



# Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA)

## Reassessment Report

School name:	Manby Lodge Infant School
School address and postcode:	Princes Road, Weybridge, Surrey, KT13 9DA
School telephone:	01932 851848
School website:	<a href="https://manbylodge.co.uk">https://manbylodge.co.uk</a>
Head teacher:	Miss M. Morris
Award coordinator:	head@manby-lodge.surrey.sch.uk
Award verifier:	Mrs S. Curtis
Date of reassessment:	3 <sup>rd</sup> March 2023

### Commentary on the mini-portfolio of evidence:

The reassessment of the Leading Parent Partnership Award at Manby Lodge was carried out through a face-to-face visit.

The LPPA coordinator, the Headteacher, facilitated a comprehensive range of evidence. The paper portfolio was very easy to access, and the website also provided a wealth of information. Stakeholder groups, including parents, staff, governors and pupils shared their perceptions through meetings and a range of staff represented a whole school approach. A full school tour was provided. Evidence was presented through the portfolio and a discussion with the Headteacher. The range of evidence clearly demonstrated how the school is still meeting the Objectives and Key Performance Indicators of the LPPA.

In particular there is strong evidence to show that:

The school promotes the importance of working in partnership with new potential parents to the school.

Parent partnership continues to be embedded within the School Development Plan (SDP) as a priority. The Headteacher shares the SDP not only with Governors and staff, but also the key priorities are shared with all parents, therefore the whole school community are aware of the priorities that the Leadership Team are working towards.

Provision for parents with an ethos of supporting and involving parents continues to be embedded in school practice both in strategic planning and practice.

Parents are signposted to organisations for support and adult learning through a variety of channels (such as the bi-weekly Headteacher Newsletter).

The school has a wide range of strategies to help parents support their child's learning. The school continues to promote activities between parents and their children, via workshops such as Phonics, Reading, Writing, Maths and Online Safety. In addition to this, parents are invited to join a 'Shared Learning Experience' once per term, where parents are invited to learn with their children in the classroom and special events such as the Mother's Day cream tea and Christmas crafts.

In the recent whole school survey completed in November 2022, 100% of parents would recommend Manby Lodge to another parent. The survey results were published for all parents and clearly stated next steps. The school has high levels of parental engagement.

The school has developed 'Parent Voice' meetings, which take place termly, each meeting has a specific focus.

There is a comprehensive induction programme for new parents as they join the school. The school has robust systems in place to ensure all families are supported through this process.

The school shares the curriculum with parents on a variety of platforms. The curriculum is parent friendly and accessible.

The school continues to evaluate parent views through Parent Voice meetings and whole school and single focus surveys.

The school has clear systems in place to promote attendance and good behaviour which are communicated with parents in a visual way and without jargon.

The school has embedded systems for transition, both to Cleves Junior School and in-year. Vulnerable families are well supported by the SENDCo and the wider school team. The school ensures there is a thorough sharing of information.

#### **Commentary on the tour of the school:**

As a face to face visit, it was possible to complete a full school tour. The learning environment is attractive, with beautifully presented displays which are updated regularly. The school underwent a major rebuild, reopening in 2016. Purpose built additional spaces are well utilised.

Staff, parents and children take pride in their school and enjoy spending time there. It has a caring and happy atmosphere, with an established respectful and trusting culture. The school's ethos, 'Be the best we can', is clearly displayed throughout the school, alongside the school's Learning Behaviours.

Outside signage is clear, the foyer is welcoming and includes key information for parents and visitors which can be viewed on a plasma screen.

**Commentary on discussions with stakeholders:**

Governors have a strategic overview of parental involvement and are extremely supportive of the school and the way it works with families. Governors expressed “there is something special about the school, with a distinct culture and well-established values”. They enjoy working with the Headteacher, who they noted is “very approachable, and open to exploring new opportunities”. There is a strong and stable partnership between the governing board and the Senior Leadership Team.

