



St Mary's Primary School & Nursery, Dundee.

Quality Indicators Demonstrated

1.2

Curriculum

- Courses and Programmes

3.1

Learning and Teaching

- Teacher's planning

3.3

- Pupils' learning experiences

Support for Pupils

4.1

- Personal & Social Development

Management, Leadership and Quality Assurance

7.4

- Leadership

St Mary's Primary School and Nursery class is situated in Dundee towards the North West of the City, in the suburb of Lochee. It is a denominational school which serves the community in the surrounding area. The school has a roll of 282 pupils in 11 classes, including 2 composite classes, and 60 places in the nursery. 95% of the school pupils adhere to the Catholic tradition.

Quality Indicators

1.2 Courses and Programmes

Anti-sectarianism was learned and taught mainly through the 5-14 English Language and Personal & Social Development curriculum areas. The programme was undertaken with a P7 class with some challenging behaviour as a result of having had a succession of temporary teachers in P6. The teacher developed an integrated topic which would present questions for the pupils to answer with a focus on relationships, community and communication. A child-centred approach was seen as the ideal, and flexibility to meet the needs of the class, the school, the local area and the Local Authority was seen to be crucial to the success of this project.

3.1 Teacher's planning

Teaching objectives identified from the Anti-sectarianism work included giving pupils information about forms of Sectarianism and the damaging effects on those who encounter it. The topic was used as a context for Programmes of Study in English Language e.g. Functional Writing, Imaginative Writing; Punctuation and Structure. The topic also linked well with the RME learning programme about Judaism, (emphasising that lack of knowledge and understanding leads to fear and ridicule e.g. anti-semitism and linking that to lack of understanding of Catholic practice.) Future learning will be incorporated into planning for the Environmental Studies topic on India, as part of Understanding about People and Place.

3.3 Pupils' learning experiences

In mixed ability groups, pupils devised a letter to Mr Solve-it-All outlining a problematic issue involving bullying, exclusion, non-tolerance etc. Each group cooperatively wrote a play, designed topic boards and character boards; they designed leaflets and posters advertising their play, wrote a story about their play, and made evaluative decisions about each others' plays. Throughout, the activities generated discussion about exclusion, how it might feel to be different, to be "sectioned off" for some reason linked to the Anti-sectarianism issue.

4.1 Personal & Social Development

Anti-sectarianism work is a key element of the Personal & Social Development curriculum in the school.

7.4 Leadership

The Head Teacher provided support throughout the pilot work.

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