



The Shared Education in the Roe Valley (SERV) Partnership of Limavady High School and St Mary's fully support the Minister's vision for Shared Education. Over the last forty years shared programmes and good relations have led us to our current provision. In this school year 2015-2016 in excess of five hundred students are taught in shared timetable classes delivering sound educational benefits. The programme promotes "good relations, equality of identity, respect and diversity".

Recent student evaluations undertaken by both schools have shown "that children and young people participating in Shared Education particularly benefit from an increase in self-confidence, self-awareness and self-reflection; being more open to meeting others with differing perspectives; and with improved skills in problem solving, decision making and critical and creative thinking". Furthermore the students have expressed the desire for more sharing to take place.

Within the Roe Valley Learning Community our annual residuals show that at GCSE and A level shared courses provide the learner with the opportunity to achieve a higher outcome (1 grade higher) in subjects of their choice leading to wider career options.

Our co-operation has enhanced Continuous Professional Development within the two schools. It has provided opportunities for capacity building within the Partnership. Joint staff training and shared Department Meetings have provided the expertise to raise educational achievement.

Our partnership believes that working with parents is key to the success of the programme. Joint parents meetings and other events enhance meaningful relationships resulting in improved societal benefits.

We appreciate that the proximity of the two schools has facilitated the success of our programme. More importantly the relationships between the leaders of the two schools is, and has been for many years and through changing leadership, based on mutual trust and respect and this is the key factor contributing to the success of this partnership.

*Shane Laverty*

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