



## Evaluation for Investing in Children membership

### Chillingham Road Primary School Newcastle

For the purpose of this application I met with: Louise, Lucy, Rachel, Luke, Nathan, Thomas, Shahan, Lilly, Louis, Elizabeth and Ben.

All of these children were members of the school council and they ranged from year 2 to year 6.

#### **Evidence of dialogue with children and young people:**

- Each year group were allocated £25 and the school council went to Woolworths to spend the money on new wet playground equipment. The council asked the children in their classes what they would like, before going and buying the stuff. They bought: mouse-trap, a 3d puzzle wall, a mini pool table, Guess Who, Battleships, Kurplunk, 3D Snakes and Ladders, Chess and Drafts, a fishing game for the reception class and a Postman Pat game for the reception class. The children on the school council asked the reception children what they would like and bought them for them because they were too young to go to Woolworths.
- The children asked each class what they would like to change and they came up with soap and potpourri. The staff asked the children what they thought about the toilets and the children said that the ones in reception were horrible. It was then decided that the toilets would have to change so each class were given 4 designs for the new toilets and they had the opportunity to say which one they prefer. Just as important though, the children said that they would like soap and potpourri in the toilets and they got exactly that. Everyone agreed that the toilets were fantastic now.
- The power point club did a presentation all about Investing in Children so everyone knew about it and what would be happening when we came to visit.
- Each class has 2 student council boxes – one for children and one for staff to say what they would like to improve in the school. It is totally confidential if you want to put something in and the teachers read them out to see if everyone agrees. Someone said that they would like a chess game in the playground and this is something that is going to happen soon! (everyone is looking forward to it!)
- Someone else requested that the children wear school hoodies and again this is something that is available. The school now sell hoodies with their logo on.
- Last year's school council got pieces of paper and drew what they would like the playground to look like. A lot of people said that they would like a stage so the school are currently getting grants of money to pay for this to happen.
- The children have asked for a Buddy Stop in their playground so when someone doesn't have anyone to play with, they can go to the buddy stop and a buddy will come over and play with them. This is something they are hoping to get soon.
- Last year's school council said that that they would like cloths on the table in the dining hall. Everyone agrees with this and think it's a great idea.

- The school council requested that a new wall was built in the playground and the staff agreed that the wall wasn't safe so it was knocked down and re-built during the Easter holidays.

**Recommendations made by the children:**

“We should have a climbing frame”

“We should all learn how to use the climbing wall”

“A safer surface in the playground would be nice because this one is really hard and it hurts if you fall over”

“It would be great if we could do trampolining in PE”

“I would like it if people on packed lunches could sit with the people on school dinners”

“Instead of us having to wash our hands all of the time, we should have that ant bacterial gel that they use in hospitals”

“More after school clubs like a skipping team or basketball team”

“More art”

“The school should sort out the garden and the paths that run through it so we can all walk through”

The children on the school council at Chillingham Road Primary School were absolutely fantastic. They welcomed me into their meeting and had no hesitations in telling me what they have been working on and what they would like to work on in the future. The school are obviously having ongoing dialogue with their pupils and therefore I would like to recommend them for Investing in Children membership.

All of the children I spoke to have agreed the content of this report and also the recommendations.

**Ashleigh Greathead**  
**Investing in Children**  
**July 2007**