

How can we use a nurturing approach in Primary and Secondary Education to support the emotional health of our children and improve engagement and attainment?

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nurture

/ˈnɜːtʃə/

verb

1. care for and protect (someone or something) while they are growing.
"Jarrett was nurtured by his parents in a close-knit family"
synonyms: bring up, care for, provide for, take care of, attend to, look after, rear, support, raise, foster, parent, mother, tend; [More](#)

noun

1. the action or process of nurturing someone or something.
"the nurture of children"
synonyms: encouragement, promotion, fostering, development, cultivation, boosting, furtherance, advancement
"the nurture of ideas"

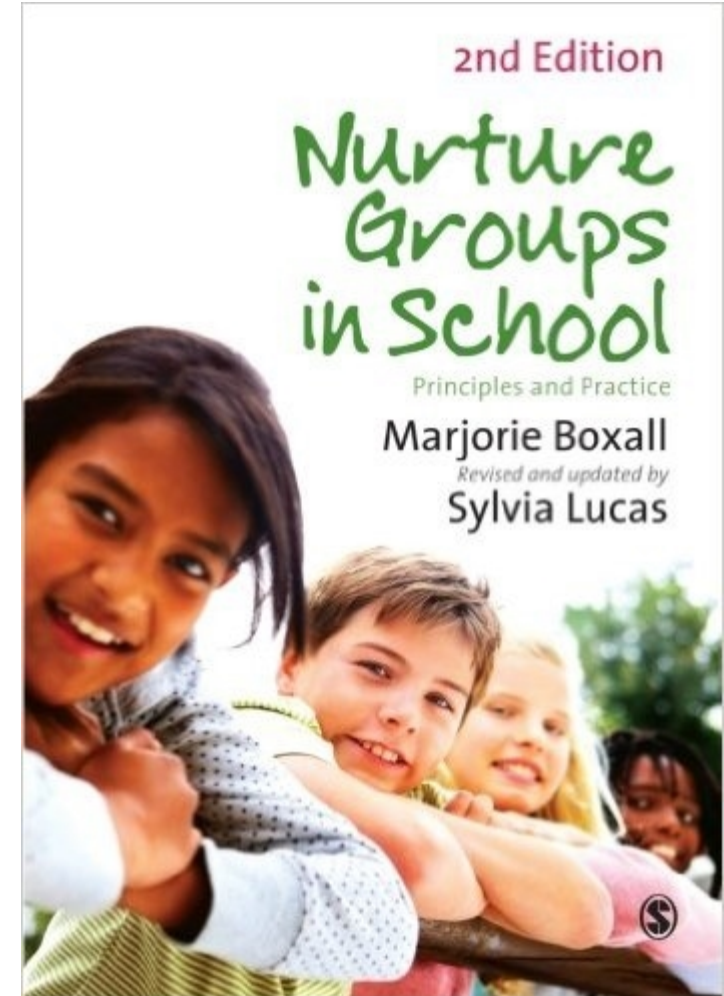
“The schools that were the most effective at ‘nurturing’ had a clearly defined, positive but firm approach to the way in which they spoke to pupils, gave them clear boundaries, praised them for their efforts and achievements, ensured that they made academic progress, and worked with their parents. They saw each pupil as an individual and planned and implemented additional support accordingly. ”

OFSTED 2011

Nurture groups:

- Developed in 1969 by Marjorie Boxall, Educational Psychologist

“The aim of the nurture group is to create the world of earliest childhood, build in the basic and essential learning experiences normally gained in the first three years of life and enable children to fully meet their potential in mainstream schools.”
(Boxall, 2002)



Three key areas:

1. The development of self-esteem;
2. The use of play to teach social skills such as turn-taking, sharing, cooperating and appreciating the feelings of others; and
3. Developing language for communication.

Why do schools need to Nurture?

- Exclusions
- Mental Health
- Attainment



Exclusions

UK Picture 2014/15

5,800 permanent
exclusions .

