



EDUCATION AND LEARNING

Southampton City Council

Co-operative Learning in Southampton

Co-operative approaches to learning in Southampton are currently blooming. A third of the City's schools are now members of one of three co-operative learning trusts, which means that 19 Southampton schools are now working in close partnership with the City Council as Cooperative Trust Schools, covering all parts of the City. 2020 has been declared by the City Council as the 'Year of the Child' which provides an ideal focus time for harnessing the pioneering work of the City's cooperative schools movement. The following case study briefly describes the City's longest serving schools co-operative trust.

Southampton Cooperative Learning Trust



The Southampton Cooperative Learning Trust originally started life in 2011 as the Regents Park School Learning Trust and it expanded in February 2016 to embrace seven local schools (mostly on the central/western side of the city) and other community partners (Solent Health NHS Trust, a local branch of the WEA and the City Council) with both a shared identity and commitment to co-operation.

The Trust's objectives include:

- advancement of the education of pupils in its member schools
- advancement of the education of and benefits to the wider community
- promoting community cohesion

The Southampton Cooperative Learning Trust is committed to membership of and active participation in the Co-operative Schools Network. The curriculum and ethos of member schools places emphasis on and a commitment to co-operative values and principles 'with the aim of encouraging all learners to become better citizens, not only while they are learners but during the rest of their lives.'

The Southampton Cooperative Learning Trust schools are:

- Regents Park Community College
- Banister Primary School
- Foundry Lane Primary School
- Freemantle Church of England Academy
- St Johns Primary & Nursery School
- St Mark's Primary School
- Polygon School (special education)

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