

# **Castle Hill Primary School**



Left to right: Su Broadhurst (Head), Sara Raymond (Deputy) and Jacqui Blake (Deputy)

"We at Castle Hill believe in the importance of promoting emotional intelligence as an essential approach to improving pupil's learning. Having introduced Packtypes in 2010, teaching and learning standards across the school have continued to rise.

We now find children more reflective about their work and curious to learn more. Packtypes has provided a framework for understanding different types of behaviour and when to use these behaviours to greatest effect, in or out of the classroom.

Most evident, is the improvement of the vocabulary children are able to use to describe their approach to learning. They talk of needing to be imaginative, factual, persevering, of encouraging each other, the benefits of being competitive at times, resourceful, reliable and efficient.

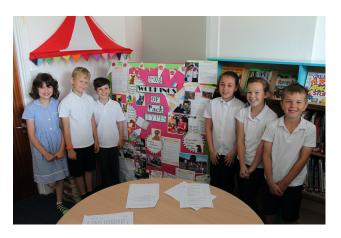
'We have learnt to be smart with our feelings', says one child. These are exactly the qualities that the job market expects of young people starting out in their career. We know we are building these foundations early so that they are secure by the time our children leave primary school."

Su Broadhurst, Headteacher

#### The Emotionally Intelligent School Award

The Packtypes Emotionally Intelligent School Award was presented to Castle Hill Primary School in July 2014 for outstanding practice developing emotional intelligence (EQ) in pupils and staff.

Castle Hill Primary has embraced Packtypes as a tool for empowering students to develop self awareness, confidence, teamwork, leadership and excellent communication skills. Gone are the days teaching bespoke PSHE lessons, in are the days where social and emotional development are integrated into every aspect of the school day.



Pupils at the school are becoming so confident in the Packtypes framework that they use it to adapt their behaviour to different tasks and situations on a daily basis around the school.

## **Introducing Packtypes to the staff**

During the past three years, the staff at Castle Hill have used Packtypes to address and enhance a variety of school systems, projects and initiatives.



The teachers have used Packtypes to gain a greater understanding of their own style and this has seen teaching standards improved from Satisfactory (30%) and Good (70%) to Good (40%) and Outstanding (60%) within one academic year.

Also, developing stronger team spirit amongst the staff team, giving much more depth and relevancy to Performance Management reviews and ensuring that the right staff are appointed have all contributed to the high standards now maintained by the school.

However, this was only the start. The impact that Packtypes has had on the development of the curriculum and the engagement of parents in their children's work at home, has been quite phenomenal.

Having such a powerful and versatile tool has required the school to set up a working party of teachers, parents and Governors that are tasked with the role of creating new and exciting ideas for using Packtypes across the school community.

## **Introducing Packtypes to the pupils**

Packtype resources and strategies are now being used across both Key Stages and within the Foundation Stage to great effect



The pupils regularly use the cards and apply the Packtypes behaviours to a variety of their lessons. Being naturally playful and appealing (*kinaesthetic and visual*) there is never any shortage of enthusiasm for working with the cards.

The level of self awareness that the children now have supports their behaviour management in any task or activity. They are able to adopt specific roles with much greater clarity and understanding of the behaviour required to carry out that role. Ofsted commented that one of the lessons they observed, that used Packtypes as a way to group the children and allocate them tasks, was............

The lesson was judged OUTSTANDING...... inevitably. The pupils were fully engaged and the teacher commented:

"...they just knew exactly how they had to behave. The pupils in my class just know what each Packtypes represents and they can adapt their behaviour according to the task they are faced with. It has made my job much easier and the children more independent."

Year 6 teacher at Castle Hill



#### **Exciting classroom display and resources**

Bringing the Packtypes to life in the classroom and around the school has helped children understand the Packtypes better. Deeper knowledge and application of the Packtypes will dramatically improve self awareness and communication skills.



#### Actively engaging the parents in the pupil's learning

How to get the parents involved with school life, in particular their own child's learning, is a constant battle for any school. Some parents naturally engage and then there are those that are hard to reach.

- Parental engagement in homework has increased by over 200%
- Parents have been educated on the different Packtype behaviours so that they can recognise it in themselves and their children
- Parents have a much greater understanding of why their children behave the way they do and how to adapt to it
- Parents understand the role of emotional intelligence in the school and their children's learning
- Parents see school as a place where developing self awareness and social skills has a direct impact on achieving high academic results



The PAWS (Practical Activities Without School) home/school project that Castle Hill have adopted has had remarkable success in getting

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parents
to
support
their
children.

Every term the children are giving a sheet of activities to do at home with their parents. Each activity is under the heading of the appropriate Packtype suggesting that they will find some easy and others more challenging depending on their own preferences.

It encourages children to try things outside their comfort zone and helps develop resilience, curiosity and positive attitude towards anything experiences.





#### **Curriculum Impact**

Embedding Packtypes within a creative or skills based curriculum has allowed children to self evaluate the way they complete tasks.



There are limitless activities that Packtypes can be applied to once pupils have been equipped. Castle Hill have integrated Packtypes into virtually every subject across the curriculum.



## **Self Awareness Packs – Empowering pupils**

Lead Schools like North Birmingham Academy have been instrumental in helping us, here at Packtypes, recognise that being equipped with Packtypes Self Awareness Packs is essential to the development of personal and social skills in all individuals.

Giving students the opportunity to play regularly with the cards at school and at home, learn incredible things about themselves and adapt their behaviour with all people and in all situations, creates empowerment and independence.





#### Pilot a group or class in your school

We are encouraging schools all over the country to introduce Packtypes through our Self Awareness Packs. Pilot one or two KS2 classes, where pupils and teachers learn side by side, and then observe the transformation in attitude and behaviour!

## **QUICK START!**

## **KS2 Pupil Bag**

Equip and empower a whole class or group for only £595+vat and start immediately.

#### **Pack includes:**

30 Packtypes Packs
A Team Bag
Digital Classroom resources
Digital Teacher resources