

Shared Learning

Newsletter produced by ContinYou (formerly CEDC) for teachers and parents involved in CEDC's Share programme which encourages parents and children to learn together.

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The Shared Learning Newsletter
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Share
Learning Together

Share and citizenship

There is a growing awareness of the importance of citizenship education in schools. This is reflected in the National Curriculum Framework for Citizenship, which was introduced in 1999. The framework sets out the aims and objectives of citizenship education and provides a framework for the development of citizenship education in schools.

Citizenship

Citizenship education is a broad term that encompasses a range of activities and experiences. It is about helping young people to understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens and to develop the skills and attitudes needed to participate effectively in society.

Active citizenship

Active citizenship is a key component of citizenship education. It involves young people taking part in activities that help them to understand and improve their community. This can include things like volunteering, campaigning, and taking part in local decision-making.

Accreditation

Accreditation is a process by which schools are recognized as meeting certain standards of quality. In the case of citizenship education, accreditation is provided by the Citizenship Foundation. Schools that are accredited are recognized as providing a high quality of citizenship education.

Share and citizenship

Share is a programme that encourages parents and children to learn together. It provides a range of resources and activities that can be used in the home or in school. Share is a great way for parents and children to spend time together and to learn from each other.

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Share news ...

Nottingham gains credits



Pictured here with Liz Barnes, Nottingham's Share Co-ordinator, are parents from Brocklewood Infant and Nursery School and Sycamore Infant and Nursery School. They are among the first in Nottingham City to gain accreditation from the Open College Network for the work they have done with their children. For a couple of parents, it is the first time they have ever received a certificate. As Liz Barnes commented: 'It's wonderful! I was really thrilled to see these parents receive their certificates and to see how much their confidence has grown.' All the parents have continued to study and have started courses at New College in subjects such as encaustic art, sign language and aromatherapy.

Beanz meanz Share!

The bean-growing competition at Welbeck Community First School in Ashington, Northumberland, was a great success with both parents and children. The children were all invited to the Share parents' meeting for the official measuring and prize-giving. The winner of the competition was Claire Turnbull, whose bean grew to fifty centimetres. Claire's dad is the captain of a ship and he has become so involved in Share that he is finishing off his accreditation by e-mail off the coast of Japan!

The Share parents at Welbeck School are all very interested in ICT and would like to combine their Share activities with gaining the computer accreditation unit, so the ICT Co-ordinator has agreed to be trained as a Share teacher. Karen Hudson, the current Share teacher is taking up a new post at the Coquet Early Excellence Centre in the autumn term. We wish her luck and hope to see her involved again with Share!



Measuring the height of the beans

Thank you Share!

Anne Schofield, a Family Learning Co-ordinator in Leicester, has sent in this lovely letter from Malika Daudbhai, a parent at Sandfield Close Primary School:

'I am Malika Daudbhai and I am writing about how Share has become a part of my life and how it has helped my children and me. I am the mother of three beautiful children, one is 15 and is in upper school, and the other is in Year 1.

I first heard about the Share Group in Sandfield Close, where I pick up and drop my younger son daily. At the start I was quite nervous, but then found out there was nothing to be worried about. I am very pleased that I have joined the group and have learnt so many things from Share. I only wish that I could have found something similar to Share before, when my older son was at primary school and needed help, which at that time I couldn't give. But now whenever my 5 year old son needs help, I am capable of giving it to him, as well as to my older son.

Since I joined the Share group, the bond in the relationship with my children has become stronger, has turned more friendly and we are closer than before. I have learnt the skills of how to listen to a child, without ignoring them. I have also learnt to give more support to my kids, and to be patient, to be fair and many other things to help make my children happy. In addition, my family has become closer, and all the activities that Share provided were done as a proper family. These activities have changed parts of my life by giving us something to do, some fun, as well as quality time.

Thank you, Share, and to the teachers, for all your kind support, help and encouragement. I couldn't have reached this far without each and every one of you. I cannot thank you enough.'

From Malika Daudbhai

... from around the country

Puppets and parents

Ten parents at Billinge Chapel End School meet regularly to plan and discuss Share activities for their children. The photo on the right shows Share parents and their children taking part in puppet-making workshops. The puppets were then used to make decorations and to tell stories which had been written by the children.



Active parents in Kirklees!

Mums at Hyrstmount Junior School in Batley, West Yorkshire, have a very active KS2 Share group. They organised a netball match between staff and themselves and used the money gained from sponsorship to take the Share children out to McDonald's for lunch and to buy them a selection of reference books. The books were then presented, along with certificates, in assembly, to celebrate Share in the school. All of the mums involved are Muslim and, for some of them, English is their second language. Encouragingly, all of the Share parents will gain at least one unit of accreditation this year and they are now coming into school to take part in the 'Better Readers' scheme.

Share at Tor Yr Ywen, Cardiff

Parents at the Ton Yr Ywen Share group have been making flags with their children, so that the children could practise using a ruler to draw straight lines. They have also played number snap to encourage the children to develop faster addition skills, and have made a weather chart to help the children to learn how to record data.

Sara Evans, a Share parent, says: 'I am really enjoying taking part in the project. It has been lovely to get to know other parents and to find out how our children learn and what they do in school all day and don't tell us about! My son and I have both really enjoyed the time we have spent together on the activities and look forward to the coming weeks.'

This poem comes from Lucy Sultana, a parent at Ton Yr Ywen Primary School in Cardiff:

My thoughts on Share

*What is it about 'Share', I ask myself?
Well, it's much more fun than taking books off the shelf,
An insight into teaching, the hard work that goes in,
The endless spoiled copies that go in the bin,
I spend much more quality time with my son,
Going through the activities on a 'one to one',
An hour a week in class with Mrs Morgan;
When I was in school, I didn't have this much fun!
We arrange ourselves and all have a coffee;
Mrs Buchan makes cakes, be it cherry or toffee,
Doing drawing or gluing, it varies each time,
A wordsearch one week, the next a rhyme,
A sense of achievement, commitment and care,
Drives me on every week to make sure I'm there,
But the best thing of all, and this is true, is when Ben says:
'Thanks for helping, Mum, I really love you.'*

Maths comes alive in Leeds

Robyn France's mum from St Michael's Primary School, Headingley, made a big floor game with her daughter to encourage her to apply her knowledge of shapes. Having laid out the game on the floor, she called out the names of particular shapes and Robyn ran and stood on the relevant card. This activity was such a success that Robyn's mum came into class during the Numeracy Hour and played it with small groups of children.

