



Business mentoring

t: 02891 610661 www.employersforchildcare.org

Company Profile

Name:

Oakwood Integrated Primary School (IPS)

Description:

Integrated Primary School established by a group of local parents. Provides education for children from surrounding communities of Lisburn, Derriaghy, Twinbrook and Lagmore. Oakwood IPS has a religious balance of all staff, children and Board of Governors of 40% Catholic, 40% Protestant, 20% other denominations..

Location:

Derriaghy, Belfast

Sector:

Education

Employees:

791

Gender Balance:

95% female

Average Age:

30

No. of School Children:

185

Employer-supported Childcare After-schools and Holiday Club

Background

Oakwood IPS has an ethos of involving parents as much as possible in the school community, and there exists a strong parent body in the Parents Council and on the Board of Governors.

Objective

Many parents were struggling with balancing work and home lives and many wanted to be able to extend their working hours, but the lack of affordable quality childcare was an issue for them. The need for an After-schools Club and Holiday Club was identified through informal research. The school wanted to reach out to as many parents as possible and seen the establishment of these facilities as a way of helping their children, parents and staff.

Solution

Oakwood IPS applied to New Opportunities Fund (NOF). The school was awarded a grant to set up and staff an After-schools Club and Holiday Club starting in September 2002.

Outcome

The facility is registered with social services for 24 children. Children from all backgrounds and with disabilities are welcome.

The After-schools club operates from 2pm until 5.30pm each day. Children are provided with an afternoon snack and a 30 minute quiet time is allowed for homeworks. Fees are currently set at £7.50 per afternoon.

The Holiday Club operates during Christmas, Easter, Halloween and Summer from 9.00am to 5.30pm. Children bring their own lunches and activities include trips, art & design and swimming. Fees are currently set at £13.00 per day for the Holiday Club.

Oakwood Integrated Primary School welcomes enquiries from parents outside of the school community and other businesses in Northern Ireland.

Breaking the Childcare Barrier

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