

# Holy Trinity Church of England School Family Learning – ‘Grandparents to School Day’



## Organisation

Holy Trinity C of E Primary School,  
Surrey Heath Confederation of  
Schools

## Target Group(s)

Open invitation to the grandparents of the children  
at the school

## Context

As many grandparents provide care outside school hours, and manage children's homework, the day gave these important carers a better understanding of the changes in schooling, and a practical learning session on helping children to read, and how to listen to children read.

## Action planned

Invitations were issued and tickets sent on a first come first served basis. Demand for places was high and the pre-set limit for visitors (for practical reasons such as catering) was soon reached. If cancellations came through, those on the waiting list were given places. The event was held on a Friday, so those grandparents who lived a distance from their families could combine the day with a weekend visit. The day's programme included: a tour of the school and grounds guided by Year 5 children, lunch with grandchildren and then time in the classroom with the children. During the classroom session (which was a regular lesson), the grandparents participated alongside the children. They also had a separate session on how to help children read, and support children by reading at home.

## Outcomes and Impact

The day was very well supported with 140 grandparents attending (420 children at the school). Everyone involved benefited from the day especially the grandparents who learnt about schooling today, and how to support their grandchildren. The Year 5 pupils truly felt responsible for the visitors while at the school and ensured they were safe and well looked after.

Post event questionnaires were distributed to the grandparents and a very high percentage were returned completed. All of the feedback was of the highest standard and grandparents commented specifically on the quality and friendliness of the staff, the outstanding behaviour of the children and the high quality of the lunch served. Many comments were made on how proud the children are of their school and there were no negative comments or suggestions for improvement. Examples of comments include:-

"...your school is a beautiful place to learn in"

"I congratulate the head teacher and all the staff for their dedication and attitude. WELL DONE!"

"I was impressed with how enthusiastic the children were to participate. I wish I was at school again."

The reading session was "...extremely interestingly and helpful."

An added bonus of the day had been the positive atmosphere created at the school by having such supportive and respectful visitors on site. The benefit of the day was felt beyond just those directly involved.

To bridge together the unique qualities of each educational setting within the confederation to the greater benefit of the wider community and the individuals within it



### Next Steps

After the overwhelming success of this initial day, as indicated by the post event survey, the school is considering a second grandparents event focused on sharing a further skill with this interested audience.

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