

PATHS TO SUCCESS

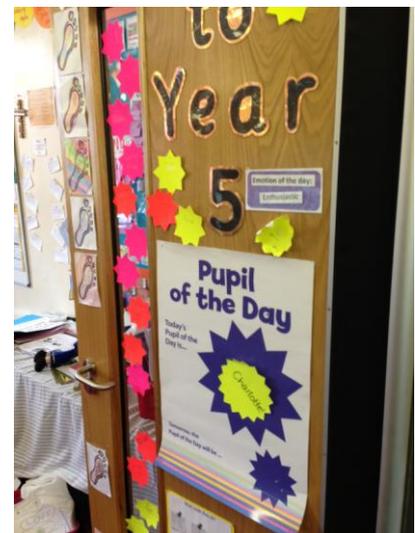
SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SUMMER TERM 2012/13

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the third edition of the PATHS to Success newsletter. We would like to thank you all - and in particular the Year 4 teachers and pupils - for your cooperation with the research visits that took place before Easter. At the time of writing we are in the process of setting up visits for our interim outcome measurement phase (see overleaf), which provides our first opportunity to examine the impact of PATHS. We hope to be able to share some of our findings in a future edition of this newsletter.

With best wishes

The PATHS to Success Research Team



PATHS Fact: The PATHS curriculum began as an intervention for deaf children in Seattle, Washington. Over time the programme was developed so that it could be used as a universal approach in mainstream schools.

Using PATHS to meet Ofsted objectives – a case study

Congratulations to St. Margaret Mary's RC primary school on their 'Outstanding' grade following a recent Ofsted inspection!



PATHS TO SUCCESS



Survey feedback for

St Margaret Mary's RC Primary School Manchester

September 2012

PATHS to Success Project - School of Education - University of Manchester -
Ellen Wilkinson Building - Oxford Road - Manchester - M13 9PL

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The school has made significant progress since their last inspection, part of which has been attributed to the high quality implementation of PATHS by staff in Key Stage 2: *"The school's involvement in the PATHS project continues to have a most positive impact on pupil's confidence and self-esteem. In a mixed Year 3/4 PATHS lesson, for example, pupils considered how to solve problems in a group situation. They demonstrated exactly what they need to do to keep control of themselves if they are angry or upset. The impact of this project was also evident in a Year 5 lesson, when pupils asked the inspector to look at the books of some of their classmates because, in their words, 'They are really good at maths and English and their books are so neat!'"*

An obvious area where PATHS can contribute to school improvement is pupils' behaviour and safety, but there are also connections with other areas of the Ofsted framework. More broadly, PATHS aligns well with government directives on the use of evidence-informed approaches (for example, in the Importance of Teaching white paper). Don't forget – you can also use your annual survey feedback booklets (see left) as evidence of your school's work to promote a range of positive outcomes for children.

Update from your PATHS psychologists

As we head towards the end of the first year of implementation we continue to enjoy working with you all and hearing about your thoughts and experiences of PATHS. You might see us around your school over the next few weeks assisting with the pupil surveys and conducting focus groups, which will be an exciting opportunity for us to find out the children's views on the programme. During this data collection phase we're still happy to come and support you in any way that we can with lesson visits, training or parent engagement, so if you have an end of year Parents' Evening or summer family event coming up and you would like us to come and share some information about PATHS please just let us know. Remember that the Control Signals and 'fingers linked, time to think' strategies can be used to calm down from any heightened emotion, which might be useful before any end of year assessments or Sport's Day events!

- Kirsty, Craig and Emma

PATHS developer visits Manchester

PATHS co-creator Mark Greenberg recently visited Manchester as part of his role as a Consulting Professor for the University. During the 2-day visit Mark met with staff and students and gave a seminar on school-based interventions. Mark and members of the PATHS to Success project team also spent an afternoon at St. Margaret Mary's RC primary school, meeting with Head of School Matt Sutton and observing a variety of PATHS lessons. He spoke of the wonderful hospitality and excellent teaching on display. Professor Greenberg will be returning to Manchester for an extended visit in early 2014, when we hope to arrange further opportunities for him to meet with some of our other PATHS schools and witness their excellent work.



PATHS school visit (L-R): Michael Wigelsworth, Ann Lendrum, Matt Sutton, Mark Greenberg, Neil Humphrey

PATHS TRAINING

KEY DIARY DATES 2013/14

6th September, 9am-4pm: Initial training for all Year 6 teachers

10th or 11th October, 9am-12pm or 1pm-4pm: Advanced training and celebration event for all Year 3, 4 and 5 teachers

SEE FLYERS FOR FURTHER INFO!

Evaluation update

It's hard to believe that we are nearly halfway through our two-year trial! That means it is time for our interim outcome measurement phase, in which we will repeat the various surveys of schools, teachers, parents and pupils that we conducted in the Summer term of 2012/13. This provides a vital opportunity for us to determine the impact of PATHS on a variety of outcomes for pupils. Your continued participation and co-operation is greatly appreciated!

You should already have received a letter about this survey phase, but as a reminder, the teacher, parent and pupil survey window is open from Monday 13th May until Friday 28th June. Surveys can be completed online at www.pathstosuccess.info (please refer to separate correspondence from Alex for passwords etc). However, we recognise that paper copies are sometimes easier or more convenient to complete. If you would prefer paper copies, please let us know.

Feedback from last year suggested that our school visits to help with survey completion were greatly appreciated, and so Alex is in the process of booking these at mutually agreeable dates/times.

As before, payment of £100 to cover teacher time will be given to all schools who complete at least 85% of teacher and pupil surveys, with pro-rata increases for larger schools. We will also provide bespoke aggregated (class and school level) feedback from the data collected to each school.