Parents expressed that they are extremely supportive of the school and the way it works with families. Parents noted that the class and year groups feel like a real community, parents experience a sense of belonging. A parent new to the school commented on how the induction was thorough and comprehensive allowing her child to be fully prepared for the start in Reception. Communication is a strength of the school with Parent Representatives supporting an inclusive parent community to ensure all parents have an opportunity for their voice to be heard. The school is a listening school, a parent commented that, “the school listens and then applies, ever learning, growing and adapting”. Parents felt that teachers really know their children. A parent commented “I am loving Manby Lodge. Everything about it, is so nurturing and this continues throughout the school”.

Pupils were proud to talk about the opportunities that parents and carers have with Shared Learning. The children spoke confidently about their school, with one pupil saying, “I love everything about my school”.

Staff enjoy the daily interactions they have with parents as they greet them at the classroom door every day and have effective ways of recording any concerns, negating the need for some emails, or phone calls into the school. Staff feel well supported and equipped to work in partnership with parents. Staff recognise the importance of working closely with parents and building relationships with them. They explained details of this partnership working in their own roles showing a whole school approach. Staff were committed to finding accessible ways of reaching out to the harder to engage families.

**Strengths identified during reassessment:**

Manby Lodge has a strategic approach to involving parents in their child’s learning, development and well-being and this is very much linked to the school’s ethos of ‘Learn More, Do More, Be the best we can’. The school has ensured that parental involvement continues to be sustainable and forward thinking through the Headteacher’s vision. The leadership is a strength of the school, it has remained stable since the LPPA award was originally given. The work the team has done, and the outcomes evidenced are attributed to the value placed on parent partnership.

The involvement of parents is very much embedded in life at Manby Lodge. LPPA has continued to be valued as an audit tool as part of a whole school reflective process. The importance of parent partnership at a strategic level is threaded into the SDP.

Manby Lodge ensures that parents know what their child is learning and their progress. For example, the curriculum is well presented on the website, parents receive weekly 'Dear Parent' letters from the year group and bi-weekly newsletters from the Headteacher. Parent's evenings and a report provide information on progress and there is on-going information through daily opportunities for conversations.

Termly 'Parent Voice' meetings are an established successful model of capturing parent feedback and ideas. More recently, following a 'Parent Voice' suggestion, the school is sharing home-reading statistics with parents to increase whole school home-reading engagement. Pupils are competing to be the class with the highest percentage of home-reading. A relatively new initiative that could have real impact on improving reading outcomes throughout the school.

The school knows and meets the individual needs of pupils and their families. For example, teachers and office staff are aware of which families may need alternative methods of communication. A number of events and 'shared learning' opportunities are organised by class teachers, demonstrating that parental partnership is a priority and everyone's business.

The school continues to positively reach out to parents through effective means of communication. Personal communication remains a priority, for example Senior Leaders meet and greet families at the beginning of every school day on the school gates and any queries are often dealt with immediately.

Manby Lodge is a listening school, capturing parents' views on an ongoing basis through 'Parent Voice' meetings and surveys. School provides regular feedback to the parent community via newsletters and parents feel listened to and their views acknowledged.

#### **Impact:**

The Headteacher considers that the impact of LPPA Reassessment is:

The school has a well embedded successful parent partnership model, but continues to be reflective, consistently and regularly evaluating current systems.

There is a whole school approach, parent partnership is everyone's responsibility.

The framework has helped modify practice, parents feel valued and listened to.

#### **Areas for development:**

The following areas were agreed between the school and LPPA verifier:

- Continue to develop the evaluation and feedback system in place following Shared Learning events.
- Review the current induction procedures with a focus on information sharing and the induction events.



**Verifier recommendation:**

That Manby Lodge be re-awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award for a further period of three years.

**Head teacher comments:**

It has been really useful to reassess the work we do to maintain an excellent 'Parent Partnership'. All staff recognise that we can get the best out of our children if we forge strong and meaningful relationships with their parents.

We also realise the importance of responding to our parent cohort and regularly consult and survey the views of both parents and our staff, to ensure that our offer addresses the needs of both groups.

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