you can only have one princess'. I'm like 'Well why don't you be....well share, why don't you be the princess now and you can be the princess...' Oh, some other.... they do not allow that, do not change their game.

Q Structures and rules, yeah.

A So they have these tears and I'm like 'OK'.

Q Yeah, oh it must be fascinating.

A It's quite funny.

Q I've done a bit of research on the playground as well and I love watching this play.

A Yeah. But it's quite like dramatic, these tears, and it's because she wasn't the princess. I'm like 'oh, OK'. It's quite funny and amusing.

Q And so all sorts of things you're just sort of drawing on your own background, your own values really and that's sort of where....

A Yeah. And I love care, I love looking after.....I love looking after them and making sure....and I am a fair person.

Q You sound like you've really sort of taken that, that's a really important value to have.

A Yeah. And when I was saying about road safety, I have a real thing about...it's one of my pet hates about children playing out and about at certain ages, where I think it's highly inappropriate when they are outside. I have....there is a few children in Year 1s and Year 2s and I see them out of school premises and I look at them and think 'Oh my God, they're in my playground' and they're out on their bike on their own, no adult around and they're going across a road. And I'm like 'you're 6, you're 7'. To me, I disagree.

Q Yes. And you've obviously got very clear ideas about that, where do you think that's sort of come from, what's shaped your ideas and attitudes about....

A It's since being a parent. I think since being a parent and watching others think it's normal to play outside. And another thing that I find peculiar is, parents, they let their children go out to play and they don't give them a skipping rope or chalk or anything like that to play on the kerb, they will give them a round ball which bounces into the road. Now to me I think, of all the items your child could be playing with against the road, it's a football, and what do they do with footballs, they roll, or they kick. And then you see these children who are oblivious because a lot of them are not road safety, you know they're oblivious and in the height of the game they run for the ball. And quite often I'll stand there and watch and I think where are the adults? And I just see potential danger in things like that.

Q Yeah. So we were talking a little bit earlier before I turned on the recorder about you've got very strong views about playing out, and you were saying it's partly to do with traffic, danger.

A Yeah. I find, and also just people, I find....yeah. To me it's not a need, it's not a must. For them to explore the outside, which they do, they can explore it alongside me and I will guide them and show them and play with them, and they're with me.

Q Yes. So is that, in your parenting is that what you do, you go out together and play together?

A Yeah we love going out. Yeah we love doing that. Yeah I'm very much into all, you know things like that. But I have, over the years I've asked Noah, because obviously being a parent you think of, you know 'these are your walls' and you know that's that. But I've asked him a couple of times, and I've even asked her I think once, but I've asked Noah a couple of times his feeling on playing out. Because I want him to not just take on my rule and think 'well I'm not allowed to play out and there we have it'. So I have actually asked him over the years 'how do you feel – and don't answer because of what you think I want to hear but how do you feel'. And he says he doesn't want to play out. And I said 'but why, why don't you want to play out when you see some people out there playing?' And he said that 'because it's boring'. I'm like 'well it doesn't look boring, why do you think it's boring'. And I've asked him and he said that he wouldn't....because he wouldn't play football because he's not into football and that tends to be the main game on the road/paths. And he's even said that he'd probably just sit there. So it doesn't really appeal to him either, along a path on a road playing with things like that. So I quite liked that actually he had that thinking, that I don't feel like I'm depriving him or.... It's not that, even if he said 'I really want to go out' I don't think at this age I'd be like 'yeah go out', but I think I would be more aware of his feelings and his wants. But at the moment he is still where I....like in agreement with me. So I quite liked that.

Yeah. And he's very much into....we love crafts, we have a lot of craft stuff, cutting, glue, glitter, oh all sorts – a lot upstairs in Noah's bedroom. And they're quite good that all that stuff is not allowed to be brought out until I'm there, because it's all mixed with glue and paints and....so....but we get that out quite often and they ask me and I'm like 'yeah, get it out' and we get it out. And we put a big mat on Noah's carpet and that's it then, just paint and play.

Q What sort of things do you like making and doing?

A Oh all sorts, it's just....houses. He made a track not long ago what went down the stairs with paper, paper trails, and then went over with his little car and all that, little ramps and stuff. Set of feathers – oh they just randomly make stuff, like stick things together, and sometimes you don't really know what it is. But it kept them quiet and they enjoyed it.

Q I mean where do the ideas come from for making stuff? I mean is it your own experience, or I mean are you on YouTube quite a lot or, you know.

A They just free flow, they just go with their own ideas or....

