



CASE STUDY

Child Care students support Barnardo's Big Toddle

BTEC National Diploma
in Early Years

“An excellent opportunity to put child care knowledge into practice.”

Introduction

In June 2008 Braintree College Child Care students were invited by Colchester Zoo to support and take part in Barnardo's 'Big Toddle', a sponsored half mile walk for children under five, which raises funds for the children's charity.

Achievement

Child Care lecturer Gillian Weldon-Holmes said: "Fifteen BTEC Level 3 students took part in the 'Big Toddle' this year and they had an excellent opportunity to put their child care knowledge into practice, while learning about working in partnership with other organisations. Before the event the students had an introduction to charity work and the work of Barnardos including counselling, fostering and vocational training. During the 'Big Toddle' they welcomed families taking part, lined the route to cheer and accompanied toddlers around the route through the zoo. It was a fun day and the students really felt valued as participants."

The Future

The Child Care students have been invited to work with the organisers of Barnardo's 'Big Toddle' 2009. Gillian said: "We are looking forward to supporting the event next year."

