

CIRCLE TIME

An information pamphlet for parents

The governors and staff at William de Yaxley Junior School hope that these notes, which attempt to summarise our guide-lines for Circle Time in our school, will be useful to you.

What is Circle Time?

Circle Time involves a class of children, and the adults who work with them, sitting in a circle and taking equal responsibility for the solving of problems and issues which they have highlighted themselves.

What are the benefits of Circle Time?

- Taking part in Circle Time helps children to feel that they are part of a group they can trust.
- Circle Time helps children to share their thoughts and feelings.
- Circle Time helps to build positive self-esteem.
- Positive behaviour is promoted through Circle Time.
- Self-discipline is encouraged because each child can identify and work on his/her behaviour or work problems and make an action plan to deal with them, with the support of others.

What happens during Circle Time?

- The session begins with a game.
- Next comes a round, such as 'I like to have friends because
- After the round comes a session where anyone can talk about any concerns or thoughts they have, without interruption. This may also include saying well done, thank you or sorry to someone.
- Circle Time ends with a game or a quiet time.

Circle Time builds better relationships

Children have a time where difficulties between people are explored in a safe and positive way.

Children learn how to sort out differences between themselves, and understand that they are capable of doing this when they don't have adults around.

Circle Time allows time for role-play, which can involve learning how to be assertive in difficult situations. For example, resisting older children's pressure to take part in inappropriate behaviours.