



“Isn’t that just
lush?! A little
Bristolian accent!”
I think.

Here we belong.

Dear Bristol,

I found you!

A hidden jewel, a promise of change,
quieter and calmer than my previous home in London.

You accepted, embraced and loved me.

My three daughters are flowers blossoming in your heart. When I catch your accent in their voices, my heart smiles; "Isn't that just lush?! A little Bristolian accent!" I think. Here we belong.

With a spring in my step, I reach our childminder, school, children's centre, nursery, town, doctors, your incredible woodlands, adventure parks and my work.

I stroll through my friendly, buzzing community. Mornings begin with smiles and a hundred 'good mornings' and evenings end with dazzling, warm sunsets over your colourful homes.

As sadness and despair take over me, hope reassures me. I pray for a city in which all these opportunities are available to all. Can you send an arm of love and another of support to the isolated? Can you provide all children with equal opportunities? Can you support all new mothers with the same support I received? As we watch our children thrive, we create communities, develop ideas and plant the seeds of your growth.

I eagerly await your bloom,

Your faithful Kurdish Bristolian friend,

Tara Miran

Dear Tara,

I read your letter and was heartened by your passion to enable all children in Bristol to have the positive experiences your children have had. I've been watching Bristol's progress for 13 years and love seeing how crucial playful, green spaces are in the city today. The seeds of growth are planted – now it's up to us to nurture the bloom.

We all know it takes a village to raise a child. At the University and its new campus, we want to work with the city to improve experiences for all children. Bristol is a child-friendly city which has a Children's Charter, promising to put children's rights at the centre of all decisions. There's also a Playful Bristol strategy to enable everyone to have access to natural and playful environments.

We hope Temple Quarter will be a space where the whole of society can work together on the big challenges of the future, in a playful and green space. Researchers, students and members of the community at Temple Quarter will be working to understand how technology and societal change are going to affect all of our lives in the next 50 years. We're working with partners in the wider Temple Quarter area on ensuring there is a range of childcare provision, including for our future staff and students.

The campus is a few years away but in the meantime we have two public art projects coming up. One is called 'Charting Change' and the other is 'Wild Spaces'. Between them, they will help us understand how the campus will blossom in relation to the communities and the world around it.

A faithful gardener,
Debbie