

Camphill Glencraig Forest School Project

Collaboration between Special and
Mainstream Schools in a Forest
School Setting

Camphill Communities

Northern Ireland

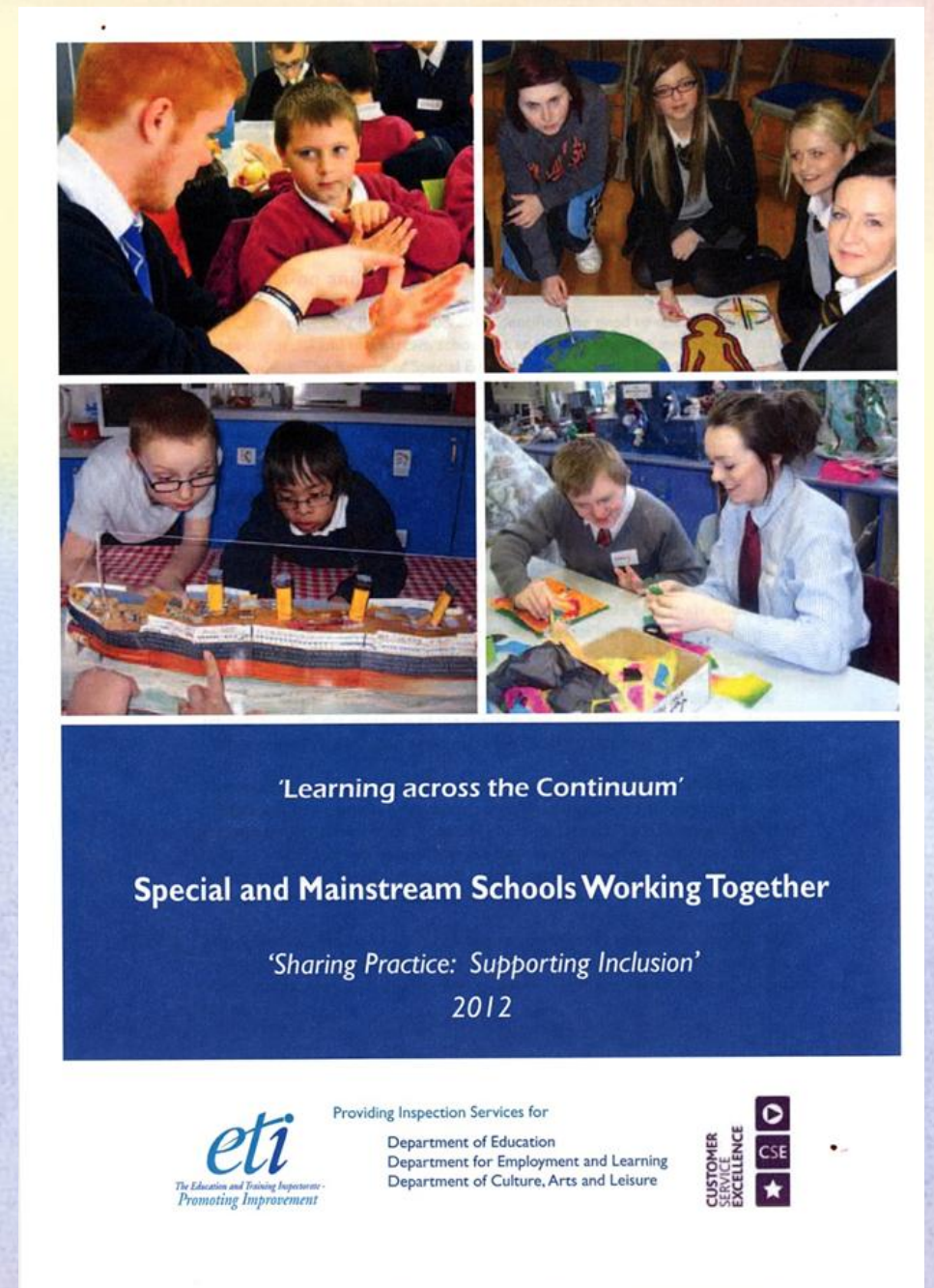


A Sustainable Approach



Learning Across the Continuum

The project was part of a Collaborative Project by the Department of Education in Northern Ireland. Where special schools worked on a joint curriculum project of their choosing with a neighbouring mainstream school.