Q Out of their heads and things.

A Yeah. Sometimes, like I say, sometimes you don't know what it is, but they're just excited with the glue and the glitter and the paints. And sometimes Jacqueline's paints end up turning into a brown blob because she's mixed all the colours together, because she was more excited putting all the colours together.

Q Yeah. Oh that's lovely.

A But yeah I did art at school actually, I did it as a GCSE, yeah.

Q Ah right, so you're quite inclined to arts and crafts and things.

A Yeah. I make my own jewellery as well.

Q Is that as a business, or just a hobby?

A No, that is just purely for me. And every time I make stuff I'm like 'oh....' Yeah. All the inside of that cupboard there and that one there is just beads, it's just all glass beads and all the tools. But yeah, I like creativity, I like....yeah we very much like things like that.  
Keep my hands busy.

Q Yes. So you mentioned doing GCSEs, when did you leave school, did you stay for A levels?

A I'm 34 so many, many years ago, like 18 years ago I left school in Year 11. So I got a B in art. And the teacher said that the only reason why I got a B was because I didn't do my homework! I was like 'Oh yes', I wasn't that great at homework.

Q Oh. But those artistic tendencies have an expression now in your life?

A Yeah. I mean I don't really draw. I'll make stuff with them but it's all like kiddy version, I'll be just messing about with them, I don't really take it serious unless I'm doing my jewellery. But I've not really drawn since I was about 18, really sketched, you know proper drawing. I did a picture a few weeks ago, I was babysitting for two girls and she brought her teddy and she said 'Can you draw my teddy'. And I did it with biro and....

C Mum, look at my Playmobil wheel.

A Oh I like that. And I did the teddy in about 10 minutes. And I was really....I was like 'Oh that looks absolutely identical to the actual teddy bear'. So that was really good. And they were like 'How have you done that'.  
So I was like....oh I've not actually.....

Q It's nice to sort of discover isn't it that without being put on the spot that it's there and you can do it.

A Yeah. I think I did lose it years ago, the want to draw, I don't know.

Q Did you go on? You didn't go on and take them to any other qualifications or anything like that?

A No, no. But in school over the years I've done art classes with Noah and Jacqueline, and helped in school and just done little like sessions what they've done and gone along with Noah and Jacqueline and just.... And I quite like that because it's just, you know you're messing about and they're doing it. And sometimes, you know if you're working alongside your child then you sort of let them to sort of take over. But then sometimes it's separate work and I find myself like being quite serious, I'm like 'oh I will decorate this properly' and I sometimes think 'oh that's quite good'.

Q You obviously find it very satisfying to produce your own things. And you mentioned before about nipping into their rooms late at night and sort of just finishing off what they've done and getting things just so.

A Yeah. Well you can have a look at their bedrooms. Yeah I do like to. Because even my dad, my dad's gone and looked, my sister's looked, my friends have looked, and they're like....it doesn't look like it's been touched, I'm like 'trust me....' they play with that.

Q Is that the houses in their rooms, yeah, the Playmobil?

A The houses, yeah. And they are toys. And I say that to my friends and they're like 'really?' I'm like 'no, I didn't build them' they look stunning – well her castle, I love her castle, but it's a toy, it is a toy. They play with it, they just don't trash it, they play with it and then that's it. And things have been knocked over because they're moving the arms or the little bits, I just go in after....because I just let them play, I don't go in and stand over their shoulder. Because my dad jokes, like 'Don't touch that, don't move that' you know standing there over them. But yeah I go in at night when they're asleep and I just, you know, tidy it up a bit ready for...

Q Ready for the next day as it were, yeah.

A Because I love it, because I think it makes Jacqueline's bedroom...yeah it's all very girly, pink and pretty. I like it you know.

Q Also we were hoping maybe we can do a tour if you'll let us to see your play spaces in your house on another visit, so maybe we can get the guided tour of that.

A Yeah you could have a look at their toys.

Q So I'm interested just a little bit about, you mentioned earlier – well we've just touched on the Playmobil but sort of the LEGO products if there's any that you are quite keen on those sorts of things.

A Yeah we like LEGO but we've got the original LEGO so it's basically just bricks. So it is all down to imagination. So yeah they get that out, they've got a box upstairs, they pull that out and they just randomly build buildings and people and vehicles and, you know they're like 'oh look at this' and rummaging through all the little bits and parts. So I don't necessarily play with the Playmobil with them, that's just....they do that.

Q The LEGO?

