

## **MCC Spirit of Cricket case studies and quotes**

### **Quotes**

“Although I do like to win, the coach has taught us that you shouldn’t get so wrapped up in winning that you then don’t enjoy just playing cricket. We have to think of everyone and not just ourselves.” (year 6 pupil)

“I always used to like to win, but it doesn’t matter so much now. When I used to lose I used to get in a strop.” (year 6 pupil)

“The pupils have gradually come to understand that the real winners in sports are those who know how to persevere and to behave with dignity, whether they win or lose a game” (Teacher)

“[It] adds to their enjoyment of cricket, because it teaches them to have respect for the game, themselves, their team mates, their opponents, the laws of the game and the umpires” (Coach, 2010)

“Pupils are highly competitive and it reminded them that being competitive is fine as long as you are also a fair and competitive team player.” (Teacher, 2010)

### **Case studies**

#### Tyneside unidentified case study

The Chance to Shine project undertaken in North Tyneside is based in an area of high poverty and deprivation, where over 75% of the children receive free school meals. In one particular school 100% of children receive free school meals.

Chance to Shine champions good sportsmanship. One Chance to Shine school in North Tyneside, which is in an area of deprivation with a high number of children with behavioural special needs, has embraced the MCC Spirit of Cricket. After a fight which required four members of staff to break up in a PE class, cricket was abandoned for the day. The following week, the Chance to Shine coach organised a special Spirit of Cricket lesson and even introduced role-playing cards that dealt with sportsmanship.

The coach ran a classroom session on the ‘spirit of cricket’, involving a dressing up game, an imaginary trip to Australia, and some video footage of a famous Test match. The youngsters got involved easily and particularly enjoyed the dressing up. After the video, the pupils were asked to think about how to make a person that loses a game feel better. The coach then took their suggestions away and printed them onto flash cards. “I thought this was the best way to educate the children about how to react to winning and losing”, explained the coach.

From then on, after each game the winning team were each given a flash card and had to go to a member of the losing team, shake hands and say what is written on the card. "Although initially this was an artificial situation and the children treated it as a bit of a joke," says the school coach, "it eventually became a natural process and the cards were no longer needed. They are a completely different group now and cricket has taught them life skills."

For the first time in the school's history, the teachers entered a team into the local Kwik Cricket festival - something the children's behaviour had prevented in the past. Although they did not win the festival they did win the 'Spirit of Cricket' award by judges who were unaware of their background.