



Middleton St Mary's C of E Primary School

CASE STUDY

Ellie, Elizabeth and Abigail explain how Children's Commissioner's Takeover Day is run in their school, how it gives them a voice and the opportunity to experience the world of work.

Before the day, everyone who wanted to take part in takeover day had to collect an application form from Miss Askew. We had to make sure that our application forms were neatly presented otherwise they would be rejected! We could get help from our parents to complete our application but we had to make sure that we wrote them. Even Year 1!







After the application form deadline, Miss Askew and School Council sorted the application forms. They tried to get an even spread across all the year groups. Last year, we had 50 spaces which was double the year before.

School Council picked out the best presented then read them to see which sounded the best. After that, they had to give everyone a member of staff depending on which job they wanted.

Lots of people wanted to be our head teacher Miss Graham and Mr Baldwin our caretaker. Sophie from school council said 'It was really difficult to match people to the best job but she loved the responsibility.

The successful applicants were announced in assembly and then met with Miss Askew to get their job description and timetable. Everyone was asked to meet with their member of staff before takeover day so they knew what they were doing.





On the day, everyone came to school dressed to match their job. If they were teachers or teaching assistants they had to dress smartly. No jeans allowed. We all met with Miss Askew at 9 o'clock to discuss the day and then went to our jobs. Children that were teachers supported teaching lessons, helped with marking and supervised the children. Some people were bossier than others. Children that were lunchtime supervisors had to organise games for everyone at lunchtime and clean the hall after people had eaten. Kitchen assistants helped to serve the food.







At playtime we all got to go in the staffroom to have juice and biscuits. At lunchtime we had our own special table with table cloths, flowers and juice. During the day Miss Askew went round school with a camera crew to interview staff and children.

Miss Graham said 'Takeover Day is a chance to show our pupils how the different jobs in our school work. There is always a buzz in the run up to takeover day and the whole school enjoys it.' Lola from year 2 said 'Takeover Day is the best day ever!' Mrs Horner a teaching assistant said 'Everyone looks forward to takeover day and the children get to see what our jobs in school are like.' Newton from year 6 said 'All the staff at our school work hard. I couldn't do Mrs Marston's job all the time.'

At the end of the day everyone was presented with a certificate for taking part.

Last year we also took over a role outside of school. Miss Askew organised for 4 children to shadow Councillor Judith Blake for the day. Again we had to say why we wanted to do it and school council chose 4 pupils. The children spent the day in Leeds with Councillor Blake. They were given a tour of the town hall where they met the Mayor of Leeds and were shown his special chambers. They attended a carol concert at Leeds Library with Councillor Blake and then had lunch at Children Leeds offices. In the afternoon, they were given a tour of Leeds arena and then took part in the child friendly Leeds conference. They had to advise leaders from Leeds to show they could improve our city for children. We are hoping that the giant playground is built soon!

This year we are going even bigger. There will be 50 jobs available in school, we are shadowing/supporting staff at our local Asda, shadowing a solicitor at a Leeds law firm and hopefully shadowing Councillor Blake again.

We think that Takeover Day is the best day of the year. We all look forward to it because we are given responsibility in school and get to see the jobs that our staff do. It makes us feel like we are part of our school. We think that all schools in Leeds should do takeover day because your children will love it.

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