# The evidence base for Passport

## **SUMMARY OF EVALUATION STUDY**

- Developed and very thoroughly tested over five years by CRISE-UQAM, Montreal, Canada
- Final version evaluated with a stratified RCT with 1,492 children aged 8 12
- Pre-test, post-test and one-year follow-up
- Class observations + focus groups with teachers, children and parents



Registered Charity number: 1089810

## **IMPLEMENTATION EVALUATION**

#### Teachers:

- were able to conduct the sessions as planned
- enjoyed teaching the programme
- liked the structure, visuals and concrete activities
- liked that it elicited discussion of important issues in children's lives

#### Children enjoyed the sessions, particularly:

- the comics
- activities which involved moving around
- being able to express feelings freely without judgement

#### Parents evaluated the Home Activities:

82% thought the activities were helpful to their child

## **PERCEIVED EFFECTS**

#### Teachers said:

- children dealt with conflicts better
- they learnt coping strategies for themselves personally
- they developed a better and closer relationship with the children

## Children said they had learnt:

- new ways to handle conflicts and frustrating situations
- how to calm down
- how to compromise and respect others
- to ask adults for help
- write about feelings and tell adults how they feel



## **EFFECTS FOUND USING STANDARDISED MEASURES**

## **COPING**

## Measure 1: Coping in hypothetical situations

• Result: Significant increase in experimental group, no significant change in control group, both at post-test and one-year follow-up

#### Measure 2: Draw and write

• Result: Both groups had increased number of strategies, but Experimental Group had significantly more than Control Group

#### Measure 3: Kidcope (Spirito, 1996)

 Result: Number of strategies used, and their usefulness, went up pre-test to post-test in the Experimental Group, while they went down in the Control Group (not used at one-year on)

#### Measure 4: Children's Coping Questionnaire (Fedorowicz, 1998)

 Result: No change pre-test to post-test. Small increase in number of coping strategies used by Experimental Group, and small decrease by Control Group, at one-year on

# EMOTIONAL AWARENESS

Measure: Levels of Emotional Awareness Scale (Bachard et al., 2011)

• Result: Significant increase in experimental group, no significant change in control group, both at post-test and one-year follow-up

# SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SKILLS

Measure: Social Skills Rating System (Gresham & Elliott, 1990)

- Result: Positive Academic Behaviour e.g.
- 'finishes classroom work on time'
- 'attends to your instructions'
- 'ignores peer distractions while doing schoolwork'
- increased in the Experimental Group according to both teacher and student questionnaire, while it decreased in the Control Group, pre-test to post-test.
- However, scores declined again one-year on.

# **CONCLUSION**

- Can be implemented as planned
- Increases coping abilities, emotional awareness and academic behaviours
- Teachers and children enjoy it

- No significant differences in impact for boys and girls
- No significant differences in impact for socio-economic level



Mishara BL and Dufour S (2020) Randomized Control Study of the Implementation and Effects of a New Mental Health Promotion Program to Improve Coping Skills in 9 to 11 Year Old Children: Passport: Skills for Life. Front. Psychol. 11:573342. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2020.573342

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