



Fleet Primary School

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Governor Visit Report

Area of focus for visit:	Rights Respecting School (RRS)	Link Governor:	Annie Balme
Date of meeting:	2 nd March 2020	Link Staff Member and role:	Nicola Budd – RRS Lead

Context:

Fleet is a 'UNICEF Rights Respecting School'. That is we promote the values of respect, dignity and non-discrimination, children's self-esteem and wellbeing is boosted and they are less likely to suffer from stress. A child who understands their rights understands how they and others should be treated and their sense of self-worth is strengthened.

The Rights Respecting Schools Award gives children a powerful language to use to express themselves and to challenge the way they are treated. They are also able to challenge injustices for other children. Children and young people are empowered to access information that enables them to make informed decisions about their learning, health and wellbeing.

As a school we are working towards making the Rights Respecting Schools more high profile. This means we are committed to placing the values and principles of the convention on the rights of the child at the heart of our practise. We listen to children's views and include them in decision making. We also plan to integrate the rights of the child into our topic based curriculum, so children know how their rights are and were/were not respected in the past and across the world today. Children apply to be 'Rights Respecting School Ambassadors' and if successful work together to plan and deliver different projects throughout the year for the school based on the different rights in the United Nations Convention of Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The link governor meets with Lead teacher for RRS to discuss the ongoing work and progress towards embedding the values of UNICEF's Rights Respecting Schools. The outcome of this meeting is then shared via this report to the full governing body and published on the governor's page of the school website.

Meeting Report:

I met with Nicola Budd on Monday the 2nd March 2020 to be updated on how Fleet School is doing as a Rights Respecting School. She explained to me how the four key areas of impact for children - wellbeing, participation, relationships and self-esteem - are embedded in Fleet's ethos and practise, and how Fleet values itself as making a positive impact, outside the school gates, on the whole community.

This academic year the Rights Respecting Ambassadors have met weekly with Nicola on a Wednesday from 12-12.30. The RR team of ambassadors is made up of 2 children from Yr 3, then up to 4 children from each of Years 4-6. The children are ambassadors for 2 years so that they

have the opportunity to really make an impact and they learn the skills to be an ambassador from pre-existing ambassadors.

Nicola explained to me how at each meeting they look at what is in the news and what UNICEF is promoting and from that the children vote and decide on their focus for the term. In the Autumn Term, they started looking at reducing the amount of plastic that is used at Fleet. They did surveys on the children throughout the school to see the use of plastic at school. From the results, they decided that the key focus would be to reduce single use water bottles and they have been selling sustainable water bottles before school on a Monday. Nicola has only been buying 10 bottles at a time, to gauge the amount needed so as not to create waste.

For this project, the ambassadors worked in three groups: one group did a power point presentation for the whole school, one group did something for the newsletter and one group made posters to promote this project. Each project the groups rotate.

During the Spring Term the above project has continued, and the ambassadors have emailed the manager at Cater Link with a view to reducing the amount of single use plastic in the packed lunches.

For their next project, the ambassadors are looking at collecting litter and they want to go to a different area, to see how much litter there is there compared to where they live. At the moment, the children are researching where they could do this and one idea is Chalkwell, as it is a different environment than where Fleet is. To prepare for this, the children are doing research through UNICEF and they are watching Newsround to see what children are doing in other countries to help with the problem of litter. The ambassadors have also decided that they'd like to write letters to different companies to encourage them to reduce the amount of waste that they produce. They're starting with McDonalds, Marks and Spencers and Walkers.

Nicola explained to me the other ways that the rest of the school community learn about RRS and what the ambassadors and the rest of the school community are doing. There is a noticeboard, and updates are often in the weekly newsletter and on the school website. Teachers make links where they can in their planning and every class has a Rights Respecting Charter that teachers refer to. In Head Teacher assemblies, Mr McGibbon makes links to the areas of focus and refers to the RR articles.

Thank you Nicola for your time, it was good to hear all the great things that the ambassadors are up to and the wider school community. In the Summer Term, Nicola and I have agreed that I will come to one of the Wednesday meetings to meet the ambassadors and to see what they have been up to.

Written By: Annie Balme

Date Written: 9th March 2020