A Yeah with the LEGO. They come down and it's 'Mum, look at what I made', it's got walls on it and you know it's just like a monster or whatever it is, and 'oh that's really good'. So they like LEGO because it's their imagination. They build something different every time, or extend it, or their ideas change as they're playing.

Q Yes, so they add to it, they might build something and then continue that another day.

A Yeah.

C I made a Transformer before.

A Yeah you have made a Transformer before.

Q Have you? OK. So I'm not even totally sure what a Transformer is, Noah, actually! Can you explain just briefly?

A Ooh, what's a Transformer?

C It's a car what transforms into like a robot.

Q Oh OK. So is that like a TV programme?

C Yeah, it's a movie.

Q Ah! Is it called Transformers? Yeah I think I have heard of that. Are there like different ones, different Transformers?

C Yes.

A There's different ones, yeah.

C Like the bad guy ones and the good guy ones.

Q OK.

A So there's Optimus Prime and...what are the other names, Noah?

Q Ooh that's a good name.

C Bumble Bee.

A Oh yeah, Bumble Bee.

C I don't really know them all.

A No I don't really. We've got them though haven't we, we've got the movies.

Q OK so there's more than one?

A And they do like cartoon versions, TV series and things like that.

Q So is that what gave you the idea, seeing the film do you think, and then you made one?

A Yeah.

Q Oh that's great.

A So it's got multi-uses.

Q Yeah that's right. Well it fires your imagination seeing these things doesn't it, and then it's really satisfying to produce your own.

A Yeah, they like all that, and then you know like play on it and extend it and stuff, yeah. Or destroy it and start again!

Q And do you have any other sort of...you talked about crafts, talked about LEGO, Playmobil, any other favourite toys or things that they enjoy playing with.

A Well.....

Q Or is that drawing? I mean you say they're very fond of....they've absolutely got stuck into their drawing.

A They love drawing. No not really. I mean like the toys, it just happens to be the Playmobil brand, but the toys vary, they've got lots of like different vehicles, buildings, and they've got a hospital. She's got a church. What else? They've got a school. I mean they've got a police building. So it all varies. Fire engines. So whatever they want to sort of play with, it just happens to be Playmobil brand, but their toys, they've got aeroplanes. So it just varies what toys they've got, do you know what I mean? And then obviously they've got like board games, we've got a load of board games.

Q Yes you mentioned that earlier, you said that you liked playing those.

A Yes, they're all stored in Jacqueline's room actually.

Q Do you play as a family much on the board games or anything like that?

A Yeah we do, yeah, not often, I think that's more down to just they tend to not want to choose that, I mean they're just happy to get on with imaginary play sort of thing.

C Mum look!

A Oh that's really good, well done!

Q2 That's incredible.

Q I just looked over a second ago and there was one wheel, and now the whole page has turned into an incredible vehicle.



Q2 That's fantastic.

A Well done. And yours Jacqueline? What is it sweetie?

D It's a little den.

A Oh it's a little den.

C It's a den on my bed, it's that pink thing.

A Oh is it your bed?

D Yeah, you go through there, that's a little gate, then let's in.

A Oh that's good. That's a high bed, they are the steps. That's really good.

Q That's beautiful. And who is this up here? Is that you?

D Mmm.

Q Ah, overseeing the den.

A Oh yeah, overseeing, with long hair. Jacqueline wants to grow her hair. She's always had hair sort of my length....

Q Yes, sort of in a bob.

A With a fringe. And then a few, was it 6 weeks ago, we had her hair cut again – 7 weeks ago something like that – and she said, after she had the fringe done, immediately after she said 'mum, I don't want a fringe any more, I want to grow my hair'. I was like 'Jacqueline, why didn't you tell me before we had your hair cut, you do realise that we'll be waiting a long time.' So she wants to grow her hair though, because we've not been having it cut lately, only her fringe, only trimmed, because she wants to grow her hair to have plaits like the other girls at school, bless her.

Q Oh, I was wondering where it was coming from.

A Yeah. She asked me a few months ago and said 'mum, can I grow my hair, I want plaits'. I said 'of course you can babe'.

Q Oh that's lovely. So does Jacqueline like sort of anything particularly say girly, or you mentioned sort of the pink in the bedroom, are there any dolls and princess-y type stuff or, I don't know what young folk are into these days.

A Yeah. She's got a whole drawer full of dressing up clothes stuffed to the rim. She has another drawer which is baby stuff. She has a kitchen as well in her bedroom, so she has a wooden kitchen with all....and she loves all that. And you go in her bedroom and you find these bags and you pick them up and there's all wooden toys filled in there, and she's obviously been playing.

