

Bank View High School Profile



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Sherwoods Lane, Fazakerley

Liverpool, Merseyside, L10 1LW

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<http://www.bankviewhighschool.com>

Children's Service Authority:	Liverpool
Age range:	11-18
Number of pupils:	170
Head teacher:	Mr Ian Wright
Chair of governors:	Jan Pollard

What have been our successes this year?

This profile is written for 2008/9 prior to the separation of the North and South sites in September 2009 and reflects the achievements and developments of both sites.

Pupils make a positive contribution towards school. The School Councils on both sites meet together to form the Schools Parliament and influence policy and decision making.

In 2009, 90% of all year 11 pupils achieved one or more GCSEs with 30% of pupils on the North site passing four GCSEs. External accreditation on the South site has now been embedded e.g. GCSE maths, art, English. Alternative curriculum has been extended to provide wider college options e.g. hairdressing, taster sessions.

Annual productions, have been a big success involving the majority of pupils with parent support.

Both sites have strong sporting teams and compete at local and district level.

The school has continued to make a positive contribution to a variety of charities at home and abroad.

Bank View has been re-awarded the Investor's in People Award and Basic Skills Award for a further 3 years.

Staff have been actively involved in a variety of training, particularly autism training (ASD) in preparation for the changing population.

What are we trying to improve?

Attendance was graded as satisfactory by Ofsted in 2008 but remains a key issue for action. Many strategies have been put into place including: first day response, praise assemblies, merit awards, targets sent home, weekly meetings with the EWO, fixed penalty notices and even court action. The school has set a target of 90% for 2009/10.

Staff are working together across both sites to promote equality of opportunity by sharing experience of examination courses e.g. GCSEs. The first cohort of pupils from the South Site completed GCSE English at the end of 2007/8. Maths GCSE which was introduced on the South site in 2007 has been successful in 2009. More pupils will be entered in 2009/10. Our Ofsted report stated that our teaching was good to outstanding whilst some was satisfactory. The school is continuing to ensure that all teaching reflects that of the very best.

The school is trying to use its data more effectively by showing how pupils make progress over time. This progress will be monitored more closely by staff and be made available to governors twice per year.

The school will continue to work towards meeting the needs of pupils who are on the autistic spectrum.

How much progress do pupils make?

Pupils often enter Bank View below National Curriculum or have very low National Curriculum scores. At the end of Key Stage 4 most pupils successfully complete several externally accredited courses at Entry Level and GCSE.

GCSE results for 2009 were again excellent with 90% of pupils from both sites achieving one or more passes in English, maths, science, art and drama. On the North Site 30% of pupils achieved 4 GCSE passes.

The vast majority of pupils in year 11 (both sites) achieved good Compact Graduation Awards last year, mostly at gold and platinum level. Leavers are expected to achieve standards set by industry and local employers e.g. attendance, work experience, exam accreditation.

Senior pupils gain confidence working alongside mainstream peers by attending a variety of vocational college link placements in the local community.

Pupils make good progress with behaviour development. This is heavily supported by an effective pastoral team and underpinned by a positive merit award system. Pupil progress is recorded in 'SPECTRUM' files which are pupil owned and direct and encourage individual improvement.

How have our results changed over time?

Since Bank View High School opened in September 2006 in Key Stage 3 Sats results have been good (both sites) compared with similar schools nationally. The 2007 and 2008 SATs results were similar.

Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 4 progress at Bank View place the school in the top 20% nationally (all schools) and in the top 25% of special schools for 2009/10 for value added performance.

19% of pupils achieved 5 GCSE passes in art, science, maths, English and drama on the North Site in 2009. Pupils on the South site now have the opportunity to take 3 GCSEs in art, maths and English with science planned for next year.

All children were entered last year for external exams at Entry Level or GCSE on both sites.

All groups of children perform well given their ability. Looked after children achieved as well, and in some cases better than their peers last year.

The school has continued to reflect the five strands of Every Child Matters (Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Positive Contribution and Employable) for all its pupils e.g. more pupils are now involved in sporting activities, School Council/Parliament established, increased numbers and higher levels of Compact Awards.

