



Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA) Verification Report

School name:	Fairfield School
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Head teacher:	John Page
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Award verifier:	Maureen Nash
Award adviser (if applicable):	
Date of verification:	7 th June 2022

Commentary on the evidence provided:

The verification of the Leading Parent Partnership Award at Fairfield School was carried out through a virtual visit.

The LPPA coordinator facilitated a thoughtfully presented full range of evidence and her careful preparation ensured that the verifier was provided with a full picture of parental involvement in the school. In addition to the comprehensive, well organised e-portfolio a PowerPoint presentation and discussion with the coordinator clearly showed how parental involvement has been a school priority, with LPPA being used as a useful framework. Governors, staff, parents and pupils, provided their perceptions of parental involvement through virtual discussions. The school tour was provided through a series of short videos showing different areas of the school.

All the evidence at verification confirmed that Fairfield School is meeting the LPPA Objectives and KPIs. In particular there was evidence that:

The working group members reflected the views of the whole school community

The school provides a range of activities to help parents support their children's learning and face to face opportunities are already being re-introduced.

The school has a comprehensive induction process designed to meet the needs of all parents when their children start in reception.

There have been regular whole school consultations on a range of provision with very positive responses from parents.

The planning and on-going work towards the award has been carried out thoughtfully and comprehensively, providing whole school evaluation and enhancement of parent partnership at Fairfield School.

Strengths identified during verification:

Fairfield School has a strategic approach to involving parents in their child's learning, development and well-being, demonstrated through the LPPA coordinator being on the Senior Leadership Team. LPPA has been used as a vehicle to develop effective partnerships between home and school and its inclusion in the School Development Plan and the range of expertise in the working party reflect a whole school approach.

LPPA has been a positive framework for auditing practice, both as a celebration of existing practice and as a framework to enhance this even further. The committed coordinator has thoughtfully created a plan of action and conscientiously led the school to successful completion.

Fairfield recognises challenges that some parents can face in coming into school such as the distance between home and school and positively reaches out to parents. General communications with parents include an informative website, social media and thoughtfully designed newsletters and letters. Texts and emails are used. Regular communication through home-school books is appreciated by parents, 'I don't feel I've missed anything' (parent). During discussions with pupils, a pupil demonstrated how school facilitated him to pass on messages himself using electronic means.

Personal contact with pupils and their families through face to face conversations and phone calls remains a priority in order to support their engagement with learning and well-being. The Children and Families Welfare Manager is accessible directly by phone and email and staff regularly phone parents, 'Staff are approachable and friendly' (parent) and 'The whole leadership team has an 'open door' policy' (governor).

Fairfield has adapted and developed systems and approaches to meet the needs of pupils and their families during the Covid-19 pandemic, helping children and families with support and learning activities. For example the school was well placed to adapt communications already established through extending and embedding the use of DOJO and the regular twice a week phone calls from school forged even closer relationships with parents.

Induction into school has been thoughtfully developed for each individual pupil and family in order to meet their very individual needs. Home visits take place (garden visits during Covid) and families meet with Family and Welfare Officer for practical support. There is a two week transition period in July initially with parents and their child then independently in line with the children's needs, ready

for a smooth start in September. Pre-school children and their parents are invited to Stay & Play sessions, so support can be offered even before children actually start school.

Parents are well informed about their child's learning and progress. There are two parent consultations plus where IEP reviews are discussed and an annual review with an accessible one page EHCP summary sheet for parents. Detailed information is provided daily in home-school books, 'even going down to finer details' (parent). DOJO is used throughout the school.

Fairfield consults with parents. There are twice yearly consultations on different areas of school life and actions have been taken, for example introducing more extra-curricular activities. The school also prioritises listening to the individual concerns of families to meet their individual needs in 'open and honest' conversations' (parent).

Fairfield encourages parents to feel welcome when visiting the school. The environment has been thoughtfully developed and the reception area provides a warm welcome. The building is bright, modern and well-resourced with well-presented displays. The fortnightly Fairfield Families has already been re-established, offering both informal coffee and chat and focused sessions such as sensory needs to provide opportunities to informally welcome parents into school. A range of health professionals provide on-site appointments which ensures they are accessible for parents whilst supporting school attendance.

Impact:

The school identified the impact of LPPA:

LPPA helped us to identify our strengths and areas of development in parental involvement.

We were able to work together with parents and key partners.

Parental engagement increased.

We increased activities we held in school when we were working towards the award.

Areas for development:

The following areas were agreed between the Verifier and the LPPA Co-ordinator:

To introduce sharing progress with parents through Evidence for Learning

To continue to re-establish face to face opportunities for families in school



Verifier recommendation:

Fairfield School should be awarded the LPPA for a period of three years.

Head teacher comments:

A great acknowledgment of the hard work, collaboration and support that the school maintains and endeavours to strengthen its relationship and partnership working with parents. We are very proud of the achievements of all stakeholders whose contributions to this facilitate great practice and supporting an on-going quality provision for all our students. A huge thank you to everyone involved!