

TOUCHLINE

CLUB SPOTLIGHT

FUN FESTIVAL

By Richard Cook, Cotham Park RFC Press Officer



More than 100 pupils from six south Bristol junior schools were at Cotham Park RFC last month to enjoy a community tag rugby festival hosted by the club in partnership with Ashton Park Sports College.

Four Cotham Park RFU qualified coaches were on hand as primary school pupils from Ashton Gate, Ashton Vale, Christ Church, Luckwell, Southville and South Street competed at the Failand ground, with each team accompanied by a member of the Ashton Park sixth form as part of their Sports Leaders Awards accreditation. The Bristol Society provided referees.

Teachers in south Bristol had previously taken on

the role of Primary Link Teachers to teach tag in their schools. The event was also part of Cotham Park's ongoing development plan aimed at reaching out to the local community.

"The festival was a great success," said festival organiser Chris Meechan. "To secure the future of rugby in the area, we must adopt a proactive approach and go out into the local community and introduce the game to the youngsters who are the players of the future.

"With sport usually taking place on the school playing fields, it was wonderful for the young players to experience playing at a real rugby club," added Beth Jones, Schools Sports Co-ordinator for Ashton Park Sports College.