

innovation



This award celebrates a new idea which has had a significant positive impact on children and young people or an educational establishment that has demonstrated commitment to providing new opportunities for students...

Rights Respecting School Committee, Vane Road Primary School



THE Rights Respecting School Committee has transformed many aspects of our school. The committee, made up of children from across the school, has supported all classes in developing their own classroom char-

ters. The committee has established a Playground Charter, which has seen incidents of disagreements among pupils reduce dramatically, and a Lunchtime Charter, offering children a much happier and social dining experience.

Next Steps team, Darlington College

STUDENTS are being offered the chance to take the next step in their learning thanks to a new initiative at Darlington College.

The Flat was officially opened at Darlington College, a project to help students with additional support needs live independent lives.

Six students, aged 18-21, have joined the Preparing for Adulthood course after completing the Next Steps study programme.

Darlington College has transformed a classroom into a fully equipped and adapted flat complete with cooker and hob, washing machine, sinks, fridge and furniture. As well as developing academically, including subjects such as maths and English, students will learn life skills, including shopping, budgeting, cookery, ironing, washing, clean-

ing and making beds. The programme also involves learning a host of employability skills and work experience to maximise their chances of a full and independent life. Students will be preparing for adulthood by making key links within the community and planning for life after college.

Students drew lots for the honour of officially opening The Flat and Amber Bourne, 21, of Ingleton cut the ribbon, saying: "It was a real privilege to open The Flat, which looks amazing. We are all very excited about it."

College tutor Ali Wright said: "The Flat is the perfect facility for our students who have completed the Next Steps programme but want to develop further skills that will help them to live as independent and productive adults."

Wolsingham School

OUR rural isolation means that we are an important part of the lives of many of our students long after the school day finishes, so the work done with students outside of the classroom is crucial to their social development and emotional well-being.

In January 2017, to the best of our knowledge, we became the first school in the country to have our own Police Cadet force, following the establishment of a combined forces cadet (CFC) contingent.

We currently have around 50 cadets from years eight to eleven, supported by a cadet sergeant major from our sixth form, four members of staff, including one member of the Troops to Classrooms scheme, and a former member of the armed forces, who leads the contingent.

The 30 Police Cadets will focus on physical fitness,



law and order, first aid and serving the community. Two members of staff and a former police sergeant will lead this group.

For both sets of cadets the benefits are many. Some will go on to a career in the uniformed services and all will benefit from having this on their CV.

The cadets are well respected and the atmosphere in school is different on a Wednesday when the cadets are in uniform.

The next step is to widen the cadets' role across the school and community helping to challenge negative misconceptions many adults have of young people.



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