

# R-Time

## At New Lubbesthorpe Primary School



Dear Parents/ carers,

We have begun to use a programme called R time in all classes throughout the school. This takes place once a week and lasts for about 15-20 minutes.

During the session the children work in pairs but with a partner they do not choose. Random pairing for work in schools is not new but it is very effective in developing relationships between children.

During their time together the children undertake a simple, achievable and enjoyable activity. This is designed specifically to develop the skills of negotiation, taking turns, cooperation, sharing and fairness. The language associated with the skills rapidly develops and encourages respect between children who may otherwise rarely, if ever, speak to each other. Self-esteem and mental wellbeing are enhanced.

During each session there is also a very high expectation of courtesy, respect and good manners. R time sessions require the use of; "please" and "thank you," "excuse me please," and also the use of each other's name when speaking to or about their partner.

All teaching and support staff have been trained in the R time process and we are beginning to see the results in school both in the classroom and the playground.

We have not embarked on the programme because we have any serious concerns but are convinced that R time will make our school and even better community for our children by improving communication skills and pupil well-being.

You might like to ask your child about their R time experiences. Pete Harvey will be working with some of our year 1 and year 2 pupils this term. It may well be that you might like to encourage the same type of philosophy in the home environment. We would be interested to have your comments.

If you would like to know any more, contact [www.rtime.org.uk](http://www.rtime.org.uk)

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