



Leading Parent Partnership Award

Reassessment Report

School	Gatley Primary School
Address	Hawthorn Road Gatley Cheadle Stockport SK8 4NB
Telephone:	0161 428 6180
Headteacher	Miss Michelle Murray
Person responsible for parent partnership	Mrs Elizabeth Lees Mrs Claire Kitchen
Date of Reassessment Visit	5 th December 2016
LPPA Verifier	Kathryn Kirby

Commentary on the Mini-portfolio of Evidence

The co-ordinators produced a very thorough portfolio of evidence which clearly showed the progression in parent partnership since the final verification.

- Excellent evidence on keeping the whole school community informed of developments in parent partnership. E.g. staff training records, leaflets promoting parent voice, minutes of Parent Voice meetings and research on the theme 'Does effective parent partnership provide better outcomes for more vulnerable pupils'.
- The school's Self Evaluation Annual Timetable includes: parent voice, family charter, pupil voice and stakeholder voice.
- Internal signage has been reviewed and new consistent signs help visitors and parents to find their way around the school. Parents were consulted and feedback is positive.
- Feedback questions e.g. 'How was your welcome?' are displayed in the school entrance with Smiley faces and comment slips available for parents to give feedback
- New communications systems have been introduced including Parents Mail and class DoJo enabling parents to access information on their smart phones and make instant responses. Newsletters are now sent via Parent Mail

- Good evidence to show how parents views are gathered and responded to e.g. negative comments on school photographs were noted and parents invited to discuss the issue at Parent Voice, tasked with finding a new company to take school photograph and parent volunteers recruited to help pupils to look smart for their photos. Feedback on the new photographs was then gathered and shared with parents
- The school hold a wide range of workshops and events for parents to learn about the curriculum, support their children with learning and learn together with their children. Parents are consulted on their own learning needs and provision made accordingly e.g. delivery of parenting course Are We Ready Yet and opportunities to work with their children on Maths and English so that they can experience current learning methods
- Excellent use of IT to help parents support children's learning at home including:-online video clips of children learning activities, use of online Learning Journeys and use of class DoJos for individual behaviour rewards and Class Stories
- The Y6 children won the Young Entrepreneurs project this year. They identified a need for parents to support them with Maths at home, researched and developed a video demonstrating the methods used for calculation from Y1 to Y6 which was filmed by a parent, sold to parents enabling families to enjoy Maths together at home
- Parents are asked to complete a skills audit and invited into school to share their knowledge and skills with the children e.g. talking about their jobs, sharing customs related to celebrations and information about other countries
- The school is involved with the community and has established Gatley Village Partnership to work more closely with local people. They held a Tea Dance and local people are invited to events in school and children attend local events in the community, promoting the development of sustainable relationships between the school and the community
- There was comprehensive evidence of records of parent involvement, registers of attendance at events, photographs, parent interview records and the range of feedback mechanisms used. Feedback is analysed and shared with parents using the 'We asked, you said, we did' approach. Parent feedback is used to inform future provision
- The school has a comprehensive induction process and has developed New to School Procedures for families whose children join during the school year, the procedure is monitored ensuring parents are contacted and relationships established straight away
- Parents were consulted on format of children's annual reports as a result the reports have been shortened and have a more personal focus
- The rewards systems are clear, displayed around the school, in the classrooms and parents are updated daily via class DoJos
- The school is in the process of consulting parents on school policies and procedures. Parents have been involved in updating the Homework, Behaviour and Calculation Policies. Parents and children have been raising awareness among the school and local communities of parking and road safety issues. The school is planning expanding to three form entry and a 52 place nursery parents have been fully involved in the consultation process
- The school has developed very close working links with the local High School to improve transition and is currently involved in a project working with the English and Maths departments at the High school to develop a smooth transition in these areas. Feedback from parents on transition is positive and the high school feedback indicates that the children from Gatley Primary are confident independent learners

- Parents are supported in making high school choices and individual support given to families of children with SEND
- The school has embedded parent participation into school planning and procedures and has clear plans for the future

Commentary on the tour of the school

The school is easy to find, the entrance is well signposted. The reception area is welcoming for parents and visitors with comfortable chairs. The office has entrance has been redeveloped and now has a large glass window so parents can easily talk to office staff and office staff can see visitors arrive. The school has an additional member of staff in the office now. The electronic signing in system is new and easy to operate staff give assistance if visitors need it. The vision statement is displayed in the entrance and the school's achievements are celebrated, the Young Entrepreneur cup was on display at the time of the visit. Parent feedback is encouraged and a display asking We would like to know ...with smiley faces below and comments slips is easy to see and easy to use.

The school is very clean and tidy with a nice balance of displays of children's work, information and celebration. At the time of the visit one corridor was decorated with poppies made by each child in the school to commemorate remembrance day. Parents and the local community were invited to view the display. Stars of the week and good attendance certificates were on display and there was a lovely map showcasing work children has done at home with their families researching different countries.

Each class has a welcome notice near the door stating the class name and the teacher's name. The areas of the school are well signed and the external entrances where parents drop off and pick up children are clearly signed in large writing. All the signage is consistent and high quality with the owl logo and clear print.

The outside space was well designed and equipped to give children a choice of play activities.

The class rooms were interesting and full of learning information. The achievement catchers hanging up in the classroom are added to as the school year progresses achievements at home as well as at school are added to the catchers and at the end of the year the children can take them home as a record of their time in the class.

