

Camberley Infant School and Nursery – Childcare and Study Support activities



Organisation

Camberley Infant School and Nursery,
Surrey Heath Confederation of
Schools

Target Group(s)

Year 1 and Year 2 children who, for a variety of reasons, may not have participated in any after school activity thus far

Context

Research carried out by Ofsted found that sports, the arts and other learning activities can transform attitudes, build self-esteem and encourage more effective learning in children. Extra-curricular activities can also improve motivation and attendance and have a positive impact on learning. The aim of this project was to support invited children to engage in a six week course of after school activities to stimulate, engage and support learning.

Action planned

A combination of Teaching Assistants and Teachers volunteered to run the course on a rotation system with two members of staff running one session each. The sessions run on a Thursday after school from 3pm-3.30pm and cost each child 50p per session. The money covers the cost of materials specifically needed for the arts and cookery sessions.

Each member of staff selected a topic that they are personally interested in. Sessions run were on ICT, PE, music, cooking, drama and art. A maximum of 20 children attend each session and for the first course 18 of the 20 children attending had been invited to attend on the basis that they had not been involved in after school activities before.

Two terms of after school provision were run very successfully in 2009 and further courses planned for 2010.

Outcomes and Impact

The teaching staff and head teacher have reported that the biggest impact has been on the children who previously had not attended after school activities. These children were very pleased to do something that they saw so many other children doing. They took great delight in taking artwork and food home to show their parents. They truly felt included in school life through their participation.

As a result of the after school project, a group of parents have expressed an interest in helping to set up and run a gardening club at the school. This idea is now being explored.



Next Steps

Continue to operate the after school provision which is fully subscribed as it was from the start. Children now attend on a first come first served basis. An overall reduction has been seen in participation in paid for after school provision at Camberley Infant School due to the economic downturn, and two further courses are planned for January 2010 and winter 2010 to continue to give children access to after school activity.