



Re-evaluation for Investing in Children membership

Kingston Park Primary School

For the purpose of this re-evaluation I met with Katie, Harley, Louisa, Khaleel, Cameron, Catlin, Tommili, Jack, Josh and Dylan; who are all members of the school council. The school council continues to be central to the process of dialogue within Kingston Park Primary School.

This report will highlight and identify the positive partnership that exists between the children and teachers to bring about changes within the school. The council continue to meet every two weeks. The school council members hold class councils before they meet, to gather the issues that other children want to discuss. Harley informed me **“we have two classes for each year, so we have a council member from each class, the only rule that we have made is that it must be a girl and a boy.”** Dylan added **“this makes it fair so everyone has someone to talk to and put their views across.”**

The school council also have other ways to make sure that all the children at Kingston Park Primary School have the opportunity to have their views listened to. Katie informed me **“we have suggestion slips that people can fill in and give to us during class or playtime, or they can put them in the suggestion box and we read them with Miss Owens and try to do things about them. We make sure that we always get back to people with an answer.”** Cameron added **“Mrs Evans also has a worry box, if you are upset about anything and don’t know who to talk to you put your worry in there and she will come and sort things out with you.”**

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.

Playground

It was highlighted in last year’s evaluation that the children at Kingston Park Primary had been very busy buying new equipment and games for the school yards.

This year the whole school has gone even further. With the support of Mr Alexander the schools PE co-ordinator the children have turned their outside playing areas into zones. **“We asked our classes if they liked the idea of having zones in the playground. We then talked about the zones they would want. After lots of talking we now have the zones.”** Kahleel added **“the zones we have are the quiet zone, activity zone, team zone and skipping zone.”** Harley was very keen to tell me about the newly built storage **“we decided as well as having the zones to have the stage. We had it built so we can sing and dance and it looks onto the quiet zone so people can watch.”**

The school council were concerned that some of the younger children were getting hurt in the zoned areas. Louisa informed me **“we talked about safety in the playground at our meeting and then in class. The whole school decided that keystone 1 play in the yard and on the wood and keystone 2 on the zones.”**

When the children were re-designing the school yard some of the suggestions they received on the suggestion slips was to buy a new buddy bench as the old bench was damaged by vandals. **“The old buddy bench was designed by us but we bought the new one. The year six monitors bring it in every night now.”** Tommili added **“We have just used our school council budget to buy a new buddy stop as the old one broke; we have just ordered the new one.”**

Playground Leaders and Supervisors

As a lot of time has been spent on re-designing the playground the school council asked the children what they thought of the new zones and games. Harley told me **“a lot of people didn’t know the games and wanted to be shown them.”** As a direct result of this request the school council and Mr Alexander came up with the idea of playground leaders and supervisors. The plan is for the playground leaders to run the different zones. Jack informed me **“We thought that the supervisors should be people from years five and six, it is up to them to make sure everyone is happy and the leaders show people the games.”**

Children who wanted to be either a playground leader or supervisor need to apply to the school council for the roles. Jack informed me **“I think it’s good that we are interviewing people because playtime is important and we need to be safe and happy.”** Josh added **“We are going to have full time people and reserves incase anyone is poorly.”**

School Bike Shed

The children of Kingston park primary informed the school council that they wanted a bike shed at the front of the school. **“Because people said they wanted one, we worked really hard on a U Decide application but didn’t get the money.”** However this determined school did not let that stop them. Harley informed me **“we met with Mrs Evans and the school managed to get us the money and we now have our new bike shed.”**

Changing Rooms

A new piece of work that the school council have been asked to look at is the changing rooms. The council members showed me the numerous suggestions slips asking for change. **“The changing rooms are far to hot.”, “Please get fans in the changing rooms, my clothes stick to me because it is so hot.”** Jack informed me **“We are looking into how much this will cost, we are planning on having fans fitted in the changing rooms, hopefully it will be sorted soon.”**

It is evident from meeting with the school council that the children at Kingston Park Primary School are given the freedom to develop their own ideas and as a result of this they make changes to school life to meet their needs. The children are actively involved in real decision making, with a real budget, giving them a true voice in matters that affect their lives.

All the children I met with throughout the school were very positive about Kingston Park Primary School. If I needed anymore evidence as the group were leaving the room Jack said to me **“We all get an opinion in this school, most of the things that have happened in school is what the children want to happen.”** Jack I agree with you. There is no doubt Kingston Park Primary School 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!

I therefore have no hesitation in recommending Kingston Park Primary School continues to be an Investing in Children member.

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