

## Where Will We Run Our Co-op?

Questions to ask:

- How many people will the space be for?
- Is there sufficient parking?
- Will it be in a public or private space?
- Are we willing to pay for the space?
- Will the space be affected by weather?
- Are there any safety issues we need to be aware of?
  
- An unpaid space would be the optimum option, but what is available?
- Your home. Lots to boxes to tick:
  - Are you committed to this long term?
  - What about if you/your child is sick / you go on holidays?
  - Is there enough covered/outdoor space?
  - Are you/your partner willing to have people in your space every week?
  - How is your relationship with your neighbours?
  - Complaints to Council can shut you down.
  - What are the Council requirements for your area? If the co-op is a business?
  
- Someone else's home:
  - How committed are they?
  - The needs of the property-holder will always take priority over the co-op

- Property-holder needs to be well aware of how their property is being used.
- Need very good communication between yourself and the property holder.
- What are the needs of the co-op? What are the needs of the property holder?
- What are the boundaries?
- Have the big talk about it. Write it down.
- Ask if the property holder requires money for the space and who is paying for that?
  
- A public space:
  - A park/playground/beach/botanic gardens etc
  - Think about how weather-affected the space will be.
  - Is booking required?
  - Who are the other users of the space? How do you negotiate around that?
  - What other events may be booked in that space?
  
- A paid space:
  - Public hall / school hall / library / church spaces / office space / industrial shed / community centre
  - Who is paying and how?
  - Who is the responsible person?
  - What is needed from the space?
  - Are there any safety issues?
  - Is the space zoned appropriately?

- Multi-use space - are you prepared to work around others / set-up and pack away / who does the set-up and pack away?
- Can you guarantee long term use of the space?



Danielle Trebilco

EMPOWERING HOMELEARNING FAMILIES