



Re-evaluation for Investing in Children membership

Stanley Crook Primary School

For the purpose of this re-evaluation I had the pleasure of meeting with Nathan, Jordan, Hannah, Reece, Ryan, Samantha and Jake who are part of the school council.

When I arrived at the school I received a very warm welcome from the children and rather than sitting down and talking about all the changes they have made to their school. I was given a guided tour and shown the areas of the school they have changed as a result of their ongoing dialogue with the teachers.

This report will highlight and identify the positive partnership that exists between the children and the teachers to bring about changes within the school. The council continue to meet on a regular basis. The school council members hold class councils before they meet, to gather the issues that other children want to discuss. **'We ask people in our class during class meetings what they would like us to do on the school council, we then talk about it at these meetings.'**

The school council showed me the suggestion boxes in each of the team areas. **"We always take the boxes to our meetings and we look through what the other children want."** Reece told me **"some of the people in my team wanted new books so we talked about it with the teachers and looked through the catalogues and chose some books for our class."**

Evidence of dialogue and change

I asked the school council to explain to me what changes they have made within school since the last time they met with Investing in Children.

Toilets

An area that the children of Stanley Crook Primary repeatedly asked the school council to improve was the girls and boys toilets. Hannah informed me **"they were horrible, old and smelly."** The children took this issue to the teachers and it was agreed by everyone that the toilets were in need of refurbishing. Reece informed me **"we have given them a make over."** The children looked at designs in their teams and the whole school voted on which one was the best. During my visit to school the builders were working on the boys toilets and they were almost finished and very impressive.

Lap Tops

The children suggested to teachers that it would be a good idea to have lap tops in the school. **"We thought that it would be best to have them in the class rooms, so we have a trolley with lap tops in them so we can work in classes instead of going to the computer room."**

Year 6 Benches

The children from year six suggested to council members that they should be allowed to sit on benches during assembly. The council representatives for team three took this to their teacher. **“We talked about it with the teacher, and agreed that it was a good idea, we talked about it agreed to set the benches out and be good when sitting on them.”**

School Activities

The children and staff regularly plan extra activities and outings from the school. Hannah informed me **“When I first came to this school, the teachers decided what we would do for the activities. But now we do. When we were going to go to Kingswood we didn’t want to, so we decided to go to the Metro Centre instead and go bowling.”**

I would like to thank everyone for helping me write this evaluation. The children and staff at Stanley Crook Primary work well together ensuring that everyone feels safe and comfortable to express their valued ideas and opinions. Members of the school council are involved in running their school and make real decisions about issues that affect them.

There is no doubt that Stanley Crook Primary provides the opportunity for all children to have a say and bring about meaningful change. When I asked the children if they agreed with this evaluation, there was a resounding YES. Jordan said **“We should be an Investing in Children member because everyone in our school gets to have a say, the teachers listen to us and we listen to the teachers.”** Nathan added **“We can have our say instead of the grown ups always deciding things.”** I therefore have no hesitation in recommending along with Nathan, Jordan, Hannah, Reece, Ryan, and Samantha that Stanley Crook Primary School receives Investing in Children membership for another year. Well done!

**Kim Kyle
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