Q Right, she's been to the shops is it, yeah?

A She's been to the shops. Yeah she likes....and Noah goes in and plays with her with that as well and sometimes they play shops, or McDonalds. And he'll go in and put his request in. Yeah she likes all that. The other day they did it down here and they were using my....I've got a little jar with like 5p's in and 1p's and 2p's, and Jacqueline asked me the other day, she said 'mum, can I play with that', I was like 'alright'. And they were down here playing shop and she was doing the change, and that was that, and that was that. I thought it was quite cute.

A Beautiful Jacqueline. Oh you've got both sides.

Q Wow, that's been very busy. So three pictures.

A Oh and you've done your castle under your bed! Well done. Oh that's really good.

Q And what are you going on?

A A LEGO book.

Q 'The Ultimate LEGO book', I think you chose that specially, Noah! What's the one you're leaning on there, what's the book you've chosen to press on? A Mouse in the House.

A A Mouse in a House. Oh it's finding the mice on pages – a bit like Where's Wally. Well done, that's really good though. That's really good. I like your plants.

Q So you mentioned Jacqueline's dressing up clothes, I was really interested to know are they sort of influenced by the films that you see or anything, the dressing up clothes?

A She loves princesses, yeah.

D Princesses!

A Princesses, yay! Yes she likes princess-y films, she loves Barbie. Her request is Barbie, she wants Barbie for Christmas, so that will be happening.

Then she said she wants a Barbie house. I was like 'babe, you have a massive building in your room already', she went 'but it's not Barbie'. So I was like 'oh...we haven't really got room for a Barbie house'. But yeah she wants Barbie for Christmas – that will happen.

Q That's great. So there's all kinds of Barbies now isn't there, all sorts of....

A Yeah. I loved Barbie, I had Barbie. I had a Barbie house as well when I was younger. Yeah I loved Barbie.

Q Do you remember anything about the play that you did with the Barbie?

A Not really. But my memories not great from being a child but I.... But I remember I loved dressing them and I loved the dresses and clothes. And I remember having a big sister, little sister and littler sister, so it was like a three sibling....

Q Oh a set of three, yeah?

A Yeah I remember them because I wanted them, I loved them. I didn't really play with the men I don't think, I think it was the women, the girls. But I loved the dressing up bit and the dresses. And my nan used to knit gowns for them. So they were beautiful big gowns with like roses on the sides....amazing. So I remember. Yeah I remember the clothes of them.

Q That's so special isn't it because they would have been quite unique.

A Yeah. Well Noah really wants a Nintendo Switch, so...

Q Yes he mentioned that earlier. How has the idea for that come around, has he seen one at a friend's house or something?

A No, they don't really go to....it's like it's always at school, you know their play, they don't really.... I've had a couple of friends here while their parents are here, so we've had....and we've gone to play at other people's house while I'm there, but we're not really... We had our first sleepover a few weeks ago when I was looking after those two girls. And they absolutely loved it.

Q So the girls came to you, you mean, the ones you were babysitting for you mentioned earlier?

A Yeah. Oh they loved it. They loved it. They slept on here, so they slept on here and then I just slept upstairs with Jacqueline.

Q On the sofa here in this pull out bed that you mentioned.

A I went upstairs with Jacqueline. Yeah they loved it. They were absolutely thrilled they were, they loved it. And it was nice to see in their own house, you know playing with others, because it's always me, Noah, Jacqueline and that's it you know. And when we've had obviously friends over they play for a couple of hours but we're downstairs chatting, you know I'm with my friends, and you know. But it was nice that they had the whole night and the morning playing. You enjoyed it, didn't you?

C What?

A When you had Lacey and Lana here. Yeah they loved it.

Q Oh that's great. So how old were the girls who came to stay, are they Noah's age?

A 8 and 11, yeah. Yeah but it was really nice to see. But other than that it's just in school where they basically play with their friends and get to see them and.....

Q Yes. So where do you think the idea of the Nintendo Switch has come from?

A I think that's to do with school influence, friends. His friends are very much into computers and I think he feels a bit....not there, you know a bit put out.

Q Left out somehow, or different.

A Yeah. So he really wants one. So he's going to get one of them. That's his little wish. A Nintendo Switch. Yeah I think a lot of kids talk about technology at school and the games what they're playing, and they're on this level, or they're doing this, or they've made that character, and I think he feels.....he can't....

Q You mentioned that they have some technology here.