How are we making sure that every child gets teaching to meet their individual needs?

Pupils at Bank View are taught by experienced staff who are skilled in encouraging pupils to build upon their individual achievements and give clear guidance on how to improve.

The curriculum is broad, balanced and differentiated and supports pupil learning styles. External accreditation is designed to meet all ability levels e.g. GCSE, Entry Level, Asdan, AQA modules.

The Alternative Curriculum e.g. college courses, is successful in engaging individual pupils who experience problems accessing parts of the curriculum.

Individual pupils have Individual Education Plans/Behaviour Plans which are reviewed termly. The Pupil Advocacy Team assists pupils with target setting.

Annual Reviews are generally well attended by parents/carers who make positive contributions and support the school.

The SENCOs on both sites ensure that staff are aware of individual needs, e.g. learning styles and ICT programmes.

Bank View participates in the LAs Gifted and Talented Programme challenging individual pupils e.g. sport, drama, arts. The school links with the Fusion Project and Calder Kids which provide out of school activities for the more vulnerable pupils e.g. healthy eating, friendship groups.

What have pupils told us about the school, and what have we done as a result?

Pupils at Bank View are encouraged to become actively involved in the development of the school. A School Council operates on both sites giving pupils a voice within school. The two Councils (North and South) meet together to form the School Parliament on a termly basis to discuss common issues. Pupil ideas and concerns are then referred to whole school staff meetings e.g. concerns were raised over potential bullying areas such as the lower playground gate. This issue was brought to the attention of staff at a full staff meeting and extra supervision by senior teachers was put into place.

All pupils had the opportunity to complete a Pupil Satisfaction Survey. The key issues highlighted in the survey have been brought to the attention of staff for action .e.g. improved choice and diet at dinner time (North Site) resulting in LA advice and monitoring, anti-bullying concerns resulting in whole school anti-bullying assemblies and review of school policy, refurbishment of the boys changing rooms on the South Site.

Representatives from the School Council have been invited to the start of governors' meetings to inform governors of any issues arising from School Council meetings.

How do we make sure our pupils are safe and well-supported?

Bank View rejects negative values such as bullying and has an effective anti-bullying policy which is regularly reviewed. The school has been proactive in developing an anti-bullying and caring ethos e.g. anti-bullying week, Childline signposts, Community Police Officer weekly drop-in sessions for pupils. Safeguarding policy is regularly reviewed.

Incidents of a racist nature are dealt with effectively and reported to the LA.

Health weeks are timetabled each year and address key areas. These are supported by visiting agencies e.g. Fag Ends, relationship drama productions, Choices and Fusion.

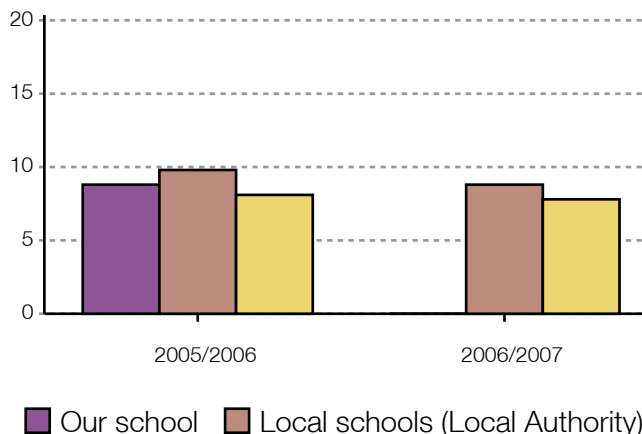
Bank View has achieved the Healthy Eating and Healthy School's Award.

The school nurse provides weekly drop-in sessions for all pupils.

The school runs extended sports activities (early morning, dinner and after school) supported by the Sports Development Programme. SportsLinx are involved in monitoring activities and fitness levels of pupils.

The safety of our pupils is further supported by effective risk assessment for outings and activities. In-school procedures are reinforced continually e.g. not answering the door to visitors. The school governors carry out regular health and safety checks in addition to LA audits.

