



Building the jigsaw

STAUNTON-ON-WYE ENDOWED PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEREFORD

This small village primary school has only three full time teachers out of a staff of 11. As part time staff did not always come into contact with full time staff, they recognised the need to bring all their work together.

"Our school improvement plan for the next two years includes a commitment to incorporating ESD across the whole curriculum – this was a process that could enable us to do that."

The pieces of the jigsaw

Their first step was to come together to look at what Learning for Sustainability meant in the school and what they were doing in this area. They realised that LfS went way beyond traditional 'green issues'.

"Your personality and personal relationships are really important when you are trying to take this forward."

As a holder of the Eco Schools Green Flag, the school has already worked on areas of waste management (presenting their work to other schools and council officials), energy, and water, and has established a vibrant Eco Schools Council. They have also done a lot of work on their school grounds, developing their own award winning garden incorporating produce into food technology, as well as involving parents and community in the project. Additionally, they have developed an outdoor music and a pond area, both of which are integrated and used within the school curriculum.

"Pathways gave us a framework to see how different aspects of practice can be brought together."

Finding the missing piece

Having gone through a year of reflection and consolidation they have realised that, over the coming years, their focus area will include looking at how they deliver multi-cultural education. The teaching staff will take this forward by using Development Education Centres and other resources and training opportunities to increase their understanding and practice in this area, not just in one classroom but across the whole school curriculum.

Non teaching staff have taken a lead on some of the other areas that they are interested in. The hope is that all the pieces of the jigsaw will fit together to form a complete picture.