



## Leading Parent Partnership Award Final Verification Report

School	Freshfield Nursery School
Address	Mauldeth Road Stockport SK4 3NB
Headteacher	Mrs Linda Shaw
LPPA Co-ordinator (if different)	Ms Lucy Hayes
Date Of Assessment	22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2016
Verifier	Kathryn Kirby

### Commentary on the Evidence Provided in the LPPA Portfolio

The school provided a very thorough, well organised portfolio of evidence, which demonstrated how the school had carried out the LPPA process. They had made good use of the documents in the Toolkit especially the 'where are we now' rating sheets and the 'who is involved in...' forms to identify areas for development.

#### Objectives 1 & 2

Good evidence to show how the school had identified the roles of people involved in parent partnership and shared initial information with key partners, who were able to become involved and give support to parents. The action plan clearly identified areas for development and was regularly monitored and shared with governors through the School Development Plan, which identified clear strategies for developing communication with parents. The LPPA was a regular item on parents' newsletters and the school exchanged information on good practice in working with parents with local schools in the Heaton's Primary Cluster and the Stockport Association of Nursery Schools.

#### Objective 3

There was excellent signage outside the school enabling parents to easily identify the entrance. The reception area was well organised with a very good range of information for parents, a notice board and lovely display. All visitors are greeted by staff members who are friendly and

welcoming. The school has an excellent, well resourced learning environment inside and outside and a calm working atmosphere. There were lovely displays of children's work, photos of children engaged in learning activities and topic work throughout the school. There were a wide range of mechanisms to communicate with parents including: email, telephone, texts, school app, website, Tapestry on line Learning Journal and newsletters. Use of Parents Mail was monitored and feedback gathered. Parent Partnership questionnaires gathered information on communication, welcome and support, feedback was very positive, data was analysed and shared with parents in the newsletter, stating how issues raised would be addressed.

#### Objectives 4 & 5

The school provided evidence of a wide range of events and activities to help parents develop their own learning, support their children's learning and enjoy activities with their children. E.g. Positive Parenting courses, Asthma drop in session, Millie's Trust First Aid course, smoking cessation and Saturday morning family learning activities. Information packs were produced for all activities encouraging parents to do activities at home with their children. The Pirates display of the most recent Saturday session was very informative and celebrated a really exciting well attended event. Registers are kept and feedback gathered and analysed, results of feedback are shared with parents by letter and in the school newsletter. Analysis of attendance showed that on Saturday events 36% of attendees were dads and 39% mums while at the week day events attendance was 86% mums and only 5% dads, the remaining attendees were siblings or grandparents. This demonstrated the success of the Saturday family learning events in attracting dads. Feedback on events and activities was very positive and all participants received a certificate to thank them for taking part.

#### Objective 6

The school have a comprehensive induction process parents can make appointments to look round the school, are invited to a new children's visit in July, attend a session with their child, then are invited to a parent's only induction meeting where they meet the staff and are given their induction pack. The induction information is clear and easy to follow parents are invited to become involved in school life and their children's learning and development. The process for midterm admissions is clear and settling in periods are arranged. Feedback is gathered on Open Days and how well children have settled. Parents requested extra provision and the school has responded by offering 4 hour paid sessions on Wednesdays, which are always full.

#### Objective 7

The school are using a range of methods to provide information to parents on the curriculum, EYFS and how to support their children's learning and development at home including: termly curriculum information on the parent's notice board, the website and the newsletter; half termly topic information in the newsletter, booklets on topics with ideas to do together at home and Tapestry an on line Learning Journal which encourages parents to comment on their child's achievements and add information on activities done at home. Termly parent meetings are offered and parents can arrange additional meetings as required. The Family Learning story trail booklets are full of ideas for parents to use at home, songs, rhymes, recipes and games, there were lovely displays in school of home learning e.g. Bird watching display, activities which encourage families to get outside and do activities together.

Parent feedback is gathered on information packs, on Tapestry and on parents' meetings using a variety of methods. Feedback is analysed, and shared with parents in the newsletter.

#### Objective 8

All the key policies are on the school website and parents are given a leaflet on the Behaviour Policy, which is clear and easy to follow, in their induction pack the Safeguarding policy and procedures are also shared at induction. The school worked with parents of children with SEN to formulate the 'School Offer' ensuring it was parent friendly and contained information parents

want to know.

Good attendance and punctuality are encouraged and parents are thanked in the newsletter for getting their children to school on time. The portfolio had photographs of volunteers in school and the school have recently supported a parent by offering her a placement in the nursery as part of her Teaching Assistant training. Parents are encouraged to comment on their children's Record of Achievement.

A survey of how parents like to be consulted showed that parents prefer Parent Mail, which is now being used.

#### Objective 9

The school have good links with local primary schools, encourage parents to visit primaries and keep parents informed of admission procedures and deadlines. They work closely with parents of children with additional needs to ensure a smooth transition to primary school and have clear procedures in place when children leave midterm. In school provision from 2 year old provision to the main nursery has made a very good start with all of the parents of 2 year olds attending the parents' transition meeting. The school have participated in a transition study with a local primary school. Feedback from parents and primary school is that the children settle well into Reception classes.

#### Objective 10

The objective 10 evidence record showed the school is committed to continuing to develop parent partnership and has plans in place to develop and embed their evaluation systems. Their analysis of data shows that their current approach of holding family learning activities on Saturday mornings is very successful in attracting dads and siblings to the nursery.

### Strengths Identified In The Review

- A very friendly and welcoming school, with an excellent learning environment for the children, lovely displays of children's work and photos of children engaged in learning activities, very well resource outdoor area to stimulate children's interest in nature and physical activity
- A very good range of activities for parents to develop their own learning, support their children's learning and development and learn with their children in the nursery and at home. The Saturday morning activities were very successful in attracting dads.
- There was excellent family friendly information on the curriculum in particular the Family Learning Packs, Seasonal Activity Packs and Saturday Family Learning Workshop information packs and displays
- A very good induction process with a clear accessible information pack
- The school have developed systems to gather parent feedback using a range of methods e.g. counters, questionnaires and on line surveys, feedback is analysed and shared with the parents in newsletters
- Parent feedback is very positive and the parent felt the school is a welcoming and friendly place and they value the support they receive from school
- The school has worked with parents of children with SEN to produce an effective 'School Offer' document
- The school has a history of working with parents and have run parenting courses for many years. The Headteacher, the staff and governors are committed to parent partnership and continually working to improve and develop provision for parents to give children a love of learning and the best possible start to their education

## Areas For Development

- Continue to gather parent feedback, analyse feedback and share results with parents using the 'we asked, you said , we did' approach
- Continue to analyse attendance at events to identify groups of parents not currently attending and develop mechanisms to engage with these parents
- Consult with parents and establish small focus groups when reviewing school policies and procedures
- Continue to monitor transition to primary school, gather parent feedback and access data from the primary transition study

## Recommendation By Verifier

That Freshfield Nursery School be awarded the LPPA for a period of three years

## Headteacher Comment

Our school has always desired to enhance parental partnership. The LPPA has enabled us to celebrate our existing good practice and enhance areas needing development.

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

Yes / No