



Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA)

Verification Report

School name:	West Kirby Residential School
School address and postcode:	107-109 Meols Drive West Kirby CH48 5DH
School telephone:	0151 6323201
School website:	www.wkrs.co.uk
Head teacher:	Sian Thomas
Head teacher's email:	sthomas@wkrs.co.uk
LPPA coordinator:	Liz Wynne
LPPA coordinator's email:	ewynne@wkrs.co.uk
Award verifier:	Kathryn Kirby
Award adviser (if applicable):	Kathryn Kirby
Date of verification:	8 th September 2021

Commentary on the evidence provided since the interim assessment:

The co-ordinator provided comprehensive evidence for all of the KPIs mentioned in the Interim Assessment Report including: -

The signed statement of commitment, the achievement of the LPPA and future development of this work is included in the SDP under Leadership and Management. Evidence of strong links with local partners, employers who provide work experience placements for students, parents and the local community, this work is celebrated via a range of media in particular articles in the school newsletter, West Kirby News.

Evidence to show how feedback from consultations is analysed, results taken to SLT, summaries of feedback produced and shared with parents and the school community, indicating the recommendations to be carried out e.g. communicating more strengths of the school on the website; parents views on the value of virtual coffee mornings during lockdown; the positive impact for parents and staff of keeping in touch phone calls home during lockdown; the impact of virtual annual review meetings which very significantly increased parents attendance.

Comprehensive evidence to show how the school induction process is conducted; how individual families needs were met during induction and how parents' views are used to inform and improve the process.

Evidence of consultation with parents on the EHCP process; how information on their child's progress and development is shared via reports and tracking information and how parents' views are sought and included.

Comprehensive information on the support parents receive during the transition process from West Kirby to post 16 options. Both parents and pupils are supported individually during transition by the school careers leader, which can be an emotional journey for all concerned. The school have very strong links with local colleges and local employers who provide constructive work experience for students.

The Objective 10 evidence record was completed, reflecting on the strengths of the evaluations used during the award and clearly identifying next steps in developing parent partnership.

Strengths identified during verification:

- West Kirby School has strong leadership of parent partnership from Liz Wynne and Rachel Kelleher supported by the headteacher, SLT and the governors
- There is a high level of commitment to parent partnership from all staff, who understand the importance of building positive relationships with parents to improve the outcomes for children and will consistently contact and share information with parents
- The school has excellent communication with parents especially during induction and transition. During covid staff maintained very regular contact with families to ensure parents were coping, providing a listening ear, advice, information and practical support e.g. provision of food and lap tops for families in need
- The school website had been redeveloped to a high standard, it is easy to navigate and contains a wealth of information about school life, the curriculum, celebration of students' achievements, a virtual school tour and videos made by staff
- There is high quality information for parents in the West Kirby News and the parent app enables parents to keep fully up to date with school life
- Training and workshops are tailored to meet parents' needs, parents are consulted on the topics they are interested in, this information is used to inform the training programme. The school continued training on a virtual basis during covid e.g. zoom coffee mornings enabling parents to meet up and access provision, reducing isolation
- There is an excellent induction process to meet the needs of each family ensuring each child gets the best possible start to their time at West Kirby School. Parents are welcomed, reassured and encouraged to participate in their child's education journey
- There are a wide range of opportunities for parents to feedback on their child's learning and progress via a range of media e.g. Annual Reviews, parents' evenings, telephone conversations and email
- The school have developed the range of feedback opportunities for parents e.g. new parents' coffee mornings, school surveys and feedback on the new website. All feedback is analysed, summaries produced and shared with parents

- Parent friendly policies and procedures have been developed including a simplified version of the SDP, the roles and responsibilities of parents, a behaviour guide, school rules, information on the reward system and an anti -bullying video. New booklets for parents on health and safety, personal development, behaviour and attendance and quality of education policies have been developed this year
- Transition is excellent, the careers lead works with parents and pupils to gather their views, share information and support next steps ensuring a smooth as possible transition to post 16 and post 19 options
- The school have identified next steps in developing parent partnership and started to implement them e.g. they have consulted parents on the formation of Friends of West Kirby School and are making the annual review process and EHCPs easier for parents to understand via a parent guide, staff guide, and new Annual Review forms
- Parents have a high regard for the school they feel that each pupil is valued as an individual, that staff are caring and supportive and empower pupils. Parents also feel that they are supported by the school to make family life less stressful

Impact:

- The LPPA has given staff the opportunity to reflect on their practice, improve parent partnership and gain momentum to carry this work forward
- There are more regular meetings with parents and more parents are participating in meetings
- New Parent coffee morning have been developed
- The school are now in the early stages of establishing a PTA Friends of West Kirby School to support families
- Pupil attendance continues to improve
- A new induction pack has been developed
- Positive relationships have been developed with parents during covid, especially with those parents who were not engaged with the school

Areas for development:

- The school are recommencing in person workshops for parents and members of the local community
- New Parent coffee mornings will now be held at the school
- Training for parents on the curriculum is planned in Reading and Maths
- The school is setting up a PTA Friends of West Kirby School
- Feedback on induction will be included in the parent survey
- Transition workshops with restart in person both in the day and after school to support parents and pupils
- The school plan to provide more opportunities for parents to volunteer in school
- The school will continue to use remote meetings to enable all parents to attend and participate in reviews
- The school are discussing taking information to parents via meetings in North Wales, Merseyside and other areas where families live
- In response to parent feedback the school are considering setting up a sibling group



Verifier recommendation:

That West Kirby Residential School be awarded the Leading Parent Partnership for a period of three years

Head teacher comments:

We are really pleased and very proud to achieve this award. As a school we work really closely with children and their families, enabling pupils' best achievements and supporting children and young people through difficult times. We believe that our strong, supportive interventions give a great range of advice and support for parents/carers. These include a medical team; a clinical psychologist; Occupational and Speech and Language Therapists; our highly trained, dedicated and knowledgeable teaching and TA staff; kind and thoughtful admin domestic and catering teams; and a dedicated Board of Trustees and Governor allows for a superb level of care for the young people with whom we work.

We continue to work hard to improve what we already offer.

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