The children were very polite, walking carefully in the corridors and actively engaged in learning in the classrooms and work areas. Reception were practicing their nativity play and a child able to tell the adviser about his part in the play.

The school had a calm working atmosphere and an engaging and stimulating learning environment. Evidence of parent partnership was clear around the school and there were several parent volunteers helping in school at the time of the visit.

Commentary on discussions with staff, governors, parents and pupils/students

Staff

Staff are fully committed to working with parents and continually seeking new ways to support parents to engage with their children's learning. Parent partnership is integrated into school planning systems. Current projects that staff have been working on include:-

- The development of a parent friendly calculation policy with models and examples of work to do with children at home. Workshops and drop in sessions where parents can try out the methods in the classroom use the apparatus and work with their children have been offered and were well attended. A further workshop is planned for next Spring
- Wake up Shake up a project to enhance health and physical development which was held in the playground in the mornings before school and proved popular with children and parents. Wake up Shake up was researched and evaluated by one of the staff and feedback was very positive, children were on time for school and eager to be involved
- Young Entrepreneurs Y6 project the subject of which arose from pupil feedback identifying that

children wanted their parents to help and encourage them at home. The project involved making a DVD of maths calculations for Y1 to Y6, parents were involved in filming and producing the DVD and designing the cover and children sold them to parents. Staff were really proud of the children's achievements and the support of parents.

- Staff work with the children and the parents in developing community links and have established Young Gatley Partnership to ensure this work progresses

Staff feel that it is vital to the progress of children to develop good relationships with parents and communicate effectively with parents throughout school and have seen the level of engagement grow over the year. This commitment is reflected in the fact that parents still actively participate in events and activities when their children are in Y5 and Y6. Staff take a proactive approach to consultation with parents and the community and appreciate the support they receive. Staff think that the DoJo system has supported working parents to feel more involved in the school's behaviour policy and have access to the work children are doing in the classroom.

Governors

The governors are also fully committed to parent partnership and understand the benefits for the children, parents and the community. They place a high priority on parents understanding how learning takes place at Gatley Primary School. The parent partnership co-ordinators attended Stockport Governor Conference to share good practice on work with parents. This year the governors identified that community links could be developed and have supported staff with this initiative. The school is very oversubscribed and a positive presence in the area as the biggest local employer in Gatley village, therefore the governors want to serve the whole community. Parents have been supported to become TAs and families support community events encouraging children to be active citizens.

Parents

The parents feel that they are listened to and the communication mechanisms are effective. They liked the class DoJo in particular the instant communication, the ability to send private messages and the information on their child's behaviour and activities at school, which are useful conversation starters with their children. Also it is helpful for working parents. They also like Parent Mail and appreciated that both parents were contacted by school, but still value the personal contact with staff at drop off and pick up times. Parents spoken to really valued the opportunity to come into school and work alongside their children especially in Reception where they found it really useful to observe and experience how their children learn.

Parents are pleased with the updated Homework policy and feel that school have listened to and responded to their views. Homework is now more flexible and less pressured for parents and children. Parents value the range of opportunities to be involved in school life, from being on the PTA participating in Parent Voice to giving talks to children about their jobs and sharing skills like MACATON with children.

Children

The children spoken to had a very sound knowledge of how their parents and families are involved with school. They were familiar with DoJo and able to show the adviser how it worked and explained that only your family can see your page to keep it private. They knew about communication mechanisms such as Parent Mail and the school newsletter and were familiar with the role of parent volunteers and parents coming into school to work alongside themselves and their friends. The older children explained how they research topics and the kind of work they did at home. The children were very polite and spoke eloquently about their school and how parents are involved.

Strengths Identified In The Review

- All staff and governors are fully committed to parent partnership, understand the importance of working with parents and the positive impact on children's achievement
- The school has embedded parent partnership into procedures e.g. curriculum planning, parent voice meetings and the PTA
- The school has excellent communication systems to meet the needs of all parents e.g. Parent Mail, class DoJos plus face to face contact with staff at drop off and pick up times
- The school is very friendly and welcoming to parents, visitors and the community and actively

engaging with the community through Young Gatley Partnership

- The school has developed a range of mechanisms to gather parent feedback which are relevant to the activity event or issue, including:- smiley faces, DoJo, questionnaires, express questionnaires, graffiti boards, Parent Voice and pupil voice
- Feedback is systematically analysed, acted upon and shared with parents
- The school is reviewing and updating school policies and procedures in consultation with parents and children and has completed the Homework Policy, Behaviour Policy and Calculation Policy
- The school has developed excellent links with the feeder High School and is currently working on English and Maths projects to improve transition and enable children to adapt to the different learning styles used in high school
- The school has established a research base on the benefits of parent partnership upon children's progress and is sharing good practice with partner schools
- The children have a thorough knowledge of how parents are involved in school life
- Parent confidence in the school is high, parents feel listened to and confident that their views are taken seriously and acted upon wherever possible

Areas For Development

- Continue with the good practice you have established in parent partnership and act upon the findings of research conducted by the school
- Continue to share good practice with partner schools
- Continue to update policies and procedures in consultation with parents and carers
- Continue to consult existing and new parents during the expansion of the school to ensure they are kept informed and feel part of the process

Recommendation by the Adviser

That Gatley Primary School be awarded the LPPA for a further three years

Headteacher Comment

May we use your comment for website/marketing purposes? Yes/No