

# Skegness Grammar School/Skegness Grammar SSP Activity breakfast clubs

“ The children love the wall and it’s great to see all ability levels having a go! ”

Headteacher



## What we did:

Through the Extended Schools programme we wanted to tackle a below national average attendance problem – it was felt that the more opportunities and incentives children had to come to school, the greater the likelihood that they would.

An audit of activities revealed there was no provision for pupils to experience outdoor adventurous activities at the school. We felt that this would be a good vehicle to entice pupils into school and provide disadvantaged children an opportunity to play on specialist equipment.

An indoor traversing wall was therefore built in the main hall spanning almost its complete length. The wall is 12m

long and at one end over 4m high – to allow progression into harnesses and ropes at a later stage.

For colour and interest, the wall is a castle shape and has been painted to look like a rock wall. It also incorporates the gymnastics climbing frame to add an extra dimension.

There are 200 hand and footholds available to use, several hoop holders to provide extra challenges and stimulation for learning, and even a scheme of work to follow for PE lessons!

The wall was officially put into use as part of an existing breakfast club, therefore meeting the Extended Schools offer of providing high quality childcare.

On a daily basis for four weeks an SSCo provided training for the children. This was followed by whole school staff training on activities they could run on the wall with their classes – with demonstrations by the children showing what they had learnt.

It is hoped that in the future, the wall will be extended outside and will form a climbing zone within the school’s Positive Play framework.



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#### The difference it made:

Greater attendance at the breakfast club, including pupils from the neighbouring junior school – pupils have risen from four to 20 per day and an extra member of staff has been employed to cope with demand.

More people have been trained in using specialist equipment and a greater number of AOTTs have been employed by the school from the local community.

Pupils' confidence, self-esteem, strength, stamina, control, levels of concentration and ability to work as a team have all improved. Pupils also now have a greater respect for their bodies and the equipment that they use.

#### It worked because:

Pupils are engaged in activity before the school day, contributing to an increase in participation and raised standards.

The project has links with the adjoining junior and secondary schools with the potential to involve a wider community group over time.

The pupils have been motivated and enthused by the programme and the opportunity to participate in outdoor adventurous activities.

An innovative headteacher had the drive to follow through on an idea.