



Newcastle Healthy School Status
Good Practice Moderation Visit Feedback Report

School Name: St John's Primary School

Head: Tracey Caffrey

Healthy School/PSHE Coordinator: Debbie Ranson

Others 'Interviewed: Daniel Nelson (Deputy Head/PE Coordinator), pupil house captains

Date of Visit: 29.03.17

Date of Report: 04.04.17

'Moderators': Judith MacMorran (Health Improvement Practitioner (Advanced) and Roz Rigby (Health Improvement Practitioner)

This report could help to contribute evidence towards the Ofsted judgement for 'Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare'.

Overall Comments

St John's Primary School has demonstrated through a comprehensive range of evidence that it is a health promoting school. A whole school approach is employed to address pupil wellbeing, with a strong health promoting and nurturing ethos evident. The school displays a clear commitment to continuous improvement and development of its practice further.

St John's Primary School is a welcoming school and the pupils we met were impeccably behaved, helpful and a real credit to the school. Staff were equally supportive and enthusiastic.

Culture

A positive and inclusive culture is evident at St John's Primary School with a comprehensive range of support provided for the most vulnerable pupils. For example; counselling provision, parent support advice, and the Barnardo's Pyramid Programme are in place. The school uses a resolution focus to deal with all conflict, which pupils were able to describe. St John's works with a wide range of external agencies to support its curricular and emotional health and wellbeing support structures, including for example the Eagles, of which the pupils spoke positively.

Pupils were clear about the consequences of bullying and understood e-safety messages. It was noted however, that they were less able to describe how the school worked to address 'feelings'. It is recommended that St John's tries to provide more explicit opportunities for pupils to address their 'feelings' throughout the school day.

Physical activity is embedded throughout the school. The lead teacher is enthusiastic and strives to increase physical activity levels amongst all.

Environment

The teaching and learning environment provided is good and well maintained. Best use is made of the limited compact outdoor space which had been recently enhanced with new imaginative outdoor areas for pupils. In addition the new community sports facilities are well used and support St John's promotion of physical activity amongst pupils and the wider community. The health promoting displays observed further reinforced curriculum messages. These included displays relating to friendship, core values, anti-bullying, house captains, supporting agencies and the 'unique and beautiful' characteristics of pupils.

St John's Primary School is to be commended on its work to improve its school meal offer. Pupils are very engaged in choosing the menus/new foods provided for school lunch which are offered by Orion as the school food provider. The computerised system for choosing lunch and sharing the menus with pupils and parents, is innovative and popular with pupils. Pupils were extremely complimentary about the food offered and had no suggestions about how it could be improved further. St John's Primary encourages pupils to make healthier food choices across the school day, including the provision of a low cost fruit shop at break and a well-attended breakfast club. It is recommended that the breakfast provision be developed further to include the offer of fresh fruit. The dining room is a pleasant multi-use space which could be further enhanced with pupil displays of healthy food around the hatch area to reinforce curriculum messages about health eating.

Whilst school meal uptake is outstanding at 90%, 10% of pupils do continue to take a packed lunch for which the school has guidance. However pupils reported that packed lunches are not consistently monitored. They suggested that they as pupil house captains, could become involved in occasionally monitoring packed lunches as part of a reward scheme and suggested that they develop a competition on what constitutes a health packed lunch. It is recognised that pupils who get their food from the local food bank may not have access to fresh fruit and vegetables and it is therefore suggested that perhaps any fruit surplus to the Key Stage 1 scheme, could be re-distributed to those taking a packed lunch which does not contain fruit or vegetables.

The new community allotment will also prove a useful opportunity for the school to enhance its food growing and cooking schemes. Whilst it is noted that most pupils at St John's Primary School walk to school, the school may wish to engage with the Mode Shift Stars programme to try and increase pupils' physical activity both to and from school through programmes such as cycling, park and stride, bike buses. The intended purchase or gifting of bikes for children will help to provide additional opportunities for children to increase their physical activity levels through cycling.

Curriculum

St John's Primary School uses the PSHE Association Programme of Study within a whole school cross curricular programme. This is further enhanced through the provision of educational visits, assemblies and the wide range of clubs offered. Pupils maintain a learning journey or "Mantle Book" and regularly take part in interactive sessions such as, debating and drama, to aid their learning. The pupils spoke positively about their PSHE

learning and were able to share many examples of this within the conversation which took place. St John's Primary School links with the school nursing service and the difficulties it has recently encountered related to this will be followed up by the Healthy School team.

Sex and Relationships Education is provided in a spiral curriculum throughout the child's career, with puberty sessions focussed in Years 5 and 6. Those pupils who had experienced puberty sessions reported that they found them very useful. It was pleasing to note that St John's Primary School intends to develop its LGBT work further with training planned for staff.

St John's Primary School works with the Newcastle School Sport and PE initiative in a planned and developmental programme of physical activity. Pupils are offered a commendable range of physical activities at school with specific work undertaken to target and support pupils who are least active to increase their activity levels. A wide and varied range of physical activity clubs are well attended, in addition to the weekly enrichment programme that is provided, playground marking and play leaders. The school could provide additional further opportunities to increase physical activity levels within the school day with the roll out of a 'wake and shake' programme for pupils or use a programme such as 'Go Noodle' www.gonoodle.com

St John's Primary School takes part in the Health Related Behaviour Survey which helps to identify key areas and issues for development. A range of other data including that related to physical activity are collected and used to improve practice and target support for pupils. It is recommended that data from the Health Related Behaviour Survey, particularly in relation to e-safety, is fed back to parents and carers once available, to highlight to them the potential risk pupils may be exposing themselves to online and how they need to be tackled.

Engagement (Pupils, parents, staff and community)

St John's Primary has an active house captain system which meets regularly. The pupils are very proactive and are clear about the mechanisms in place to feed into their meetings and disseminate their work to others in the school. They spoke about their achievements and involvement in school life, such as their influence on school meals. The pupils felt that their display on their house captains could be further developed by including a 'You Said, We Did' feedback area.

The pupils are actively involved in implementing the attendance policy. The school may wish to further develop pupil involvement in the review and development of appropriate child friendly policies e.g. Anti-Bullying Policy. The house captains identified few areas in which they felt St John's could be more health promoting and these are listed within the main report.

Areas for Development

The good practice moderation visit identified a small number of areas for development which are summarised in the main text and below.

1. As described earlier; enhance the dining area with displays on healthy eating, develop the ModeShift Stars programme, monitor packed lunches more consistently, using

pupils suggestions and consider introducing the 'Wake and Shake' or 'GoNoodle' programme across the whole school.

2. Feedback the key results from the health related behaviour survey, in particular those related to e-safety, to parents and the wider school community.
3. Develop further the work undertaken on 'feelings' within the curriculum to make it more explicit to pupils.

Key Contacts to Support Development Identified on Visit

ModeShift Stars: Cheryl Ford-Lyddon email Cheryl.ford-lyddon@newcastle.gov.uk
www.gonoodle.com

The Rainbow Flag Award <https://www.theprouddtrust.org/rainbow-flag-award/>

The issues regarding difficulties in accessing the core school nursing offer will be reported to the Public Health Commissioner for the service to take appropriate action.

We thoroughly enjoyed our visit and would like to thank the pupils and staff for making us feel so welcome. St John's Primary School is clearly a happy healthy school, which thoroughly deserves Newcastle Healthy School Status. We look forward to continuing to work with the school on Healthy School Plus.



Judith MacMorran
Health Improvement Practitioner (Advanced)



Roz Rigby
Health Improvement Practitioner