How do our absence rates compare with other schools?



This chart shows the percentage of half days missed through authorised and unauthorised absence by all pupils at the school. Information is given for the school, for schools within the local authority and for all schools.

The attendance figure for both North and South sites combined in 2008/9 was 87.5 %. Attendance for the North site for 2008/9 was 90.3%.

What activities and options are available to pupils?

All pupils at Bank View have the opportunity to become actively engaged in a variety of additional activities. The school runs dinner time clubs e.g. library, drama, music, dance, judo, soccer. After school clubs run for sporting activities e.g. cycling.

Annual school productions involve large numbers of pupils in the cast and supporting roles e.g. costume, scenery, music and stagehands and are well supported by parents.

Several residential experiences take place for all age groups e.g. canal boating, Colomendy, Barden Towers (N.Yorks), Hope College. All pupils have the chance to attend on a rolling programme.

The merit system is linked to an end of term class competition with additional activities on offer e.g. dry skiing.

Alternative curriculum programmes are available for some older pupils mostly based at local colleges and focusing upon individual needs and life skills.

Pupils in year 11 attend taster courses at the local community college in vocational areas e.g. painting and decorating.

Pupils in years 10 and 11 are given option choices at the start of the year which include: food studies, ICT, first aid, drama, art, craft, sports, guitar and textiles.

How are we working with parents and the community?

Bank View continues to work well with parents and the community. The school has an open door policy for meeting parents/carers to discuss issues and offer support.

Individual pupil targets are set and agreed with parents who have the opportunity to add their own targets. Parent's afternoons encourage parents to support their child's learning in partnership with the school.

The school runs courses for parents led by the learning mentors and SENCO e.g. behaviour management. Parents evenings/afternoons take place when pupils' art work is exhibited.

Bank View has worked closely with local colleges, which has had a positive impact upon pupil learning and progress.

A variety of outside agencies work in partnership with the school to enrich the curriculum e.g. Trading Standards, Connexions, Police and Fire Service. Our immediate neighbours are invited to school events e.g. productions and fundraising.

Parents' newsletters have become a regular feature of the school in 2009, keeping parents informed of events and developments. The school has its own website which is updated half termly.

All parents had the opportunity to complete a 'Parent Satisfaction Survey' which has been acted upon and reported back to parents.

What do our pupils do after leaving this school?

The majority of our pupils follow college courses after leaving school. Individual pupil taster courses followed in years 10 and 11 often influence the pupils' final choice. Courses last year included: painting and decorating, joinery, mechanics.

Pupils are well supported by the Connexions Service during years 9, 10 and 11 resulting in better informed decisions and direction.

A number of pupils from the South Site opt to attend Bank View's Sixth Form and follow individual programmes with a life skills focus. The sixth form meets the needs of the more vulnerable pupils who are identified as requiring further additional support.

The majority of pupils from both sites accessed full time college courses in 2009/10 at local community colleges. Two pupils attended Sandfield Park Sixth Form.

The majority of pupils on the North Site (12 pupils) were placed in BVHS Sixth Form.

What have we done in response to Ofsted?

Bank View High School had its first Ofsted inspection in February 2008. Both sites were inspected as one school. The school was graded as good with some outstanding practice. There were three issues identified for further development which continue to be addressed in 2009/10:

1. Ensure that all teaching is the quality of the very best.

The Senior Management Team and School Improvement Partner are monitoring teaching across both sites and carrying out lesson observations and giving feedback to teachers on ways to improve. Good practice between teachers is also being shared.

2. Improve attendance

The overall attendance for Bank View was graded as satisfactory. Attendance had already been highlighted as an area for development and now includes many strategies for improvement e.g. first day response, links to merit awards, Traffic Light Scheme, new EWO, fixed penalty notices and legal action.

3. Provide data about the progress of pupil groups to governors

This data is now being collected and will be used to identify areas for development and shared with the governing body twice per year

The above issues have now been included within the School Improvement Plan and kept high profile.

More Information

If you would like more information about school policies, including our policies on special educational needs and disability, admissions, finance, school food and our complaints procedure, please contact us:

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