



Bushmills Children and Young People's Charter

**P6 & P7 in Ballytober Primary,
Bushmills Primary &
Dunseverick Primary say...**

January 2014





The Bushmills Education Project is a project running in 2013-2014. The aim of the project is that parents, the community and other organisations work together to help children and young people in Bushmills have good support to help them learn.

The project is being led by BREF - Bushmills Residents & Environmental Forum.

One of the activities in the project is to write a 'charter' – the Bushmills Children and Young People's Charter. It is a chance for pupils in the primary schools, the secondary school, the Den, youth organisations and other young people to say what they think is important about learning. Then the community will listen to what the young people say and plan what they can do to help.

We will write down the main things the young people and the community said and put it in a charter – this will remind everyone about the role they play in helping young people in Bushmills to learn. In June 2014 there will be a children and young people's day in Bushmills, when we will launch the charter.

In December the P6 and P7 pupils in three primary schools started some work on the charter. We talked about:

- What makes a good learner
- What young people need to help them learn

This leaflet is all about what they said. This is just the start – we need to ask the younger primary school pupils what they think, as well as secondary pupils and other young people in Bushmills.

Enjoy reading ...!

Have a look at the mini-website for the Charter:

<http://bushmills-cyp.weebly.com>



Children thought about what makes a good learner

A good learner...



Pupils thought of a time when they learnt something; then they thought about *why* they remembered it, for example the teacher made it fun, it relates to a personal experience, or they played a game or made up a rhyme.

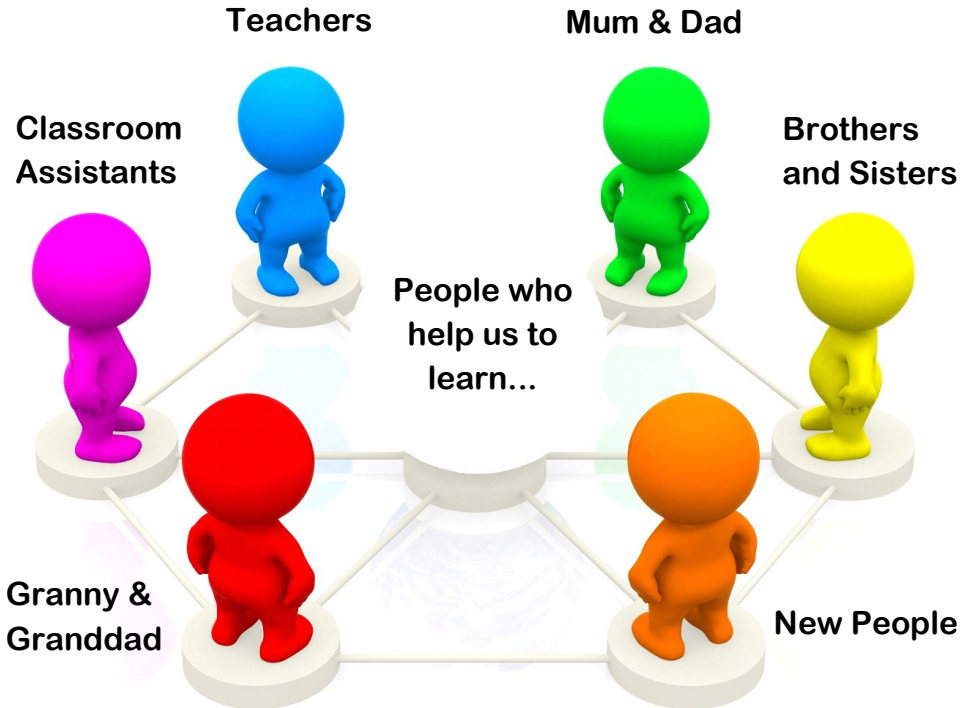
Then pupils wrote down the characteristics of a good learner. We took all the individual ideas, put them into categories for similar ideas, then each pupil had stick four sticky dots to vote for the qualities they thought were most important. The word wall above shows the most important characteristics of a good learner, as voted for by the pupils.

Children said they needed help to learn...

The children thought about what they need to help them. Pupils said that people were most important – especially teachers, mums and dads. Pupils also liked it when people such as ‘scientists’ came to their school.

“I think that your teacher will really inspire you to learn and try hard.”

“You need your parents to be supportive and listen to any questions you have.”





Children listed all the resources they use in learning. ICT is important – laptops, iPADS, the internet, the whiteboard and educational games.

The pupils also listed lots of different books – home reading books, library books, textbooks, dictionaries and thesauruses, newspapers and Bibles.

They also said that they got ideas from looking at different objects, and knew that adults used lots of different resources to help them learn.



Youth Club
Homework Club
Brownies / GB
Church
Football Coach



Pupils talked about the different activities they are involved in. Their own words express the importance of varied activities and interaction to learning and developing social skills.

“The people who own youth club helps us play games and meet other people then we become friends and play a game together.”

“If someone was stuck I could only help them if I know what way the work it out, so if I was stuck I can use the way that they use to help me through work.”

“Homework club helps me when I am stuck but I play games.”

Pupils knew that a range of activities helps them to learn and develop skills, naming some regular classroom activities ...



Pupils wrote questions they might ask other pupils, revealing much about how they think about learning.

Children need to be happy to come to school:

Do you like coming to school? If not why don't you?

Are you scared in school? (If you are tell the teacher.)

Are you getting bullied? Tell the teacher if you are.

It is important for pupils to learn in a range of groupings:

Do you like working in a team or working on your own better?

Do you like working in group work? If you do what do you like about it?

Pupils understood that other factors can help or hinder learning:

Do you think healthy food at break time and lunch time help you think better with your work?



The type of relationship a pupil has with a teacher or other adult is important:

Do you like to have a little conversation with an adult or your teacher?

Do you think that when an adult helps you with your homework and show you they care do you work harder to please them?

Pupils understood the value of setting goals for oneself, and that children can be competitive:

What would you want to be better at?

Do you think it is a good thing to push yourself?

If someone is better at something than you would you get angry or would you say well done?

They also knew that sometimes it's about hard work!

I know everything about it because we go over it and practice it.

We remember what we got wrong before.

I remember how to do long multiplication but I kept on trying and got it.

This is the first step in a larger piece of work involving primary schools, a secondary school, and youth organisations in the Bushmills area.

The charter will be launched at a Children and Young People's Festival in June 2014.

Contact Details...

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