A Yeah, they've got a Nintendo. They've got a Wii where they like that because we've got the fitness board, you know the balance board thing, and so they play games with that. But they don't really go on it often, I think it's because they prefer to do this. They love drawing.

Q I mean do you go on the Wii at all, do you kind of sit with them?

A No, I mean I've gone on it with them a few times, a handful of times and we've had a laugh on it you know. But then I'm like 'you do it then' and give it them back and I go and do lunch or something. I'm not a big fan of games, computerised games, I've never really been into games. I love board games but not....it's just not....I don't know why.

Q And you mentioned earlier I think before again we had the voice recorder on, about you don't have games on your phone.

A No, no.

Q Nothing at all?

A No I don't have one game on my phone, no! But on the tablet, they share the tablet and they've got about 15 games on it, I think.

Q OK. Can you give some examples of ones they particularly like? Or shall we ask them that question?

A Let's ask them that question. Yeah it's all like....

Q And so how do you respond? Do they say 'oh we'd really like to get so-and-so', and you download it? How does it work?

A Yeah we download it. So they always ask to go on it, and the tablet's just down there on that thing, and we just charge it up and then they go on. And then they might say 'oh mum can I get another game?' So for them to do that they need to use my internet on my phone, so I just put my hotspot on and then off they go. And they just go on Play Store and look for a game and download it, it's just a little, like a race game or....

Q Yes you mentioned.

C App Store.

A App Store, yes Noah's App Store.

Q App Store, very good.

A And Jacqueline, Jacqueline knows. They only get the free ones though, so I mean it's not set up to purchase anyway. So yeah it's just the kiddy games.

Q So you mentioned Subway Surfers, I think Jacqueline really likes that.

A She's amazing on it.

Q I mean you were talking about how much you admired what she was doing?

A Just, on Block Craft yeah. Oh yeah they really enjoy that. They make really like intricate detailed buildings as well, and on the ground, and this level, and that room, and that drawer opens up and you could find....they're really good at that. I mean Jacqueline does it as well and I'm like 'that's really good'. It's very time consuming.

Q Does Jacqueline teach herself or is she learning from Noah?

A I think she sort of teaches herself but by watching Noah as well. But she doesn't really ask questions really, I don't think she....I think she's just sort of like 'yeah that's....' because I mean she's quite independent anyway. I mean at the age of 3 she could tie her shoelaces, the proper way as well, not the kiddy bunny rabbit way. I taught her the adult way, at the age of 3, which Noah was put out because Noah wasn't happy at that age because obviously he's 4 years older, he was upset, so we had to keep at it, and then he'd learn. So that was it. So Jacqueline's very much 'no, I'm doing it', yeah that attitude. Noah asks questions more and wants like guidance more, you know on anything really.

Q Is that just at a certain point when he's, would you say, acquiring a skill, developing a new set of knowledge?

A Yeah, or anything really. Jacqueline wants to learn, I don't know, wants to explore her own ability more than ask for help or guidance or even questions. I mean she'll ask questions, more about life. She's coming out with a question lately about how I made her, asking me 'but how did you make me?' And I went and did a little odd job at that time because it was yogurt time and then I went into lunch. So yeah she's quite like, asks about....the other day she asked about death and about.... Yeah, I've had this and I'm dealing with these questions. Oooh, well done ??? Oh that's good.

C Mum, I've finished.

A Ooh let's have a look. Well done. Oh a jack hammer.

C A danger sign.

A Jack hammer.

C And exploding sign. A cement mixer.

A Oh a cement mixer.

C And they mixes that.

A And what's this?

C It's one of those mixers.

A Is it? I thought that's one of them tools what you cut....

C Well, I don't care.

A Oh.

C And it's one of those thingies, one of those lifter things.

A Oh yeah, yeah, those things. Oh these are good, thanks.

Q They're very straight lines, did you use a ruler?

C No, I used.....

A Did you go over the template?

C Yeah I copied the ???

A Ah! Well done, that's really good. And yours Jacqueline, your car.

Q Can I just ask you some totally basic questions about the sort of demographic type stuff? How would you define your ethnic status?

A Oh, well, English.

Q Yes.

A White.

Q And do any of the family have any disabilities as you perceive it, and if so would you be willing to share that knowledge with us?

A No, no we haven't, we haven't got any disabilities. I was having this conversation a couple of weeks ago about eczema. I don't have anyone in my whole family who don't have eczema either, or asthma. We were having this conversation, because it's quite common isn't it? We were talking about it a couple of weeks ago about how common asthma is, and I was like I don't know anyone in my whole family on both sides who don't have either.

