

Community Cohesion Policy
John Randall Primary School

Also refer to the school's equality policy.
Community cohesion action plan (Jan '10)

Our school shares a site with a Primary MLD school. We work together to provide opportunities for pupils to access joint activities from time to time.

We are situated in an area with a high level of deprivation

51.5% Free School Meals
26.5% SEN

The current population of South Telford is 21,400 which is almost 13% of the overall Borough. It is estimated that there will be a 20% rise in its population over the next 15 years, taking it to around 25,700 by 2026. Its profile includes the following characteristics:

- It has fewer 'owner occupied' dwellings (61.2%) than there are in the Borough as a whole (68.8%) and more 'housing association/registered social landlord' properties. House prices in the area increased by 158% between 200/01 and 2007.
- Compared with the Borough as a whole, South Telford has a higher proportion of its residents employed in the manufacturing and construction industry.
- Educational attainment in the South Cluster is below average for the Borough at all Key Stages and there is a higher proportion of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training, (9.5% 477 young people borough wide **16.8% 105 young people in the south cluster**) The percentage of pupil's eligible for free school meals and

who have a special education need were both above the average for the whole Borough. Nonetheless, the cluster has examples of many pupils who have achieved above the National GCSE average attainment

- There is evidence of health inequalities. Death rates (from all causes) for those aged under 75 are higher than the Borough average. Likewise, the percentage of mothers smoking is significantly higher than the Borough as a whole and numbers breastfeeding is lower. .
- In 2005/06 there were a higher number of incidents of vandalism and anti social behaviour than else where in Telford and Wrekin. In a recent survey, anti-social behaviour was cited by residents as the issue most in need of improvement.
- At 17.2% the area has a higher proportion of single person households than the borough as a whole (14.5%) and has a higher proportion of lone parent households, 10.9% compared with 7.9% across the Borough.
- The average household income in South Telford was £30,500 in 2007, with the borough average being £32,800. This varies by ward with average being Ironbridge Gorge £40,900, Madeley £31,400, Cuckoo Oak £28,400 and Woodside £26,800.

In a significant number of homes formal education is not highly valued and aspirations are low.

Few pupils are supported effectively with their homework, many do not return homework consistently.

Our school community is predominantly White British. Due to this we plan specific 'raising awareness' opportunities.

However, an understanding of different backgrounds/cultures needs to be part of ongoing work in school so it is not seen as an 'add on'. We celebrate festivals such as Divali and ask parents/visitors in as part of RE curriculum.

SEAL materials are used extensively as the main PHSE curriculum.

Our local community use our building/grounds - the Baptist Church worshipped here for almost year but have now returned to their original building due to a drop in finances. The Minister comes in regularly to lead assembly, as does the local C of E vicar (also a governor).

We track vulnerable pupil groups through data grids and Raise online.

We work hard to encourage parents to become more involved and plan events such as Mother's/Father's day lunches, transition breakfasts and invite parents to breakfast club. We encourage parents to feel welcome here and try to be available as much as possible without an appointment.

We regularly seek the views of stakeholders and act on them.

We have an active School council and are part of the South Cluster School council.

We visit our local old people's rest room and perform twice yearly.

We are planning community events in 2010 to commemorate the birth of John Randall.

We have strong links with the NSPCC, we use their services and fund raise for them. School council plan fundraising activities to support Comic relief and Children in Need.

G+T pupils have built up links with a school in Croatia and have written letters.

We take part in the Samaritan's purse shoe box initiative.

In order to develop a cohesive community, we endeavour to:

- Promote understanding and engagement between communities

- Encourage all children and families to feel part of the wider community
- Understand the needs and hopes of all our communities
- Eliminate discrimination
- Increase life opportunities for all
- Ensure teaching and the curriculum explores and addresses the issues of diversity

See equality policy for roles and responsibilities.

Helen Middleton

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