



Students rule at Woodroffe School

Investors in People Benefits:

- Enhances staff performance
- Hones leadership & management skills
- Addresses elements intrinsic to a successful Ofsted performance
- Encourages effective training & development
- Provides objective, impartial assessor feedback
- Increases staff retention

Quality South West (QSW) is an established provider of assessment and consultancy services. These services are aimed at raising standards in the workplace by empowering staff and increasing morale.

This is achieved through consultancy, assessment, review of services and issuing of nationally recognised standards.

These Standards include:

- Investors in People
- Lexcel
- ISO 9001:2000
- Chartermark
- Sfed

Youngsters from Lyme Regis have helped to rewrite their school's rule book and instead of banning homework, school dinners and lessons they have improved them.

Students from The Woodroffe School, Dorset, have formed a school council which pledges, on behalf of students, to complete homework on time, be more polite, respectful and punctual in the classroom as well as involve parents in their studies.

The new classroom code is just one in a series of initiatives launched at the school with the aim of improving teaching and learning by giving students a say on what goes on.

Other changes spearheaded by the council, which is made up of two students from each year group, have included a school wide discussion of 'What makes a good lesson?', healthier school dinners and an environmental campaign to boost recycling.

The council also sits on the school's interview panel and has a say on the selection of new teachers.

The measures have been introduced as part of the Investors in People (IIP) award, administered by Gloucester-based Quality South West, which has allowed headteacher Richard Steward, governors and staff to improve the school's performance.

Chloe Fairchild, 12, of Year 8, said: "It's really great to be part of a school council that makes real decisions and doesn't spend time talking about uniform or the state of the loos.

We feel we are really making a difference to the school."

Headteacher, Dr Richard Steward, added: "The school council project has been of tremendous benefit both to the school and its students.

The work of the council has been very high profile, allowing all partners in the school community to take a fresh look at teaching and learning.

The really interesting insight from this project has been the reaction of the students. When you empower young people they do react positively.

The IIP mark has allowed us to introduce the school council and means we can continue to monitor the school's overall success and continue to build on that success."

Dr Bob Wright, of Quality South West, said: "The Investors in People standard has allowed Woodroffe School to introduce robust new management strategies and procedures with the aim of boosting the quality of teaching and learning.

The ability to analyse and measure performance has allowed the school to improve.

The school's commitment to the IIP standard puts it ahead of the game and it is now in a very strong position to further enhance its standing with Ofsted."

The IIP mark is one of a number of nationally recognised professional qualifications administered by Quality South West.

For further information contact Quality South West on
Tel: 01452 413641 or
Email: rachel.trudgian@qualitysouthwest.co.uk