

Engauge News



Find out more on our new website. Just search for 'Engauge' on <http://wsgfl.westsussex.gov.uk>

The Three Little Pigs help launch the Engauge project

THE Three Little Pigs visited Slinfold Primary School in March to help pupils learn how to save the planet.

Drama group Planet Theatre presented *The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wind*, on behalf of Engauge, a new county initiative working with West Sussex schools to improve sustainability.

Headteacher Jacky Lamb said, "It is important for pupils to learn about helping with our environment. Using drama is an excellent way to draw the children in and help them understand in a more natural way.

"The reaction to the story of the three little pigs was very encouraging. The children were keen to give feedback and showed a real awareness of today's environmental issues."

Drama co-ordinator Ann Feloy said, "This was the first ever production of *The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wind*. It went down very well with the children who all took part with musical instruments and plastic wind turbines.



The Three Little Pigs (actors James Weisz, Ann Feloy and Liz Tait) with John Hoyland, of Engauge, and pupils Alistair Silcox and Anna Holmes plus Headteacher Jacky Lamb

"The idea is to show everyone that we should all care more for the planet. During the production, the three little pigs - Pinky,

Perky and Porky - all learned how to save the planet through being more environmentally-friendly."





What is Engauge all about?

Engauge is a West Sussex County Council initiative to improve sustainability in school communities.

Schools are rated in eight sustainability categories:

- Energy & Water
- Food & Drink
- Travel & Traffic
- Purchasing & Waste
- Local Wellbeing
- Buildings & Grounds
- Inclusion and Participation
- Social Justice.

The eight different scores are uniquely displayed using a Sustainability Gauge (or 'susgauge') in the form of a flower with eight petals giving a unique performance record for each school.

A team of stakeholders (including pupils, staff, governors) from each school can choose to target areas for development and seek advice and action from Engauge's team of external specialists.

For further information on Engauge please contact John Hoyland on 01243 752271, email john.hoyland@westsussex.gov.uk



Delivering the Engauge project



by John Hoyland, Head of Engauge

THE arrival of spring has meant the launch of the Engauge project. Many thanks to everyone at Slinfold Primary School (see page one story).

The 12 schools in the Weald area will all receive the Q&D (Quick & Dirty) assessment. This will enable the schools to

create their own individual sustainability gauges.

Schools will provide a stakeholder team including pupils, staff, governors, to then decide which areas on the SusGauge they think need to be targeted first. Then Engauge provides help in finding the specialists in those areas to be targeted.

Once the work has been completed, the SusGauge can be redrawn with the newly completed work taken on board.

The key to the success of Engauge is the partnership approach. We are working 'with' schools, not 'for' schools. This means everyone is involved at every step of the process towards more sustainable schools.

Whilst the pilot study will last six months and feature 12 schools, the long-term aim is for all 299 schools in West Sussex to have access to Engauge and its team of assessors and specialists.

This long-term aim is ambitious but schools will be required to monitor their own sustainability levels. The Engauge project will allow schools to achieve this with informed and specialist partners guiding and advising throughout.

Within the Engauge team, we are very lucky to have 'pooled' specialists from all areas of the sustainability spectrum. They have experience in advising large organisations on water, energy, transport, purchasing, waste, buildings, grounds, as well as social justice and inclusion and local well-being.

We also have the support of the County's Asset Management Planning Team who we hope will manage the assessments with schools on in to the future.

The Council's AMPT already support schools with their premises development plans and will be very actively involved in delivering the councils sustainability programme and making things happen,

hopefully with the support of the Engauge process.

Whilst bringing many individuals with different ideas and ideals together under one banner may sound difficult, I must say how positive and enthusiastic all our meetings are.

The planning stage is almost complete and now is time for us to go out and visit the schools to complete the initial assessments. Then we can learn how successful the specialists can be in delivering the necessary improvements highlighted in the susgauge analysis.

You can follow the progress of the Engauge pilot study through the new website of the county's Grid for Learning.

