

# Woodthorpe Community Primary School

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2007

Richard Foster

Dear Richard

Re: U Can Shine

I am writing this letter in support of Shaun Weatherhead's application for more funding for the U Can Shine project.

We piloted the project in the Autumn term with one of our Y6 classes on the recommendation of a colleague of mine in a school in Calderdale. Shaun worked with the class teacher and the class over a number of weeks. The focus of the programme was the building of self esteem, raising aspirations, encouraging cooperation and initiative and goal setting within the context of physical fitness, team games, coaching techniques and classroom based individual and collective thought, discussion and planning.

The outcomes for our pupils were very positive. Firstly they loved the programme- it gave them something different as part of their experience in school which helped them to focus on their successes and ambitions. Secondly the programme is well structured and Shaun is continuously re evaluating it in cooperation with colleagues in school. Most importantly the behaviour and engagement of the pupils improved significantly; examples range from individuals where engagement in the classroom improved, where incidents of negative behaviour reduced to quieter pupils expressing their increased confidence.

As the programme evolves it has clear links to PE, PSHE, to drama, the SEAL initiative and to science; other links will become evident in the hands of skilled teachers. As such it links with our key objectives of raising attainment; improving the engagement of boys in particular; of developing the emotional literacy of children and young people; of improving the overall health of children. In other words it relates to the outcomes of Every Child Matters and in particular the local context.

If funding is found we have clear plans to engage with this programme further and to work with Shaun on its future development.

Please contact me if I can be of any more assistance

Yours Sincerely,

Chris Thew  
Head Teacher



Working in Partnership with Woodthorpe Development Trust