

National Association for Small Schools: Charter for Children



1

The small school is the heartbeat of its own, local community.

Alongside the church, shop and pub, it is the focal point of community life and cannot be ignored.



2

Small schools are assets NOT liabilities. The village school, preferably with its own Headteacher, is a long-term resource for the community.

Sophisticated economic analysis shows that small schools deliver long term profits. Small schools offer good or better value for money.



3

Across the UK Ofsted inspectors have consistently praised the family ethos, positive attitudes and good behaviour in small schools.

This in turn helps to refine and reinforce British values.

4

Small schools have a record of achievement across a range of educational goals that is almost irrefutable.

Test and inspection outcomes show small schools consistently at or near the top of national performance.

5

Fewer teaching staff in the small school

means that they are able to respond more quickly to changes in the educational landscape and government legislation. Whilst not seeking to become specialists, they are able to provide 'personalised' learning opportunities for all pupils.



6

Maintained nursery schools are small schools too.

They provide developmentally suitable education for diverse families. Recognized by Ofsted as the phase which achieves the most outstanding inspections.

7

Home background and quality of teaching are well documented as the two significant factors for outcomes.



9

UK inspectors have consistently reported positive and influential relationships between small schools, their parents and local communities, affirming the benefits to children.



10

There is a place for small schools as a whole "because of their academic achievement and contribution to the community." (Ofsted, March 1999)

8

Pupils from small schools are better able to make the transition to the next phase of their education.



Children from disadvantaged families consistently do well: the small school is consistently a progressive environment for such children and families including those which have significant special needs.

Smaller cohorts require children to take greater responsibility, develop their social skills and take on leadership roles.



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