

Wellbeing Award for Schools (WAS)

Verification Report

School name:	St Botolphs CE Primary School
School address and postcode:	Loughborough Road, Shepshed, Leics, LE12 9DN
School telephone:	01509 503387
School website:	www.st-botolphs.leics.sch.uk
Head teacher:	Mrs Pepper
Head teacher's email:	office@st-botolphsprimary.org
WAS coordinator:	Allison Lawley
WAS coordinator's email:	alawley@st-botolphs.org
Award verifier:	Catherine Kirk
Award adviser (if applicable):	
Date of verification:	2/7/19

Commentary on the evidence provided:

- The evidence provided gave a useful picture of the work the school has undertaken around wellbeing. All outcomes were met by the evidence in the folder, the school tour and the stakeholder interviews.

Strengths identified during verification:

Leadership and Management

- The school has a strong vision statement 'New day...endless possibilities' and wellbeing is at the heart of this. The vision statement is displayed clearly within school and children are regularly reminded of it.
- Governors complete wellbeing and personal development walks – looking for evidence of wellbeing and personal development in action (Quote from a child in the report "Miss ++++ doesn't shut up about wellbeing").
- A mental health and wellbeing policy has been created. Other relevant policies are linked to wellbeing through inclusion of a standard paragraph outlining the school's ethos.

- The excellent Electronic Messaging Protocol outlines safe and effective use of technology and communication for staff in order to safeguard the wellbeing of all and ensuring that communication methods are not intrusive.
- A wellbeing action plan/strategy is an appendix to the School Improvement Plan – this will continue to be present moving forwards.
- SLT and the Change Team have worked hard to communicate the wellbeing vision to all key stakeholders (this includes a wellbeing newsletter for parents, meetings with school council, and discussions at governor meetings)
- School fund the Family and Mental Wellbeing Lead for two days. This role provides excellent targeted support for pupils, families and staff around wellbeing. The Family and Mental Wellbeing Lead accesses regular clinical supervision.

Staff

- A staff shout-out and bulletin board has been created to disseminate information and give thanks to colleagues for contributions.
- The Family and Mental Wellbeing Lead offers Tea and Talk drop-in sessions for staff after school on a Tuesday.
- Staff have contributed ideas to support wellbeing.
- A team building day was held for August INSET to encourage a sense of togetherness.
- Training has been a priority with all staff offered Mindfulness training. The Family and Mental Wellbeing Lead has attended Mental Healthy First Aid training
- In school and external counselling can be accessed by staff
- Wellbeing has been added to the agenda for performance management
- Support staff receive golden tickets which allow them to take half a day off.

Parents

- Parents shared some powerful personal testimonies of how the school had supported the wellbeing needs of their children and themselves.
- Parent coffee mornings to be set up from Autumn Term 2019 for informal chat including discussion around wellbeing.
- SLT are working hard to maintain positive communication channels with parents to support children particularly around transition.
- The Family and Mental Wellbeing Lead has offered invaluable support to parents and families.

Pupils

- A lot of work has been done around awareness-raising through displays, assemblies, and yoga and mindfulness sessions with children.
- Guidance has been shared with parents to help them to support their child's wellbeing during SATs.
- The school have used wellbeing homework as a way to encourage sharing of learning with parents
- Every teacher has a 1:1 meeting with each pupil three times per year, this focuses on academic and wellbeing issues
- The school uses pupil passports for SEN children to support staff to meet their individual needs.
- Some children have taken part in the ROTA kids scheme involving them in leaving a flower on the doorstep of a neighbour. There has been extremely positive feedback for this community initiative
- Pupils talked fondly of their teachers and how well they support their wellbeing needs.
- The pupil wellbeing champions are extremely committed to their role and have good ideas of how to take the work forwards next year. I really enjoyed my tour, the champions showed and talked me through every detail of the wellbeing provision in school.

Impact:

- Parents were glowing when talking about the impact of the school's support around wellbeing. One parent said that she wouldn't be here without the ongoing practical support and guidance offered by staff.
- Staff members said that working towards the WAS award has re-focused and re-energised work around wellbeing. They were positive with regards to how supported they feel "I feel as though my voice is heard"
- Pupils spoke highly about the support offered by staff "They will take their time and they will listen to you".

Areas for development:

- Ensure that ongoing strategy is developed at end of current SIP period. This will ensure that the excellent work you've started around wellbeing continues into the next academic year and beyond.
- Identify further opportunities to upskill all staff in wellbeing in order to respond to initial feedback from colleagues and ensure all feel confident to teach about and support wellbeing.
- Continue to identify sources of support for parents (eg. support groups, online support, etc.) and signpost parents to specialist support as needed.
- Formalise wellbeing outcomes in curriculum for all children in line with the new RSHE guidance.

Verifier recommendation:

St Botolph's CE Primary should be awarded the Wellbeing Award for Schools for a period of three years.

Head teacher comments:

We are really proud to have achieved the Wellbeing Award for Schools. Our whole school community have shown that wellbeing and mental health is important and the responsibility of all.

We have never seen this as a tick box exercise but as part of our ongoing work in this area and we have a dedicated team who are already thinking about how we can build on our work next year so we can maintain the momentum created.

Caring for one another has always been at the heart of our school and we have also always had a strong supportive ethos. Working towards the award encouraged us to reflect upon our current good practice and make improvements so that we can continue to provide the best support for all.

Our governors, staff, children and parents are an amazing community and this makes it such a great school to be a part of.

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