

Duty, Duty, Duty

One Head's Journey

Alun Pelleschi

Two Questions to Consider

- Can you tell me how your school prepared you for being a citizen?
- Are you able to play a full part in the life of the school?

Why Community Cohesion? Some TES Quotes

- 'Pupils and staff at a private school in Liverpool had a narrow escape when a nail bomb exploded in a teacher's car....'
- 'Forcing children to watch Al Gore's film is stupid unless they are also forced to watch *The Great Global Warming Swindle* (Jeremy Clarkson)
- 'Schools that succeed against the odds in poor communities often do so by fostering an 'us against the rest' siege mentality to forge a sense of unity among pupils and staff'

Why Community Cohesion? Some TES Quotes

- 'Feral' children are slipping out of the school system and disappearing onto the streets according to a senior Labour MP
- The Iraq war has made it harder for schools to maintain harmony between pupils of different races (Ed Balls)
- Pupil voice to become law

Deincourt, Derbyshire



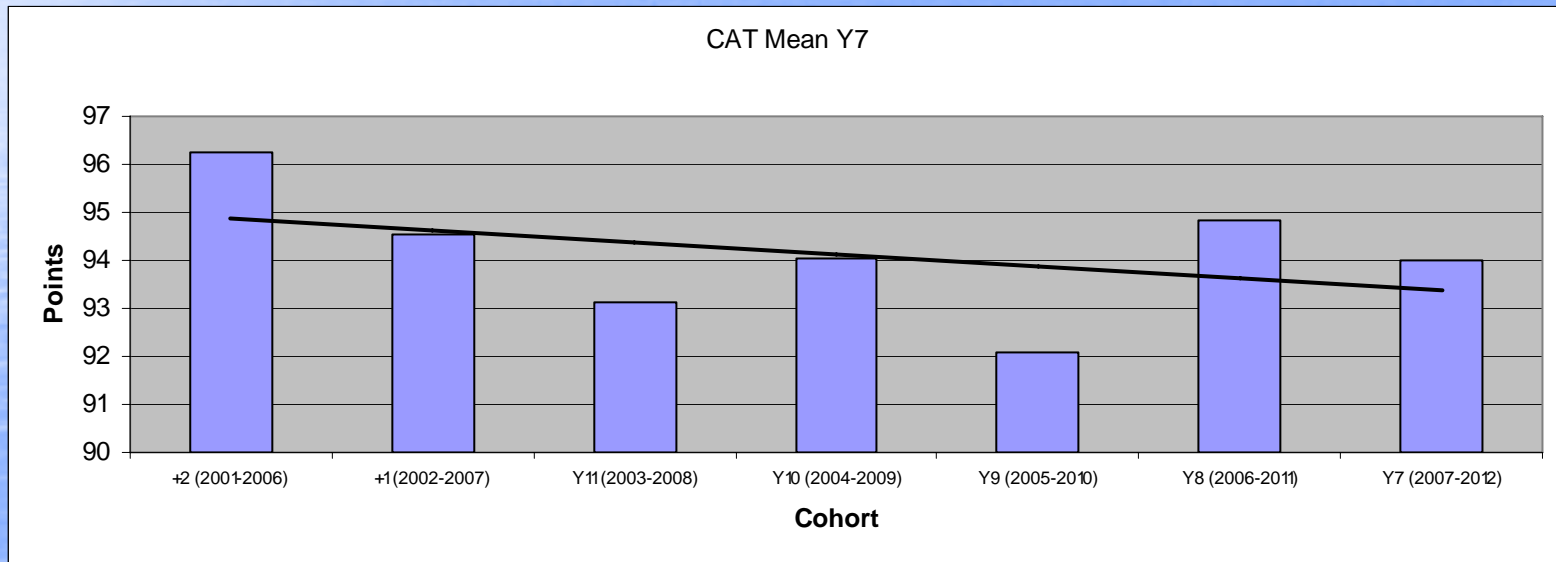
Deincourt Context

- SFCC, Special Measures, National Challenge
- Small (482), mainly white British working-class; more boys than girls; around 25% FSM and SEN; highest proportion of NEET in Derbyshire; low levels of literacy and numeracy at point of entry
- High male unemployment, low-paid jobs generally; high partnership breakdown; high morbidity; <11% in HE

Deincourt Context

- Students come in from five main partners.
- Highly competitive area with significant falling rolls: current PAL=147 with 149 Y6 students in the locality- normally achieves around 60% intake.
- Intake highly skewed towards low-attaining end.

Deincourt CATs



What Did I Wish To Achieve?

- To get the school out of SM
- To secure its long-term future
- To improve its stock in the community and place it at the centre of community life
- Improve the quality of life and life chances of the students

What Needed To Be Done?

- Re-engage the staff
- Re-engage the students
- Re-engage the community
- Re-engage support systems

Areas of Development

- Create a sense of belonging
- Increase mutuality/co-operative activity
- Increase engagement

Vision and Mission

- 'To be at the leading edge of innovation and creativity within education'
- To work with our young people and those who share our sense of purpose, to support and develop our students such that they can enjoy their lives and make a worthwhile contribution to our society.

Student Charter

- I will respect the rights of others to learn
- I will respect the rights of others to be physically and emotionally safe
- I will maintain a constantly high attendance rate and be punctual
- I will respect the school environment and safeguard school property and personal belongings
- I will be motivated and have a positive attitude towards my work

In The Beginning...

- Get the students into school (student and parental attitudes)
- Get the students into class (staff and student attitudes)
- Reduce the aggression

And Next.....

- Do something about the school day
- Create a different ambience
- Strengthen PSHE and introduce Citizenship
- Establish the School Council and give responsibility
- Create school 'Sections'

And further...

- Enhance the extended services operation
- Empower the support staff
- Further develop our partnerships
- Try to employ local people
- Establish the Ugandan link
- Set up the 'Opening Minds' curriculum

'Harry's Garden'



Student Common Room



The 'WoW' group



'Thanks'

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