Camphill Glencraig Forest School

In June 2011 it was decided by Camphill Glencraig to use the Forest School approach in order to help pupils from mainstream schools engage with pupils from Camphill and raise their awareness of sustainable development.



Camphill Community Glencraig

- Glencraig is situated on the southern shore of Belfast Lough.
- The estate is approximately 100 acres in size.
- Around 150 people live in the Community and another 80 would attend on a daily basis.



Supporting people with a Learning Disability

- Residential Care for Adults
- Day Care for Adults
- Boarding School Accommodation for Children and young people
- Schooling for Day Pupils





Glencraig Integrated Primary School

Two classes from a local Primary School and one class from Camphill Glencraig agreed to participate in the project from November to December 2011.



Pre-Course Questionnaire

The pupils completed a questionnaire before the Project about:

- Camphill Community Glencraig
- The people who live and work here
- The activities they will engage in

What do you know about the Camphill Community Glencraig?

I've never been so I don't know.

Do you know anybody who lives/works or goes to school at the Camphill Community Glencraig?

Yes, I know 1 person.

What are your views about participating in the Camphill Community Glencraig Forest School and meeting new people?

I think it will be fun to meet new people.

What type of activities do you think you will be involved in during the Forest School Sessions?

I think I will make things out of stuff outside.

Forest School Sessions

**Each Session was divide
up into four parts**

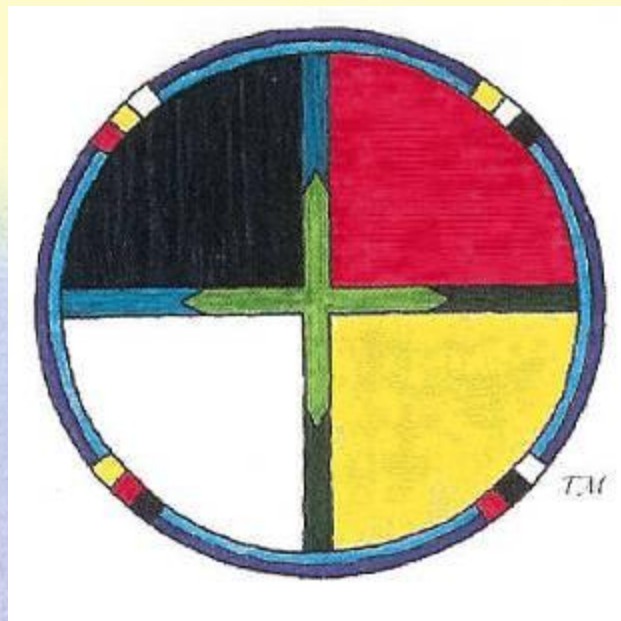
- Nature walk
- Break
- Games
- Activities



