

CASE STUDY - TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF RED CARDS GIVEN FOR BEHAVIOUR ISSUES

NAME OF SCHOOL	ILFRACOMBE CE JUNIOR SCHOOL
HEALTH THEME	IMPROVING EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING



SUMMARY OF HEALTHY SCHOOLS PLUS ACTIONS

- Implementation of 'Thrive' Programme – staff trained in Thrive format [teachers, MTAs and Governors] Training later shared with rest of staff
- A dedicated calm place called 'The Haven' set up in school and later 'The Thrive' room created from former classroom. A wide variety of resources purchased – art/craft, musical, games etc.
- Thrive Action Plan compiled
- Thrive assessments carried out on identified target children, alongside parents where possible
- Thrive actions carried out on 1:1 and small group basis [target children and peer role models]
- Target group of children [and role models] taken on a number of residential and day trips to Exmoor, seafront, beach and park
- Programme of support also includes role play, circle time, creative projects, Forest School activities as well as links with the community to develop important skills e.g. empathy, kindness
- Yurt set up and resourced as an extra area to work with target children
- Life Education Centre Drugs Education Bus organised

- Designated Thrive Co-ordinator [full time] and 2 part-time Thrive practitioners appointed to work with target children and their parents
- Setting up of a Dad's Support Group
- Extra Parents Evening arranged for target children transferring to secondary school
- Partnership working – liaison with staff in Infant School and College to support transition of vulnerable children. Link with Parent Support Adviser, Outdoor Activities Co-ordinator and CAMHS

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

- Gradual reduction in Red Cards issued during first year from 24 to 11. By spring term 2011 only 5 Red Cards given, significantly exceeding the original Target of a reduction to 18 per term
- All 5 target children in Year 6 achieved or exceeded their academic targets in KS2 SATs
- One teacher noted that the target children are actually commenting on acts of kindness performed by other children.
- Ofsted inspection report – *'A particular strength of the school is its caring and supportive atmosphere ... Those pupils and their families who require additional support are provided for very well through, for example, The Haven and Thrive initiatives, and work with external agencies and partners ensures that their needs are well met'*
- Quote from parent – *'I loved whittling and making bread, and the chance to spend the day with my child'*

REFLECTIONS FROM THE SCHOOL

This Intervention is proving very successful. The children are always keen to come to sessions and are becoming more able to express how they are feeling and why. Following the Thrive assessment, parents were impressed at the accuracy of the specific diagnosis for their child and keen to try out the suggested home activities. As a school we are totally committed to the Thrive initiative. It has provided an important tool for understanding and supporting children with often severe emotional problems. A number of staff have commented on how the training has helped them reflect upon their own practice, giving them a better understanding of why children behave in a certain way and to respond in a more positive manner. It has also enabled us to build closer relationships with parents, many of whom have been reluctant to come into school in the past.

Other successful Interventions

- Emotional Health – Positive Play activities for the whole school
- Emotional Health – Increasing involvement of vulnerable children in after-school clubs

For further information regarding this intervention, please contact -

CONTACT NAME

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