

## "Ethos – Why Bother?"

West Park Centre, Dundee



September 2004



### ORGANISATION

**Bruntsfield Primary School, Edinburgh**

### FOCUS

**Citizenship – Developing a Participative Ethos**

#### *Can you briefly describe any initiatives or projects in place that illustrate the focus of our conference?*

As part of a Whole School Citizenship programme we have developed a programme promoting positive character traits: Caring, Respect, Responsibility, Trustworthiness, Fairness and Citizenship. Pupils, staff and parents drew up indicators for how this might look at 3 levels: personal, school, wider/global community. Each month one of the theme forms the focus of recognition and awareness and a link has been made to House Points and celebrations.

#### *How are these initiatives being monitored and evaluated?*

The initiative is still in the first year of implementation so no formal evaluation has been carried out. The programme is monitored by the Head Teacher through discussion with all school staff and teachers' planning. The views of pupils are also listened to and the Pupil Council feedback views.

#### *What are some of the biggest challenges faced by teachers and young people or members of your organisation, in implementing the initiatives or projects?*

With a change of staff and the pressure from other areas of the curriculum it is important that the project remains consistently implemented and 'fresh'.

#### *What has worked well?*

Pupils receive badges when they are 'caught' demonstrating a positive trait. Pupils trade badges for House Points and they have really enjoyed this competitive element of the programme. Pupils are also using the vocabulary of the programme in a natural way and will say things like "He was really caring today".

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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***What did not work & lessons learned?***

Fortunately we have not had anything go wrong, not work or fail at this stage.

***Future plans?***

We want to keep momentum of the project going and hope to build stronger links with Enterprise projects to support and extend the programme.

***Any materials the school/organisation is willing to share or relevant publications that are for sale?***

Materials are available online at [www.charactercounts.org](http://www.charactercounts.org)

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