~31 permanent
exclusions per day

83 per cent occurred in
secondary schools

Permanent exclusions per key stage (including reinstated cases)

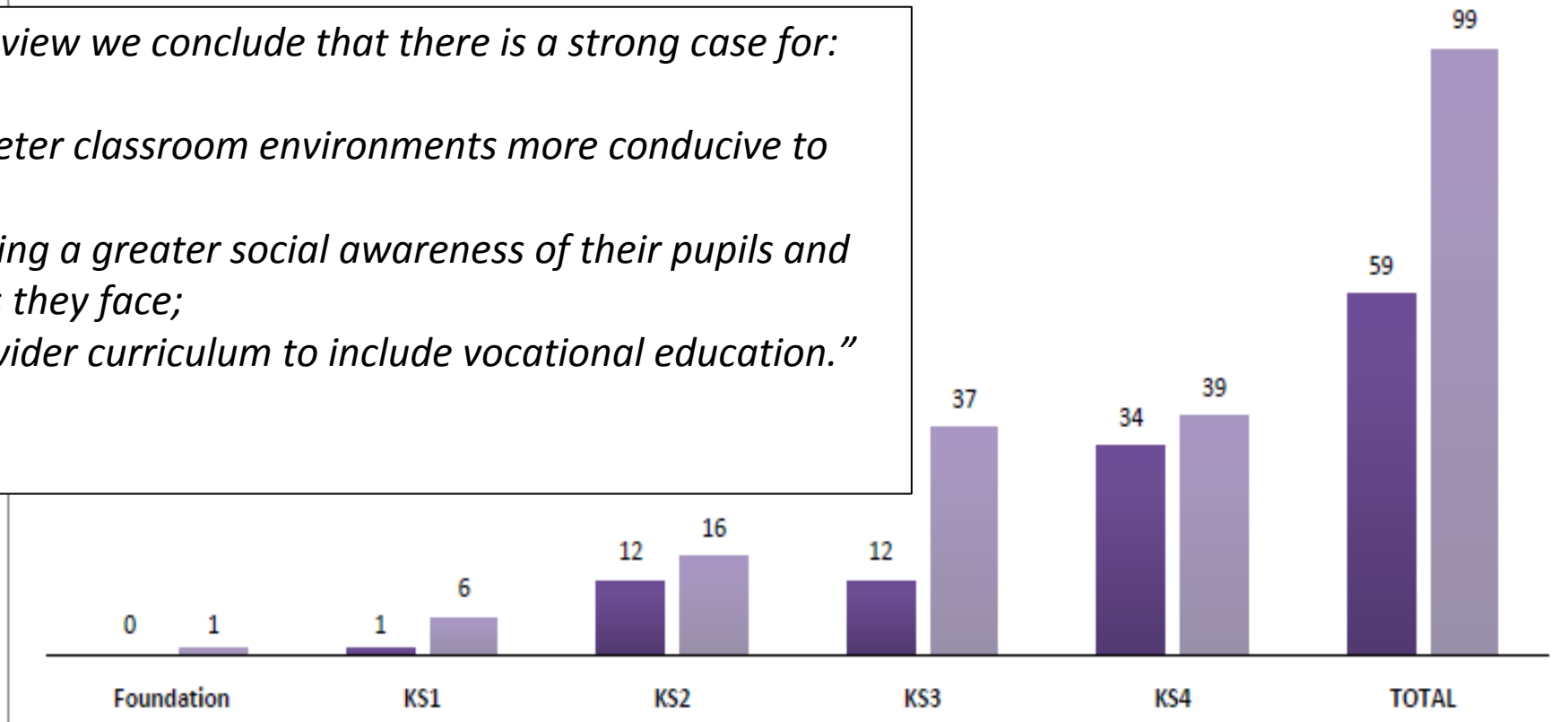
2014-2015 compared to 2015-2016, as of 10/06/2016

Data source: ONE System

■ School year 2014-2015 ■ School year 2015-2016
(01/09/2015 to 10/06/2016)

