



investing in children

Re-evaluation for Investing in Children Membership

Cleves Cross Primary School

For the purpose of this re-evaluation I met with: Ellie, Molly, William, Evana, Maisie, Noah, Robin, Leo, Tegan, Freu, Jackson, Adam, Rhys, Kerian, Tegan and Brody

Since the previous evaluation the school has continued to involve children in a variety of decision-making opportunities. This has been achieved through the school council, who continue to be voted on democratically by their class. However, the school also encourages children to get involved in the school council on their own merit.

The council has continued to meet regularly throughout the year since the previous evaluation. Regular meetings also take place with different teachers to discuss issues that other young people want to raise.

More opportunities for young people, who are not part of the school council, have also been developed so the school can be more inclusive in relation to decision making and ideas generated by everyone. An example of this is the reception class who have been coming up with ideas to develop the new sensory garden, alongside other young people in the school.

This report will identify opportunities children and young people have to participate in decision making and will identify changes that have occurred.

Playtimes

The young people at the school continue to work in partnership with staff to come up with some ideas to continue to make playtimes fun.

Some young people are also given the opportunity to take up the role as Leap Leaders which allows young people to lead on playtime activities.

Maisie explained about what the leap leaders and buddies do at playtimes. She told me: **"They help children enjoy playtimes and come up with lots of different games."**

Ellie added: **"I came up with ideas to do games on the play yard and lots of children always ask to do mouse trap."** She also said: **"We also get involved in new play equipment"**.

Sensory Garden

Rhys explained: **“One of the big things we have been coming up with at the school council meeting is about the new garden we have been planning.”** Rhys added: **“It is now a sensory garden where you can go and smell and touch different things.”**

Tegan said: **“We decided to have a water fountain, plants that feel weird to touch, sun flowers, a solar panel and some wind chimes.”**

Time Line

Several young people have been coming up with ideas to develop a history time line in the school grounds.

Ellie explained: **“We have decided to start the history from caveman time and move it forward from there. The idea is to walk around the line and end up outside the school and present day.”**

Bike and Scooter Shelter

This has been a major new development within the school since the previous evaluation.

William explained: **“We have been working really hard to raise money to build a bike and scooter shed so people can bring them to school.”**

After School Clubs

Young people in every year group are given the opportunity to discuss ideas for after school clubs, with the support of the school council.

Leo said: **“We have meetings to talk about different ideas for clubs.”** He added: **“The clubs which have been put on at the moment are Pop Zumba, Sewing, Spanish and a Christmas club.”**

Charity and Fundraising Activities

Many young people continue to enter into discussion with staff at the school regarding which charities to fundraise for and how best to achieve this.

Molly highlighted, **"We did a big school disco called tickle pink to raise money to help people who have cancer."**

Other fundraising initiatives have recently included supporting the NSPCC and Children in Need.

Recommendation made by young people

There was only one recommendation made by Tegan. She explained: **"We always ask for juice and biscuits for the school council meetings but don't get them."**

I am sure this idea will be supported in the future regarding the benefit that the school council brings to the school.

Conclusion

It was very encouraging to meet so many young people who were enthusiastic about the roles and groups they are involved in.

Cleves Cross Primary continues to create opportunities for young people at the school to get involved in decision-making which often leads to changes and improvements in the school. For these reasons I would like to recommend that the school continues to have Investing in Children Membership.

I would like to thank everyone who helped me to write this evaluation. When I asked the young people if they agreed that the school should continue to have Investing in Children membership they all said: **"Yes"**. Therefore, I have no hesitation in recommending that Cleves Cross Primary School continues to be an Investing in Children member. Well done!

The following young people have endorsed this report: Ellie, Molly, William, Evana, Maisie, Noah, Robin, Leo, Tegan, Freu, Jackson, Adam, Rhys, Kerian, Tegan and Brody..

**Rob Johnson
Investing in Children CIC
January 2014**

Investing in Children CIC

One Point Hub, Burns Green, Chester-le-Street, County Durham, DH3 3QH

Tel: 0191 3729200

Website: www.investinginchildren.net

We are a Community Interest Company (registered in England & Wales) No. 8428687