

Developing Active & Responsible Citizens



September 2002



SCHOOL →

Winton Primary School, North Ayrshire

FOCUS →

The way forward to active pupil participation

Initiatives or projects in place to encourage the development of education for citizenship

This is now the third year we have had a pupil council. Each class elects representatives and then the council elects office bearers including chair, vice-chair, agenda and minute secretaries. Areas in which the council has been influential in changing school policy are seating arrangements in the lunch hall and playground development. This session the council will be involved in more playground development, the development of a garden and many other issues.

How are these initiatives being monitored and evaluated?

The minutes of each meeting are produced by two minute secretaries and distributed to all classes, the staff room, the school notice board and the School Board.

Many aspects of own work are related to the school development plan and are monitored by the senior management team.

The playground supervisors will attend a council meeting to liaise about developments.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Winton Primary School
Anderson Terrace
Ardrossan
KA22 8JP
North Ayrshire
tel: 01294 464443
fax 01294 472713

Contact:
Sue McKenzie
Headteacher

e-mail
wintonpr@aol.com

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

Time to release pupil council representatives from class and for them to feed back to their class, for agendas to be given to minute secretaries and for them to collate and form the agenda. It is also a challenge to 'keep up' with the council's suggestions.

What has worked well?

The contribution the pupil council has made to the school ethos – the positive influence the council has made in several areas of school life. The office-bearers 'doubling-up': two agenda secretaries and two minute secretaries work well together and support each other.

What did not work & lessons learned?

The council themselves voted to 'let go' two agenda secretaries for not carrying out their duties. They gave them three chances before this action was taken to emphasise that a commitment to the council is essential.

Future plans?

To always discuss dedication to the position on the Council at the initial meeting.
To involve the council as much as possible in aspects of school life.