



Verification Report

School name:	Bournville School
School address and postcode:	Hay Green Lane, B30 1SH
School telephone:	0121 4753881
School website:	www.bournvilleschool.org.uk
Headteacher:	Marie Rooney
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LPPA coordinator:	Holly Poole
LPPA coordinator's email:	h.poole@bournville.fmat.co.uk
Award verifier:	Hannah Hall
Award adviser (if applicable):	Hannah Hall
Date of verification:	4 th July 2024

Commentary on the evidence provided

From the moment I entered the school reception area, it was obvious how much work has been done to facilitate a welcoming environment and culture for parent/carers- & all the community. This is a significant improvement since my interim visit and just one example of the carefully planned and impactful developments evidenced that set the tone for the verification day.

I had felt a lack of identity in Primary on my first visit, and the environment for learning was clinical within the primary phase of the school. I had been worried families did not receive the same communication or access that those attending a stand- alone school might have. During my tour, and through my meeting with Naomi Head of Primary, this has clearly been robustly addressed. The school has rebranded as 'Bournville All Through School', there are a significant amount of opportunities for Learners & families to learn and celebrate together, and the ethos that now permeates the school is one of open door, listening, & the triangle of parent/carer, child and school. Class dojos has had a big impact on communication and engagement and evidence of the successful work is in the applications for year 7 places and the attendance at the induction evenings.

It was inspiring to speak with staff, some who had been at the school for many years and listen to their enthusiasm and passion for the significant changes at the school since the new Headteacher joined. New behaviour and communication systems, enhanced collaborative approaches between staff, & the ability to focus on teaching and learning has meant greater trust between learners, staff and families. This has given staff the systems, confidence and opportunities to open the doors (quite literally) to parent engagement and partnership.

The Headteachers vision and drive for the children, families and staff at Bournville school was truly inspirational. On her arrival one of the first things, she did was to implement a parent/carer forum. This platform has meant Parent/carers feel listened to, that they are informing change, can see they are making a difference, and are empowered to support the future successes of their child and the school.

The school has been identified as a future Family Voices Hub, and this cements the vision of the school being at the heart of the community, providing support & signposting for families and opportunities for adult learning.

The portfolio of evidence, meetings with parent/carers, governor, staff and the head teacher all demonstrated a sustainable and thriving plan for continued parent partnership.

Strengths identified during verification



The school has taken action and planned effectively to build communication and partnership with parent/carers. The LPPA was seen as an impactful tool to address the gaps and needs, and to structure a plan to move forward.

In November 2021 Ofsted criticised the school's relationship with parent/carers. "the way in which the school has communicated with parents. Has not served to build positive relationships." The most recent Ofsted report of March 2024 highlighted the strengthening in its engagement with parent/carers.

Holly's leadership, vision and drive for parent partnership is a clear strength. There has been a change in the coordination of the award, and changes in Headteacher, however, Holly has maintained the vision and led the way so that even where there was some instability, there has still been developments from the action plan.

The unification of Primary & Secondary phase, through rebranding and collaborative working, is a strength. The school is unique in the South Birmingham area as an all through school and is now overtly promoting this as a wonderful opportunity for families, transition, a sense of belonging, and in enhancing the sense of community.

The website perfectly demonstrates this.

Parent/carers feel listened to, and their suggestions and concerns are responded to quickly and impactfully. The parent forum is welcoming to everyone and gives evidence to the Headteachers vision of 'co-production'.

Marie took over as Headteacher 18 months ago and the impact her vision, values, systems, practice, & relationships - in partnership with school leaders, staff, Learners and families, has been transformational. The school is a completely different place to the one I first visited.

Impact

Parent/carers feel listened to, they see a visible change and impact as a result of their feedback. Learners can also see and hear the trust that their parent/carers now have in the school. Underpinning a sense of trust and pride for all.

Communication systems are good, and the school continues to reflect and develop these processes. For example, introducing two parent meetings per year group next year and the development of Bromcom system.

The school has taken feedback, reflected on the most effective ways to engage with parent/carers, and, as a result, implemented numerous opportunities for parent/carers to be embraced into the Bournville School community.

The school has planned and delivered various events to celebrate children and families, they have put on workshops, coffee mornings, community events, and opportunity for adult learning, which will be developed on over the next year. The impact of this has meant parent/carers feel welcomed and part of the school community. They have been empowered to support their child in their learning, and in some cases, had their own academic or parenting skills and approaches developed too.

I am looking forward to the impact on parent partnership, and the school community as a whole, once the family hub is introduced.

Areas for development

Development of the Bromcom system to further enhance communication and information sharing with learners and parent/carers.

The development of a PTFA running separately to the Parent Forum to build on the success of last year's events.

The development of adult learning provision, and access by the community to the school with the top floor of Bronte.

Continued highlighting and maintained high profile vision of parent partnership as part of the induction process for all new staff.

Continued outward facing to the community with sustained links to Cadbury festival, Bournville Trust events etc.



Verifier recommendation

I whole heartedly recommend Bournville All Through School is awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award. Well done, Holly, Marie and team on all you have achieved, and I look forward to seeing and hearing of your future developments, successes and impact.

Headteacher's comments

We are truly proud of the work we have achieved with the parents of the wonderful children who attend Bournville. We look forward to strengthening opportunities for our parents and the community to have Bournville school as a true hub where people can come together, learn together and grow together. We are very humbled by the achievement of this award and look forward to strengthening the links we have already made.

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