

## **Brigstock Primary School – Sports Premium Bullying Intervention**

**Project Background** – A large number of incidences of friction and bullying between boys in years 4 and 5 has been reported over recent months, and it appeared to be increasing. The boys will be going into the same year 5/6 class next academic year, and there had been little success in rectifying these negative behaviours through traditional methods. This project aimed to develop respect and camaraderie within the group through sporting activity, focussing particularly on the core values of rugby union (discipline, respect, teamwork, enjoyment and sportsmanship).

**Delivering the Project** – The project was delivered by a professional rugby coach from the RFU All Schools programme who had been working with the school previously, running their curriculum rugby. Focussing on the games core values, weekly sessions were run exclusively for the year 4 and 5 boys over the summer term, promoting positive social interaction through play. The boys were required to display appropriate behaviour in class and around the school to be able to attend these sessions.

**Project Impact** – The boys have responded to the project extremely well. They are motivated to attend, and find the sessions enjoyable and rewarding. The emphasis on core values, especially respect, discipline and teamwork has had an impact on behaviour in sessions, in the playground and in class. Reported incidences of bullying and negative interactions are decreasing, and with continued support it is anticipated to continue doing so.

**The Future** – It is hoped that the boys involved in the project will continue to develop the positive relationships displayed throughout the project going into next year. The coach used in the project has been retained for curricular and extra-curricular rugby throughout next year, and so the core values of the sport will continue to be emphasised throughout the year. Rugby (or another appropriate sport) will be considered as a positive intervention for high need/high risk groups in future (i.e. less active, low achievers, pupil premium).

**Feedback** – Feedback from the headteacher has been extremely positive, and negative incidents between the boys at break times have reduced. The children enjoy and are motivated by the project, and the coach has reported improvement in their attitude towards the game and each other over time. Concerns around class groupings next year are easing as a direct result of the project.

### **Who to contact for more info about this project –**

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