

Developing Active & Responsible Citizens



September 2002



SCHOOL →

Ferguslie Primary School, Renfrewshire

FOCUS →

Opportunities for developing citizenship in the primary school

Can you describe briefly any initiatives or projects in place to encourage the development of education for citizenship?

- ✓ 'Citizen of the Month' Awards – two pupils from each stage area awarded certificates for showing responsibility in the area being focused on that month; pupils and staff nominate the winners
- ✓ Buddy Systems – P7s support new P1s then later in the year carry out paired reading with them. Secondary pupils support infant classes. Community volunteers support paired reading for P6 & P7.
- ✓ Pupil Council – Elected representatives from P4 to P7 meet weekly and select a secretary and a chair who learn to run meetings and negotiate on behalf of pupils.

- ✓ Curriculum topics – social studies topics including enterprise allow for core skills and knowledge to be taught.
- ✓ Home Link Activities – various projects encourage parents and community to take the lead.

How these initiatives are being monitored and evaluated?

All initiatives are regularly monitored through feedback from all involved. Curriculum initiatives are monitored through school's monitoring and evaluation programme and changes are made as appropriate. Parents are part of the school's monitoring and evaluation workshops linked to the development plan. Pupils' views are recorded in the pupil council minutes and an annual pupil survey is presently being introduced.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Ferguslie Primary School
Crawfurd Drive
Paisley
PA3 1JU
Renfrewshire
tel: 0141 889 3646
fax 0141 849 7121

Contact:
Mary Taylor
Headteacher

What are some of the biggest challenges faced by teachers and young people in implementing the initiatives or projects?

- ✓ Time management – balancing the benefits of the initiatives and the demands of the 5 – 14 curriculum including target setting.
- ✓ Differing values and expectations –learning to respect the views and values of all involved.

What has worked well?

- ✓ Pupil council developments
- ✓ Buddy systems
- ✓ Focusing on issues for a short time with targets

What did not work & lessons learned?

No activities have been abandoned but over the years individual projects have been adapted to meet the needs of the particular participating group. We have learned that no activity can be carried forward exactly as it stands but needs to be planned and adjusted for the particular circumstances.

Future plans?

More involvement of pupils in evaluating education for citizenship activities.

Any materials the school is willing to share or relevant publications that are for sale.

We are always happy to welcome visitors to allow staff, pupils and parents to share their ideas and experiences.

Learning & Teaching Scotland have published a case study of Ferguslie Primary School on their Education for Citizenship web page.

This can be accessed at:

www.ltscotland.com/citizenship/case_studies