

## The Clubs in Action

### Case study

### Skinner's Company's School for Girls East London

Skinner's Company's School for Girls, a non-denominational voluntary aided school in East London, has been running Computer Clubs for Girls (CC4G) since February 2005. The club is currently offered to 24 girls in Year 7 (age 11 and 12) and is already proving extremely popular.

Girls in the club are able to participate in a wide range of interesting and exciting projects that have been developed to stimulate their interest in technology within a fun environment. For example, club members have just completed the Celebrity topic which allows them to produce celebrity magazine covers and to virtually produce their own TV show while going behind the scenes to see how it operates. The module was so popular with the girls that Club facilitator, Selda Kurtuldu, has organised for the pupils to visit the set of Blue Peter – to see how their work links directly to real world experiences.

Selda commented: "We decided to introduce CC4G after hearing about other pilots at a recent conference. ICT is used across the curriculum and we were looking for a fun way to get pupils more involved in technology. Our club hasn't been running for a long time but already it is proving really successful: the girls are creating brilliant pieces of work and are experts in desktop publishing!"

"They are so keen to participate we have organised the trip to the BBC to show how technology works in practice and already all the girls have signed up to attend. They are also saving their work on disk and taking it home to show their parents what they've been up to."

Jenny Wilkins, headteacher at the school, says: "The beauty of CC4G is the way it combines a fun, real life structure for learning IT-related skills to the development of a whole set of wider transferable skills, from project management to teamwork and evaluation.

"The girls absolutely love going to CC4G and have been its biggest advocate within the school by spreading the word. Its success has convinced us to extend the club to older girls from year 8 and 9 from September."

The CC4G e-learning courseware is designed for girls aged between 10-14 years (Years 6 to 9), and provides clear and helpful guidance on how to complete different tasks and to get involved in a range of creative projects.

#### From the girls...

"I've learnt so much at the club. I can now use Publisher and have used it to make my own magazine cover. The club has been brilliant and has taught me how to use computers in my classes - I even type up my homework now! The CC4G website is really interesting, my brother is so jealous, I've had to show him how to use it - he just wishes there was CC4B!"

*Laila Hadjimi, age 11*

"The club is great. I don't have a computer at home so the club is the only chance I get to learn about computers. I use it for lots of things. I have learnt how to use Publisher and PowerPoint in my work, but I really like looking for things on the internet, especially my favourite celebrities."

*Leyla Sokucu, age 12*

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The popularity of the club means it will be extended to other classes from September, with plans to involve Year 8 and 9 girls.