

Catwalk showcases Fair Trade fashion



SION DONOVAN reports on a school fashion show with a difference, proving fashion can alleviate rather than create poverty.

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Students put on Fair Trade fashion show, exhibiting the clothing range of Harry Potter actress Emma Watson.

Pupils at Bedales School in Petersfield put on the show with Fair Trade fashion company People Tree, which has been collaborating with the actress to produce Fair Trade and sustainable clothing.

Bedales headteacher Keith Budge said: 'We were keen to work with People Tree and Emma Watson to promote the link between business and ethics and to show that fashion can alleviate rather than create poverty.'

'The inspiration for the show came from our students and reflects the strong ethical thread running through Bedales.'

Introducing the fashion show, People Tree chief executive, Safia Minney, outlined how her company works to bring benefits to people and the planet through



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the production process, to help alleviate poverty in the world's most marginalised communities and minimise the ecological impact.

She said: 'It has been amazing to work with the students of Bedales. We urgently need to tap into the energy of young people to start thinking about the true

humanitarian and environmental costs of the clothing they wear.'

'With their enthusiasm to create a fairer fashion industry, real change can be made to improve the lives of the most disadvantaged people while protecting our planet.'

Bedales School has a thriving Fair Trade commit-

tee where students combine discussing the bigger issues of injustice, ethics and sustainability with direct action. Having raised over £40,000, a group of Bedales students and staff visited a Swaziland community over half term to help complete the building of an orphanage at a primary school.