Q I think you mentioned you don't own a car.

A No, no I can't drive. I wish I could.

Q May we ask for the childrens' date of birth, I think I can remember Noah's.

A Yes, 2009. And then Jacqueline's is January 2014.

(Pause in tape).

Q Sorry, so we've re-started this to say we are talking about Jacqueline's play.

A So with Jacqueline, she very much likes Barbie's, girly things, princesses, so in her play with toys it will be princesses and dressing up, and then she'll dress up in her own dress, you know a gown, and then she'll be playing with her dollies and babies, and it's all very girly with Jacqueline.

Q Do you think she's taking anything from films, is it putting things in her head?

A Yeah I think with the role play or certain things she says, I think 'that rings a bell' you know she sort of....

Q Actual like phrases from the film you mean?

A She loves Frozen, the film Frozen. So she'll say...I think all girls of that age particularly....yes so she'll say things and I'll think 'oh'. Or Beauty and the Beast, she loves Beauty and the Beast; Cinderella. So she loves all pretty, girly things I think.

Q Did you see the....we were talking earlier weren't we about the Lion King and the fact it's the live action one compared to the animation, so has she seen...

A Yeah, and they've not seen but I want to get it because it's a good film.

Q Yes, so it's the animated version that she's....the cartoon.

A Yeah she loves. But then she loves Transformers. She loves Batman, you know the real Batman films not the cartoon necessarily, she's very much into that. So it's not necessarily cartoon graphics what she likes, yeah I think it's the plot really, she has a dark side, she loves Batman – I love Batman. But Noah's not....

D Me and Noah at the cinema, I got Angry Birds 2.

Q2 Ah, these are ??? at the cinema, are you going to go and see it. Can't wait...

A Tomorrow. We're going tomorrow, we're going swimming tomorrow as well.

Q2 That's a fun day. Are you excited?

C Yeah.

Q2 Are you going to tell us what it was like when we next see you, yeah? Tell us all about Angry Birds. I'm excited, I've not seen the first one so I've got....

A Oh it is really fun, it is funny. Yeah, so she....and then Noah's is more construction, building vehicles, fires, his is more jobs, like labouring jobs. His role play is more building

this, fixing this, and there's a pipe burst and, you know it's....so I think his is probably from TV as well where how they learn how to....obviously it's....

C And police.

A And yeah, police, cops. Noah loves police programmes. Documentaries.

Q Oh right OK. Do you have like a Smart TV or anything?

A No we've just got Freeview, so it's just them channels. And we don't have any internet apart from it on my phone. I have internet on my phone, constantly, so they've got access to the internet. And they like YouTube as well. They like YouTube, so then they do go on the tablet and go on and use my data while they're viewing YouTube. So they do look at Playmobil on YouTube. But yeah they look up....

C I don't really watch Playmobil on YouTube any more.

A Do you not?

Q Did you use to though, Noah?

C Yeah.

A You did, yeah.

Q What sort of things did you like to watch?

C The building houses and the police ones.

A Yeah, and you've watched LEGO as well haven't you, building.

C Yeah.

A Or the adults showing around their LEGO collection and.....

Q Oh yes. Did you watch those unboxing one as well, did you watch unboxing videos?

A They've watched unboxing videos yeah, and new toys.

Q Sorry you were going to say.....Jacqueline likes?

A Jacqueline likes princess-y stuff again.

Q On YouTube?

A On YouTube yeah. Yeah she's very girly, but yeah.

Q Do you watch with them on YouTube or....



A Not on the YouTube. I mean I'm aware what they're watching but I won't sit there watching a collection of Playmobil or....that doesn't appeal to me, I will be doing something in the house most probably.

Q Do they watch together, or are they individual?

A They will watch....no.... separate. I mean sometimes he'll be playing upstairs and she'll come and go 'mum, can I go on the tablet' and I go 'yeah' and then I'll sort it out, and then she'll go on it. But they do sit there watching together as well.

So it varies, what they're probably in the mood for. Because sometimes she won't want to play and then she'll go 'mum, can I watch a film' and I say 'go on then', because all their films are upstairs.

Q I was going to say, do you have DVDs and stuff?

A Yeah I've got a load. I mean mine are all in here. Here and here. But all theirs are upstairs. I mean Noah's got a TV and a DVD player in his bedroom anyway, but they tend to watch them down here and then bring it down. Well like now we've got Baymax, Baymax the Movie, so we put that in not long ago before you came actually. We'll watch that when you go.