

**Leading Parent Partnership Award Case Study**

**School name:** Manor Beach Primary School

**Location:** Thornton-Cleveleys

**Brief summary of your school:**

Manor Beach Primary School has 215 pupils on roll (in 10 classes), which is slightly more than the Lancashire average. There are significantly more boys on roll than girls. At the time of the January census in 2018, 43% of the school population were girls, compared with a national average of 49%.

The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals (FSM) at any time during the last six years is more than double the national average at 54% (national average 25%). This figure has risen by 8% since 2012/13 whilst the national figure has reduced by 2% over the same time. In last year's Year 6 (28 boys & 21 girls) 69% of the cohort had been eligible for free school meals as some time in the previous six years.

Approximately 94% of the pupils are from a white British background. The percentage of pupils with special educational needs (SEN) is above average at 16%.

The deprivation index for the catchment area of the school is high (65th centile) and both inward and outward mobility is much higher than average, reflecting the transient nature of the population in this part of Lancashire. Inward mobility was 34% in 2017/18 (compared with a Lancashire average of 16.1%).

**Why did your school decide to take the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA)?**

As a school we recognise the importance of developing effective partnerships between home and school. Parental engagement in children’s learning does improve outcomes for children. We are keen to ensure that we demonstrate the best practice in respect of parental engagement. The LPPA provides a good framework/structure against which we can review our current practice.

**What particular issue(s) did the LPPA help you to identify?**

To be honest the LPPA was an extremely positive experience. It didn’t really identify any issues we hadn’t already considered, but rather validated the issues we had already identified as needing further work.

**What changes did you make as a result of this?**

* Re-development of the outside entrance area and the foyer
* Support the emotional and social wellbeing of parents through the completion of the Wellbeing Award for Schools. We have signed up for this.
* Complete the development of the school website.

**Since achieving the Award, what direct impact(s) has the LPPA had on developing parent partnerships and pupil achievement?**

To be honest the impact is limited at the moment as we only received the award at the end of February 2019. However, as staff we have felt that one of our strengths has been the quality of our relationships with parents and the support that we offer has been a strength of our school. The LPPA has verified this. Working toward this award created greater opportunities to enhance our existing work and also strengthened the relationships we have with parents/carers.

**What are your next steps?**

* To ensure that we maintain effective relationships with our parents.
* To ensure that the areas identified for development are completed.

**How would you describe the whole experience from start to finish and achieving the award?**

This has been an extremely positive experience. It recognised our considerable strengths and supported the areas we had identified for further development.

**How would you recommend this award to a school thinking about undertaking the process?**

It provides a really great structure/framework to evaluate how effective parental engagement is and clearly identified areas for development.

**Lastly, please provide a short testimonial from your headteacher.**

We are delighted to have our Leading Parent Partnership Award externally recognised and validated. It means a great deal to us. As a school we are very proud of the work we do alongside parents/carers and we have always felt that this is a real strength of the school. Working toward this award created greater opportunities to enhance our existing work and also strengthened the relationships we have with parents/carers.

As a school we remain firmly committed to the importance of parent partnership and will continue to provide not only a warm and welcoming environment but also opportunities for further and wider involvement of parents and carers in the life of our school.

Achieving the LPPA celebrates the hard work and commitment of everyone at Manor Beach Primary School and the areas for further development which have been identified will help us to continue this journey.

The staff at Optimus have been extremely helpful and supportive. Our external validator was extremely knowledgeable and was eager to ensure that we made the most of the opportunity to celebrate our successes. She was a pleasure to have in school. Thank you