



Here at Delph Side Community Primary School we see children's health and wellbeing as paramount. Recently we have applied for and received Healthy Schools Status.

What is the National Healthy Schools Programme?

It is a joint Department for Education and Skills Department of Health programme presently working with over half of the 23,000 state schools in England.

Its three overall aims are to:

- help raise pupils achievement
- help reduce health inequalities
- help promote social inclusion

What is a healthy school?

A healthy school promotes the health and wellbeing of its pupils and staff both by what is taught in the school and through the wider school environment.

A healthy school improves pupils' life-choices, achievement and opportunities by providing a comprehensive programme of: Personal, Social and Health Education, drug education, emotional health, healthy eating, physical activity and sex and relationship education all within an emotionally supportive environment that enables pupils to learn.

A healthy school achieves national standards that demonstrate a key contribution to the education and health priorities found in the outcomes of *Every Child Matters*.

What are the advantages of participation for children, schools and communities in being involved in Healthy Schools?

Children

Your child/children will be more confident, motivated and will have the skills and information to make important life and health choices. They will be more likely to achieve good academic results within a school that supports their health and wellbeing. Children will gain access to a range of support services and schools will invest in their personal and social development. Healthy schools work hard to ensure that they deal effectively with issues such as bullying.

Schools

Your child's school will improve its performance in academic and non-academic areas and get involvement from the whole school community. It will strengthen its links within the school 'family' (parents, governors, staff, pupils and community partners).

Schools develop stronger external partnerships, including sharing good practice with other schools and receive greater support and professional development for their staff.

Communities

By involving your children in being good citizens, your community will benefit. In creating opportunities for good citizenship there will be closer ties and greater understanding between schools and health authorities, social services, the police and other agencies.

There is also the chance for communities to influence and contribute to what goes on in schools and work alongside schools in making children feel more comfortable, more interested and positive about their school experience.

