

Teach effectively
Record progress and achievement
Choose the right resources

**Community Languages Saturday Classes, Woodfield Junior School,
Wolverhampton**

National Excellence Awards
Shortlisted 2008

Background

Community Languages Saturday Classes are based at many schools in Wolverhampton. All tutors are local Council paid staff. The classes are managed by a Co-ordinator who is also an employee of Wolverhampton City Council. At Woodfield Junior School, about 80 children aged 6 to 18 attend four Punjabi classes and two Gujarati classes every Saturday during term time. In addition to language classes, there are traditional dance activities and in this way knowledge and awareness of different cultures is developed.

Teach effectively

All teachers have a teacher's planner in which they keep details of their pupils and lesson plans including grouping, activities, lesson objectives, resources and follow up homework set. Teaching is highly interactive and pupils are interested in what they are learning, behave well and stay on task during lessons. Two of the staff work for major examination boards as examiners. All staff attend training: recent sessions covered effective planning for interactive teaching, and interactive activities for oracy.

Record progress and achievement

The teachers' planners are regularly updated and contain details of pupils' ongoing achievement details according to the Asset languages Can Do Statements. Each individual pupil is informed through target setting sessions about the level they are working at and what they could do to move forward. Approximately 6 to 8 pupils each year take GCSE examinations and achieve good grades, and now pupils are preparing for Asset languages accreditation.

Choose the right resources

The teaching resources used are a good mixture of resources produced by community languages teachers and suitable commercially produced resources. Resources produced by the community languages team are sold nationally to supplementary schools and mainstream schools in the UK.