



## Leading Parent Partnership Award

### Final Verification Report

Setting	Pens Meadow School
Address	Ridge Hill Brierley Hill Road Wordsley DY8 5ST
Head teacher	Marie Hunter
LPPA Co-ordinator (if different)	Sue Wale
Date Of Assessment	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Verifier	Andrea Hamshaw

#### Commentary on the Objectives Which Formed Part Of The Final Verification

All LPPA objectives have been achieved and evidenced. The portfolios were very well populated with a good range of evidence that was referenced appropriately and therefore easy to navigate.

The portfolios demonstrated:

- Involvement and commitment of the whole school to the LPPA framework shown by the amount of initial and updating information throughout Pens Meadow's journey to Final Verification.
- Information to show how the LPPA framework links with the School Improvement and Development Planning processes with maintenance and on-going targets.
- "Rich" Family Outreach data to evidence parental engagement information across the school.
- The very informative tour of both sites added to the information provided within the portfolio to highlight the welcoming and communicative nature of the setting as well as contextual information. Photographic evidence was provided to support this and show information has been presented throughout the LPPA journey. The quality of display and information around the settings was consistent on both sites supporting the learning and development environment with relevant signage for pupils and visitors to the school.

- Extensive evidence of parental engagement in supporting children's learning and development of their own learning through partnership working with external agencies where necessary.
- Joint enrichment opportunities and also how information is shared through home school dialogue e.g. EHCPs and home school communication books as well as the provision supported by the Home School Association.
- Personalised, pupil centred induction and transition information for parents, on entry and throughout their children's journey with Pens Meadow School.
- A range of relevant and user-friendly guidance to help parents to support their children's learning and development.
- Evidence of parent friendly policies together with relevant guidance.
- Effective mechanisms to promote and reward good attendance and behaviour and how these are shared between home and school together with celebratory information.
- Evaluations in relation to all Objectives showing how feedback is provided to parents brought together in the comprehensive Objective 10 Evidence Record.

### **Strengths Identified In The Review**

As well as the information included within the portfolios the information provided through the comprehensive school tours of both sites and presentation by the LPPA Co-ordinator supported the evidence by enhancing the information in relation to the demographic and context of Pens Meadow School.

- There is definitely a consistent commitment from all staff across the school that is echoed through the vision "Living, Growing, Learning" and the fact "working with parents, carers and families is the thread that runs Pens Meadow School." The partnership ethos where parents, staff and support agencies work together and the whole child and family are taken into account when developing individualised provision was evident through the portfolios and the conversations undertaken with all stakeholder groups at the Final Verification.
- Building positive relationships with parents is integral to the services supported through the school and particularly by the Family Outreach provision. Video evidence was viewed at the Final Verification to show how holistic support is provided and valued by families and how the school is trusted to enable families to learn and develop.
- Taking part in the LPPA has enabled Pens Meadow School to use the LPPA framework as an audit tool that has as recognised areas of good practice and highlighted areas for development points a structured manner. When speaking to stakeholders at the Final Verification it was evident that they all had an in depth knowledge of the LPPA process and how their individual roles slotted in.
- The tour showed a welcoming environment with informative "tactile" displays with relevant guidance for parents and visitors to the settings. There is an open door policy in operation that is valued by parents in supporting their individualised needs as well of those of their children and families.
- All staff met at the Final Verification offered a warm welcome. Information was shared with

staff on the tour in relation to how all staff engage with parents and families in a needs led manner to enable effective support for their children's individual support needs.

- When speaking to parents they shared their experiences in relation to communication with Pens Meadow School. There was a consensus of opinion that all staff were welcoming and help was on hand with any questions and situations as they may arise.
  - Examples of the effective communication methods were viewed within the portfolio and consolidated when speaking to parents. Communication in general was viewed as very good. It was apparent that Pens Meadow School listens to parents and uses their views effectively as well as providing relevant feedback.
  - Communication, learning and development strategies used within the setting flow between home and school through informative curriculum newsletters, reports and social media (to mention a few!) There are a range of opportunities to receive and submit information that will continue to develop as the need arises and also using technology as appropriate.
  - A major strength when speaking with parents was how supported they felt in general but also that they were not judged. They expressed the view that they were helped by all staff to provide supportive strategies to understand and develop their children appropriately. There is definitely a "team" ethos where parents feel "valued" as key players in their children's education, learning and holistic development.
  - Positive relationships enable partnership working with various external agencies and these were evidenced through the stakeholder conversations. Multi agency working is part of everyday practice at Pens Meadow and all staff have their role to play in this. The Family Outreach Service are integral to supporting families at the school and provide a key link to external agencies on a "whole family" needs led basis.
  - Extensive information was shared to show how parents are enabled to support their children to develop and learn and also to enhance their own learning through various sessions that have been developed and will continue to develop in line with parental feedback and needs.
  - The relevant support and challenge undertaken by the Governing Body at the school was again reiterated through speaking to stakeholder
  - Celebrations are a large part of school life at Pens Meadow. Everyone is valued and their contributions and achievements actively highlighted through relevant media including assemblies and certificates etc.
  - Building on parental skill sets was definitely an area explored and utilised to its full potential by the school. Parents are encouraged to share their experiences and also help other parents both through the HSA and parent group sessions (amongst others).
  - General information is provided on a regular basis to parents in various forms including newsletter, letter and in "parent friendly" leaflets.
  - Information in relation to development, learning and progress is shared with parents at regular intervals and celebrations occur to enable family participation in enrichment opportunities.
  - Extensive induction and transition information provision from the school is available to
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parents in relation to their child's learning journey into, throughout the setting and beyond. Links between services for children and adults are supported and relevant advocacy provided by Family Outreach.

- Information was provided by the school council to show to the school communicates with parents and families. Report, celebration, induction and transition information was also provided to show how families are involved in every day school life.
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## Areas For Development

It was apparent through speaking to stakeholders at the Final Verification that Pens Meadow School takes into account the views of parents and listens!

Extensive information was provided through the presentation by the Headteacher and LPPA Co-ordinator to add to the monitoring, evaluation and feedback exercises that had taken place in relation to all objectives of the LPPA to highlight where development opportunities had already been identified and also where future work would be undertaken.

Bearing all of this information in mind the school will:

- Use the comprehensively completed Objective 10 Evidence Record and LPPA Presentation that in turn show areas for development and future planning opportunities identified for parental engagement across the school post achievement of the LPPA.
- Continue to embrace parent consultation as a communication tool for gaining family opinions and views through relevant parent friendly media.
- Continue to offer a programme of activities/workshops and information sessions (in partnership with external agencies as and when required) to develop parental engagement work in general and provide learning opportunities that enable parents to understand how their children learn, develop their own learning and work together in line with needs based communication and act upon feedback.
- Continue to develop the work of the Family Outreach provision in line with family requirements based on data, consultation and individualised support needs.
- Use technology as it develops to support parental engagement in general.

## Recommendation By Verifier

That Pens Meadow School is awarded the LPPA for a period of three years.

## Headteacher Comment

I feel this report is a true reflection of parental partnership in Pens Meadow School. Everyone involved with the school commits to our ethos to support achieving the best outcomes for pupils and families.

The LPPA process has supported us in drawing together evidence and providing a focus for evaluation and further development.

It is a quality mark that supports our vision

**May we use your comments on our website and/or publicity material?**

**Yes**

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