Reviewer’s report

Title: A Haven of Green space: Learning from a pilot pre-post evaluation of a school-based social and therapeutic horticulture intervention with children

Version: 3 Date: 02 May 2018

Reviewer: Isadora de Oliveira

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for your response and modifications.

Removing the SDQ results throughout the text has largely contributed for better comprehension of the manuscript.
Also, I believe that the explanation concerning the importance of conducting an exploratory pilot study in this scenario is now clear.

Specific comments:

Background: Modifications made on this section were very well conducted and the positioning of information, specially on the second paragraph (page 3, lines 12-24), enhanced its readability.

Methods: The "Leon et al., 2011" reference should be cited in the "analysis" section of the Methods, and not in the conclusion. I suggest the comment concerning sample size should be inserted on this section as well, in order to contribute to the better comprehension of the statistical analysis.

Conclusion: I apologize for not making myself clear in the previous comment regarding the conclusion. Here is my suggestion on how it can be improved for better understanding:
"Evaluation findings suggest that group based horticulture activities facilitated by a trained therapist are features of an intervention associated with positive trends in the mental and emotional wellbeing of children experiencing BESD. In relation to research tools and
procedures, continued efforts are recommended to develop age appropriate methods to assess the impact of interventions on children and young people, and also continued exploration of how they interact with the Five Ways to Wellbeing as an overarching evaluation framework. Further research into the potential offered by interventions such as Haven Green Space is required to verify findings from this pilot study."

**Are the methods appropriate and well described?**
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

**Does the work include the necessary controls?**
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.
Yes

**Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?**
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.
Yes

**Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?**
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.
I am able to assess the statistics

**Quality of written English**
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:
Acceptable

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