Holistic Approaches

Circle of Courage

Generosity



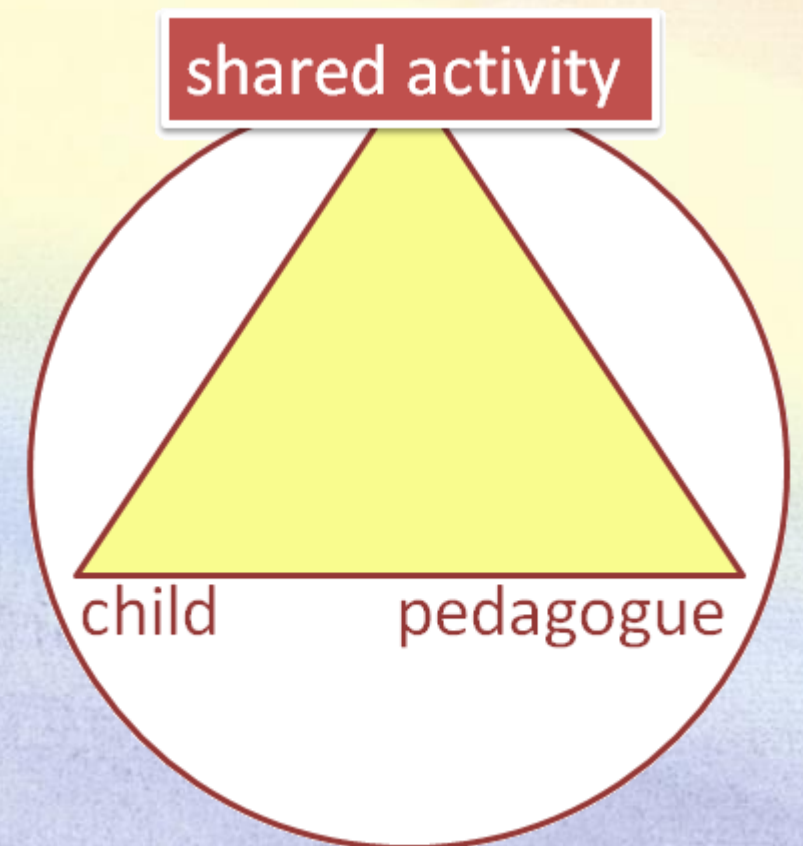
Independence

Belonging

Mastery

www.reclaiming.org

The Common Third

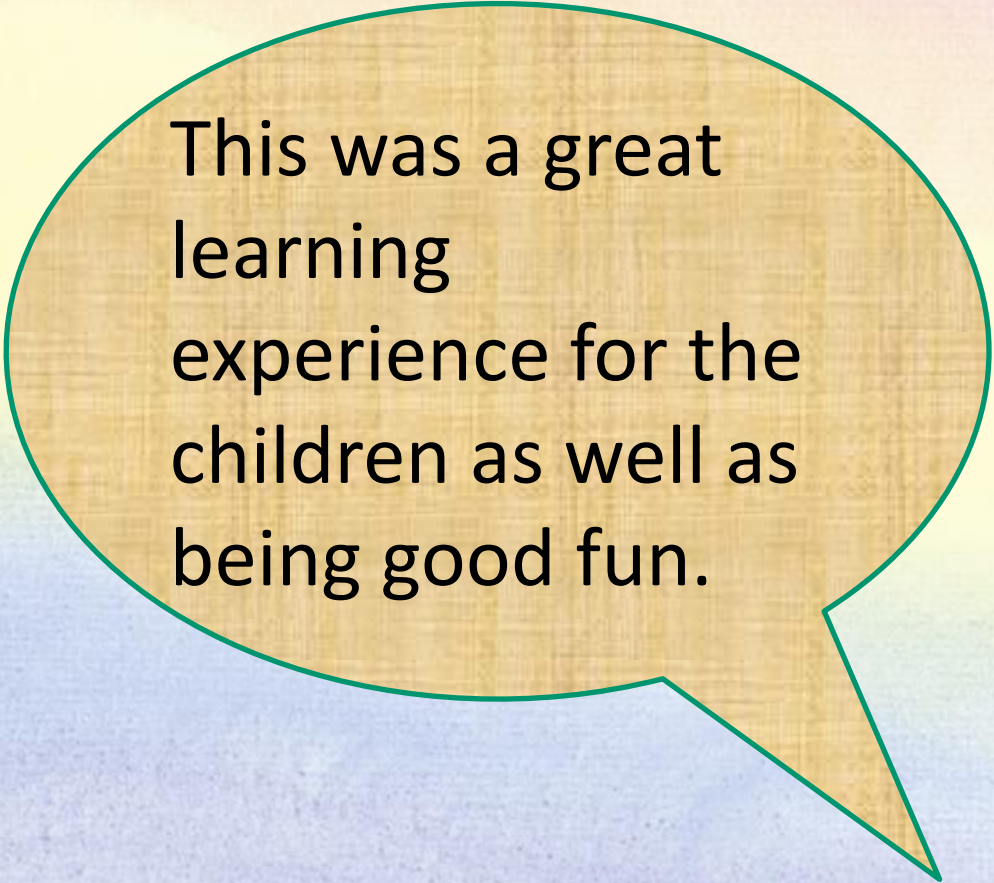


<http://www.thempra.org.uk>

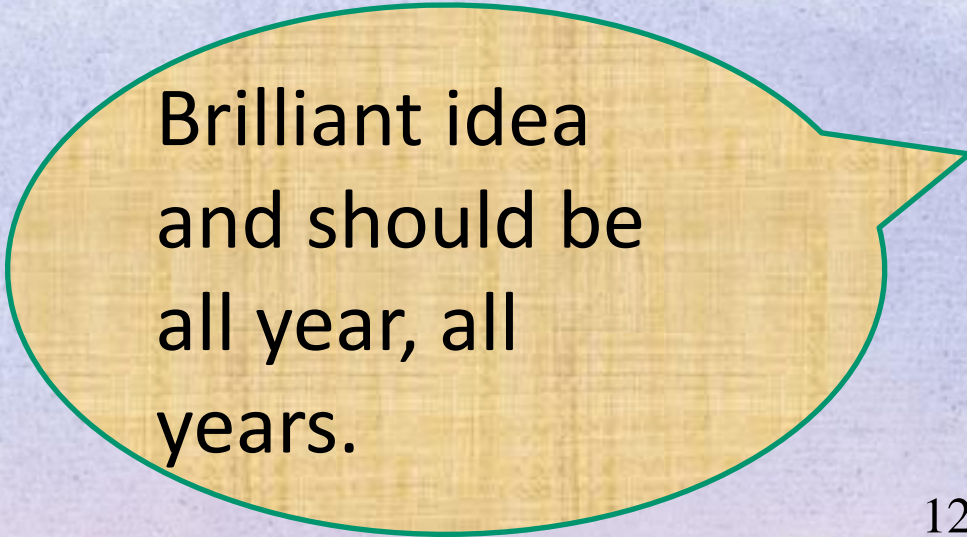
Parental Questionnaire

At the end of the Course the Parents of the pupils who had participated were sent a questionnaire to complete

- There was a 72.5% response from parents
- All of the responses were very positive
- There appeared to be a lot of communication between the pupils and their parents in relation to the project



This was a great learning experience for the children as well as being good fun.



Brilliant idea and should be all year, all years.

Evaluation of Forest School Project

- The Forest School Project was a great success for all involved. There was good interaction between the pupils from both schools
- The pupils from Glencraig Primary enjoyed their visits and engaged positively with the pupils from Camphill
- The pupils from Camphill benefited from interacting with pupils who do not have such complex needs as their peers.



The children
were fun to play
with and very
creative and I like
them a lot.

I learnt that
they can do
more then
we think.

My views are
that they are
not so bad
when you get
to know them.

Comments by Pupils from GIPS

I learnt a lot about
the trees and leaves
but also about other
people.

That a forest
can be so
great.

I know that trees
suck in CO₂ and
bring out
Oxygen.

Future Developments

- To continue working with our two neighbouring schools.
- To develop a woodland walk between Glencraig primary and Rockport Schools.
- To develop links with other local schools.
- To set up after school and Holiday Forest School schemes for local children.
- To encourage other schools and organisations to set up Forest Schools.



Further Information

Contact:

Vincent Reynolds
Camphill Community Glencraig
Holywood
Co. Down
BT18 ODB
N. Ireland
Tel: 028 9042 3396
Fax: 028 9042 8199
Email: vincent@glenccraig.org.uk
Web: www.glenccraig.org.uk

The Glencraig Forest School Project

Camphill Community Glencraig

Collaboration between Special and Mainstream Schools in a
Forest School Setting

