

Surrey Nurturing Schools



Programme

Impact Summary 2024-26



Programme Overview

The Surrey Nurturing Schools Programme was rolled out in 100 settings by Schools Alliance for Excellence (SAfE) in partnership with national charity nurtureuk, and with funding from the Mental Health Investment Fund. Staff received training on how to fully build nurture into their school's culture, as well as how to embed using the Boxall Profile assessment tool to improve social, emotional and mental health needs.

Why Schools Joined the Programme

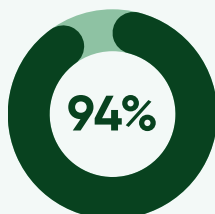
- Rising SEMH needs post-COVID
- Desire to formalise nurture practice
- 89% joined for access to the Boxall Profile
- Aim to upskill staff and strengthen whole-school ethos

High Satisfaction & Strong Engagement

Training was described as engaging, practical and transformative



Satisfied with the Boxall Profile



Satisfied with training



Said content met school needs

"The Boxall Profile is absolutely the gold in it all." – Horley Infant School



How Schools Implemented Nurture

- Audits against the Six Principles of Nurture
- Updated behaviour policies
- INSET, assemblies, newsletters
- Using Boxall Profile to identify needs
- Sensory circuits
- Restorative puppets
- Outdoor space improvements

Nurture in Action Across Surrey

Stoughton Infant School

Cosy corners and worry monsters supporting emotional regulation.

Ottershaw Infant School

'Craft and calm' sessions helping pupils name and manage emotions.

Esher High School

Enhanced wellbeing assessments and improved transition support.

St Polycarp's Catholic Primary School

Whole-school Nurture Week engaging pupils and parents.

The Impact & The Future



Positive Outcomes for Pupils

- 44% significant improvement in wellbeing
- 53% some improvement to wellbeing
- Better emotional literacy and peer relationships
- Improved engagement with learning

“The opportunity to talk, to feel heard, to vent if having a bad day, to talk about home life, a way to avoid detentions.”
(Year 10 student in nurture provision)



Attendance is Rising

Schools reported slight increases overall.

**Stoughton
Infant School
attendance** **95.2%**
↑
94.1%

23%
↓
10% **Ottershaw
Infant & Junior
persistent
absence**

More Confident, Supported Staff

- Greater understanding of SEMH needs
- Better decision making
- Reduced “fire-fighting”
- Improved wellbeing and retention



“Staff understand the why behind why pupils behave in a certain way, which gives them the confidence and understanding to adapt their approaches.”

“Wellbeing does seem to be prioritised across the staff much more now. We are now all on the same page and something we are doing is getting ahead of issues before they come out in class.”

Stronger Relationships with Parents

- Parents more informed and engaged
- More proactive communication
- Nurture Week boosted home-school collaboration

“Parents are more informed and able to support their children at home.”

Challenges Identified



- Time pressures
- Evidence burden of application process for the Nurturing Schools Award
- Staffing changes
- Secondary schools wanting more age-specific content

The Surrey Nurturing Schools Programme has embedded lasting nurturing approaches across Surrey schools. The practices and insights developed through the programme will continue to support children and young people for years to come. Thanks to Lighthouse Research & Consultancy and KMC Research for their evaluation of the programme.