

Action on Ethos

This Case Study describes one school's account

of involving parents and the local community

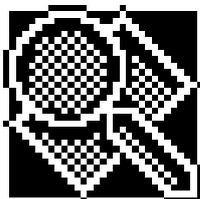
in investigating Ethos.

It highlights the making of a video about the nursery as a

way of involving parents in the life of the school.

It also describes visits to local sites as a way of raising

the profile of the nursery among the local community.



CLACKMANNAN NURSERY SCHOOL

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Head teacher: Mrs. Miranda A. Miller

1 School Background

I have been head teacher at Clackmannan Nursery School for three years and during that time I have tried to build upon and further improve good home school links and parental involvement. All staff and parents have been encouraged to be proud of their nursery – all have skills and expertise. I am keen to promote a sense of “ownership” of the nursery by parents and have used the existing parent/teacher group as a good starting point for this.

2 General Aims

- To strengthen and further develop home-school links by
 - encouraging parents to become more involved in the daily running of the nursery;
 - by giving parents the opportunity to learn about the importance of children's play through ‘hands on’ experience;
- To strengthen links with the local community through visits to the library, parks, gardens and other places of local interest;
- To strengthen European links by building on contact made last year with a Rumanian Kindergarten.

3 Methods/Strategies

Parents

Many working parents are not able to come in and help in the nursery. They can't actually see what their child is capable of whilst at nursery. We invited a local resident to come in and take a video of the children at play. We then organised an open evening to invite parents to view the video and handed out questionnaires at end of the evening for feedback. This video is now in the parents' lending library.

We had an open evening on “Nursery Philosophy” – what is the staff trying to achieve. Display boards were organised describing the different areas in the nursery showing children at play – photographs and illustrations containing key words explaining skills and strategies which the children acquire and develop in each area. All the staff were involved and after an introductory talk each team member gave parents a talk about chosen play areas.

We put rota boards for parents in the nursery entrance area and asked parents to sign up for various activities. These included running the toy and book lending library; responsibility

