

Tri-Golfers triumph in Ofsted inspection

A specially-built Tri-Golf course at a primary school in the West Midlands has been used for curriculum learning for the pupils and has even scored a hole-in-one with Ofsted school inspectors.

Lyng Primary School in Sandwell opened its 9-hole Tri-Golf course in the school grounds back in November.

Birdies, bogeys and the skills for life the game teaches have formed part of literacy lessons, and the 400-plus pupils have been asked to write descriptions of each hole and produce leaflets to promote the course.

Staff have used the course to teach key maths concepts such as shape, area, perimeter, distance and length.

Deputy Head Peter Staniland said: "Skills such as honesty, empathy, team work and self-confidence are at the forefront of every golf session that takes place. Ofsted were really impressed with the work that has been produced as a result of the links to the Tri-Golf course."

The school serves a culturally diverse community and the course was opened by local PGA Pro Greg Lynch from nearby Warley Woods GC. The Golf Foundation provided HSBC Golf Roots Plus funding of £1,500 for the creation of the course, replete with greens, bunkers and rolling humps and hollows which creates a proper golf course feel for the youngsters.



Boys and girls show their new skills at the opening of Lyng Primary's Tri-Golf course

Photo: Express & Star

To enjoy a friendly and competitive game, pupils are encouraged to greet one another on the 1st tee and shake hands once the final hole is completed.

Lyng Primary follows Rednal Hill Primary School, in Birmingham, which built its own Tri-Golf course under the guidance of then Head Teacher Graham Catt. The school now hosts the annual 'Birmingham Tri-Golf Open' where a replica Claret Jug is awarded to the winner.

Martin Crowder, National Development Manager for the Foundation, said: "What has

been achieved at Lyng Primary and Rednal Hill Primary is superb. Graham Catt did so well to start this off and all at Lyng Primary should be proud to not only build something that encourages youngsters to try a new sport for the first time but that can also help practically across important school learning. We would encourage many other schools to consider this option."

Note: The Golf Foundation has funding in place to help build 10 school golf courses. For more information, email Joan McCrohan at joan@golf-foundation.org