*“From this review we conclude that there is a strong case for:
fostering quieter classroom environments more conducive to
work;
teachers having a greater social awareness of their pupils and
the problems they face;
providing a wider curriculum to include vocational education.”*

DCC 2016



Mental Health

1 in 10 children aged 5 - 16 have a mental health disorder (around three children per class)

More than half of adults with mental health problems were diagnosed in childhood

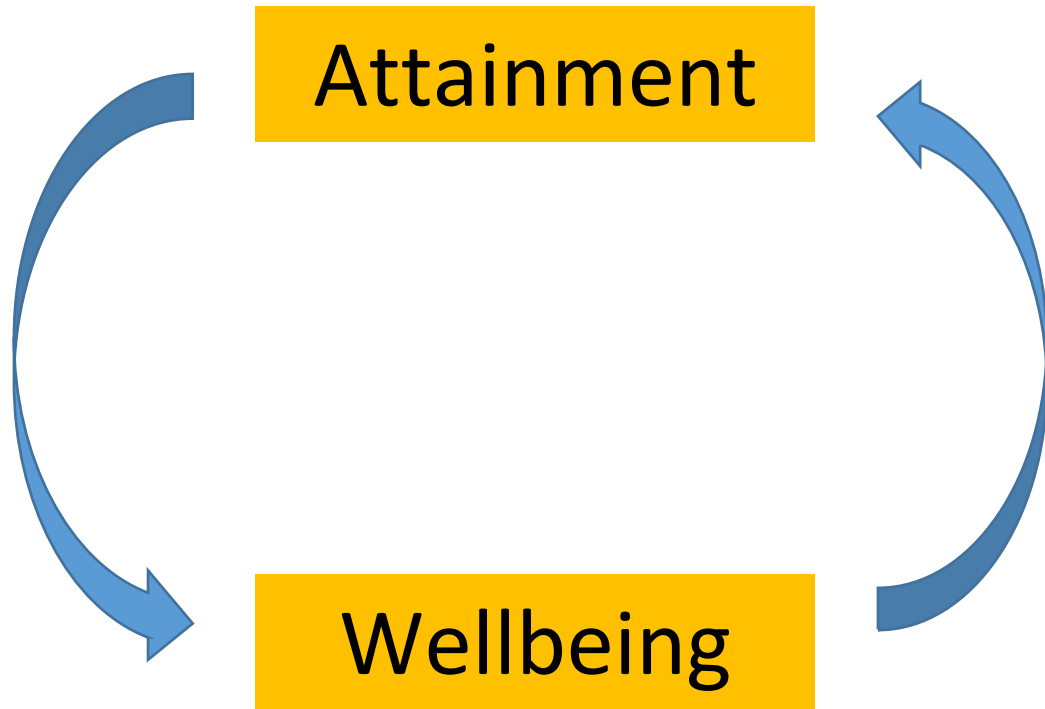
95% of imprisoned young offenders have a mental health disorder

