

# Improving Attainment in West Norfolk

## Review of 2017

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# 2017 Priorities

- Engagement with more schools – especially primaries
- Mental Health initiatives
- Attainment in Maths and English
- Transition
- WNUC18

# School Engagement

- Improving Attainment Steering Group
- Secondary Heads Network
- Primary Heads Network
- Small project grants
- Pixl funding

# The Tatler guide to the best state primary schools 2018

*World-beating education that doesn't cost the earth*

These state schools are the cream of the country's crop. We are in awe of their achievements, of their dynamic, forward-thinking leaders and of their accomplished, community-spirited pupils. Gold stars all round.

**St Martin at Shouldham C of E  
voluntary aided Primary Academy**

*Norfolk*

Borough Council of  
King's Lynn &  
West Norfolk



# What Tatler Says About St Martin's

'What they do at this school is really mind-blowing,' a mother tells us. Head Katherine Howe is a 'phenomenal strategic leader'; Ofsted agrees, giving St Martin at Shouldham an Outstanding rating and citing Mrs Howe's 'exceptional understanding of her pupils' and the 'positive atmosphere'. The buildings are immaculate and our mole says the staff room is 'one of the nicest I've ever seen'. The eco-credentials are impeccable too: pupil eco-councillors monitor energy and water usage. There's a wide range of after-school clubs – 'It's not just sport, sport, sport,' we're told, but we note that the school has won the Ryston Runners Cross Country Shield no fewer than 12 times.



# Mental Health Initiatives

In an average class of 30 15 year old pupils:

- 3 could have a mental illness
- 10 are likely to have witnessed their parents separate
- 1 could have experienced the death of a parent
- 7 are likely to have been bullied
- 6 may be self harming

*Public Health England, 2015*



# Mental Health Initiatives

January 2016, Department of Education:

“Every school should have a teacher trained in Mental Health First Aid to ensure that teachers and support staff are aware of the issues and have the knowledge, skills and support to address mental health issues in their pupils.”

# Mental Health Initiatives

- Worked with West Norfolk Mind
- Mental Health First Aid Light course
- Mental Health in Young People course
- 5 courses delivered
- 91 delegates attended – from early years, primary and secondary schools

# Mental Health Initiatives

## Quotes from course delegates:

- *“I really enjoyed this course. So important to understand that mental health affects every area of a child’s life; whether they flourish or whether they continue to struggle.”*
- *“[when I get back to work I will] make sure more staff are aware of what to look out for and how to deal with all situations”*
- *“[when I get back to work I will] be more confident about expressing how our school approaches mental health”*



# Mental Health Initiatives

Focus groups held with school staff will be looking at three strands:

- schools using Thrive, Paths and other interventions
- school staff would like to meet with the CAMHS and the mental health teams - to understand how it works on both sides and how could they work better together
- Building resilience in the children

Further developing the training programme

# Attainment in Maths and English

- GCSE mock exams – March 2017
- Data analysis helped schools to plan interventions
- Pixl funding
- GCSE mock exams – early 2018
- Maths and English Heads working together
- Booster conferences – March 2018 – a first!
- Specific small projects



# Attainment in Maths and English

## Docking Primary – “Changing Attitudes to Phonics”

2016 – disappointing year 1 phonics screening

2017 – year 1 phonics screening = 100%

### **The Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for School Standards:**

“I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on your school’s outstanding achievement in the 2017 phonics screening check.”



# Attainment in Maths and English

Gayton Primary – Reading and First Class Number

- Training for TA's and new resources
- In 10 weeks smallest increase in age-related progress was 6 months and the largest increase was 3 years 5 months!

# Transition

- Discussions with both Primary and Secondary Heads
- Brought representatives together for two meetings so far
- Some ideas to be implemented in 2018
- Further improvements to be implemented in 2019



# WNUC18

- CWA University Centre
- 7 schools participated
- 120 students attended
- Mixed teams
- Aimed at high achievers
- Inspirational speakers

# WNUC18 – Maths Challenge



# WNUC18 – The Winners



# Priorities for 2018/19

- Secure funding to continue work
- Continued focus on Maths, English and transition
- Increased focus on disadvantaged pupils
- Improve opportunities for job/career advice
- Build on success of WNUC18



# Any Questions?