Between 1 in 12 and 1 in 15 children deliberately self-harm

Nearly 80,000 children suffer from severe depression

72% of children in care have behavioural or emotional problems

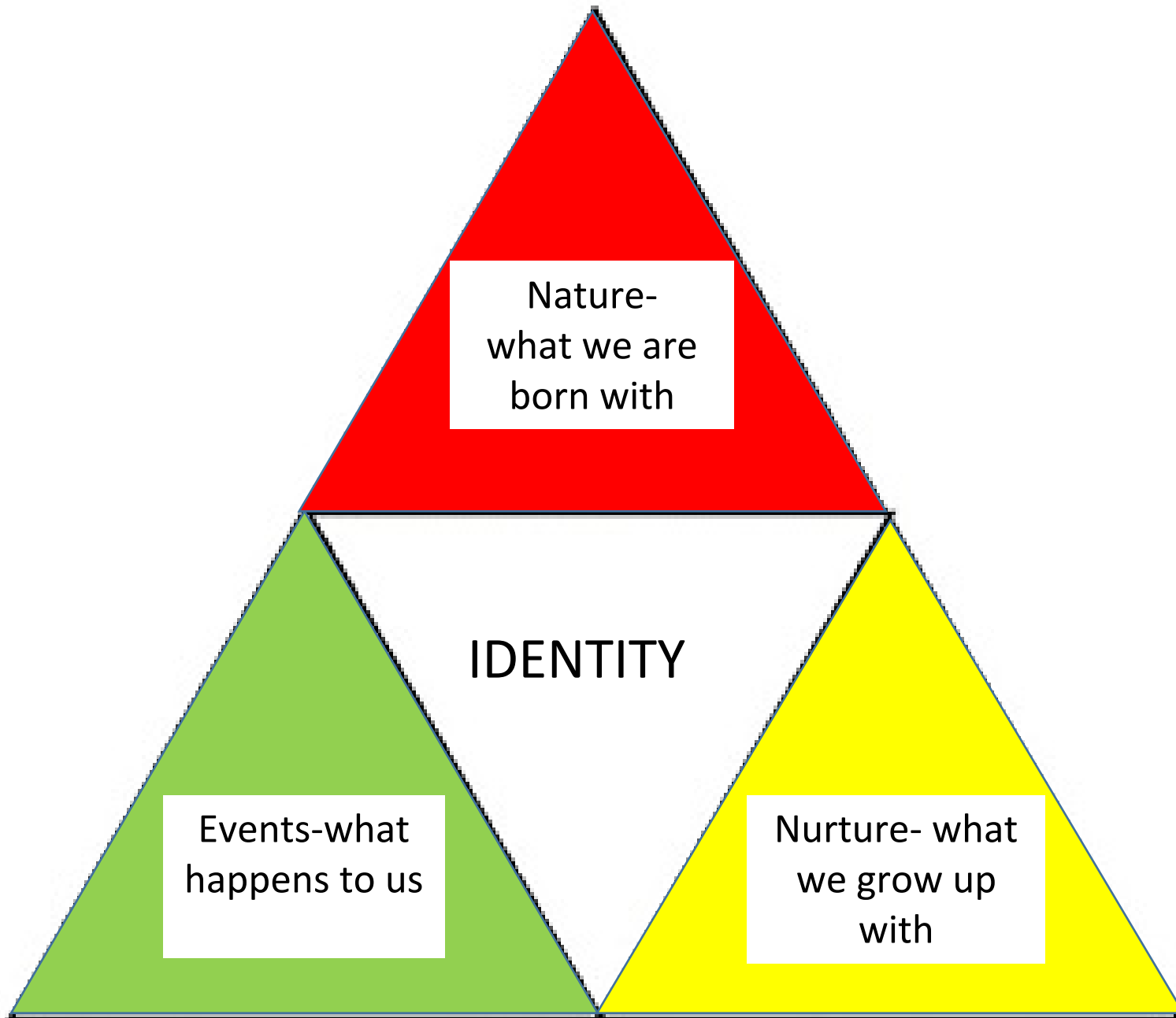
Source:
Young Minds



Pupil wellbeing predicted their later academic progression and engagement in school.

Eg. pupils with better emotional wellbeing at age seven had a value-added key stage 2 score 2.46 points higher than pupils with poorer emotional wellbeing

An 11% boost in results in standardised achievement tests has been linked to school programmes that directly improve students' social and emotional learning



Nature-
what we are
born with

IDENTITY

Events-what
happens to us

Nurture- what
we grow up
with

The Six Principles Of Nurture

1. Children's learning is understood developmentally
2. The classroom offers a safe base
3. The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing
4. Language is a vital means of communication
5. All behaviour is communication
6. The importance of transition in children's lives

How can we measure impact?

Boxall Profile

Primary and Secondary School versions available



Where to go for more information?



Offer support on:

- Nurture Groups
- The Nurturing School's Programme
- Training
- Consultancy