



Nurture Project

October 2021

In this newsletter:

- An update on the Nurture project training roll-out
- Next Steps for Nurture in Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale
- Feedback required from all schools involved in the project

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Welcome Back!

I hope the start of the new school year is going well for you and that pupils and practitioners alike are adjusting to the new, *new* normal.

I thought it best to give schools and settings a few weeks to relax into the new term before sending out this update/reset. Please read on to find out what has been happening with the project, where it is heading and what the NYCOA needs from you...

Training Update

In March 2021, twenty-four schools signed up to receive **£5,000 worth of Nurture training**, materials and support via the NYCOA. Nurture training – led by Adele Wilkinson of NurtureUK – has been underway since late April, starting with **Theory and Practice of Boxall Profile**, which all schools received. Our 'Hub Schools' attended **Theory and Practice of Nurture Groups** training before the summer and 80% of project schools have completed Day 3 of the **National Nurturing Schools Programme** (with the last few schools due to complete this shortly).

45%

of project schools have trained up additional teachers and TAs to use the Boxall Profile!

Around half of the project schools have accessed the **Boxall Profile Competencies** training. This short, self-guided online training is designed to support teachers and teaching assistants to use the Boxall Profile even if they have not had the full training. **Many schools are completing a Boxall Profile for every pupil on roll**, to identify strengths and areas of development. This is an ambitious approach and a great idea, if schools have the capacity. **If you would like your BPC tokens, please get in touch.** I will send a reminder email to the admin/HT of any school that has not used them yet as a gentle nudge.

Next Steps

This year, the NYCOA will work with the 24 project schools and other stakeholders – including the Locality Board, Yorkshire Endeavour Academy Trust (YEAT) and other schools and settings already blazing a trail with Nurture – to grow and embed the Nurture approach. The NYCOA will continue to provide guidance and support to project schools (and any other interested schools) to help them on their Nurture journey and to **develop approaches that favour relational, restorative and inclusive practice**. So, if you need any support, additional training, informal advice a friendly 'quality assurance' visit or anything else, just get in touch!

What are we trying to achieve?

The primary aim of the Nurture strand of the NYCOA project is to build a more inclusive approach across the area and help schools and teams to develop a range of tools and methods to support young people at risk of disengagement or who present with behaviour or relational difficulties.

When schools signed up to the offer of Nurture training, they were offered a couple of training options. Regardless of the option chosen, all schools were given access to an 18-month programme of training, resources related to the course, Boxall Profile access and bespoke online consultancy.

Most schools chose to adopt training that would enable them to take a whole-school approach to Nurture and run short, Nurture-themed interventions. These are our **principles schools**. A small group of schools committed to running Nurture Groups (really focused, discrete sessions, run by dedicated staff). In general, these schools are larger so can set up bases and staff them with Nurture-trained teams. These are our **hub schools**.

Nurture Network

As well as updates via this newsletter, the NYCOA is also launching a Nurture Network for project schools (and anyone else who wants to take part) in order to provide updates on the latest developments in Nurture and to share ideas, good practice and success stories. We will gather via TEAMS initially but future meetings could happen in schools so we can visit each other and share good practice. Each meeting will have a theme and a guest speaker with some expertise or experience in Nurture from whom we can all learn. The first meeting will take place via TEAMS (use this [link](#) to join) at **3.45pm on Wednesday 24th November** and **our special guest will be Adele Wilkinson from NurtureUK.**

Boxall Profile Online

Did you know that each of our Nurture project schools has a **two-year subscription** to the Boxall Profile Online, **worth up to £1000** depending on the size of the school? The subscription was activated after your first NNSP session and will be valid for 2 years from that date so if you haven't accessed this yet, please make plans to do so ASAP...!

Practitioners who attended NNSP training were shown how to access and use the Boxall Profile but what about everyone else?

As part of the NYCOA Nurture project, we have funded 10 additional places for each school on the Basic **Boxall Profile Online Competencies Online Course**, a **CPD investment of over £7000** for 240 leaders, teachers and TAs across the area.

This introductory course to the Boxall Profile Online is ideal for beginners or intermediate users needing a refresher. The course covers the process of assessing a child or young person as well as other useful functions and practical tips, including how to create a Boxall Profile Assessment, how to interpret the Boxall Profile Report and how to create a learning plan.

The course can be accessed via the NurtureUK website, takes 3 hours to complete and is available to access for 15 days following registration.

Dates for future Nurture Network meetings:

- Wednesday 2nd February 2022, 3.45pm – 4.45pm
- Wednesday 30th March 2022, 3.45pm – 4.45pm
- Wednesday 25th May 2022, 3.45pm – 4.45pm
- Wednesday 6th July 2022, 3.45pm – 4.45pm

Feedback

Just before the summer, a Headteacher involved in the Nurture project provided this feedback to SkyBlue (our independent learning partner):

'Nurture has been brilliant. We have a training day on the first day back where we will use the tokens. In the autumn, we plan to create a safe space and offer staff incremental coaching with Nurture as a theme. By October, we hope to have Boxall profiled all 630 pupils. By January 2022, we aim to have established a Nurture group with a learning mentor and TA.'

Although it is too soon to judge the impact of our investment in Nurture, it is great to hear of plans that will have an impact on policy, practice and the children and young people in our community. Ideally, all schools will have added Nurture to their school development plans so the investment is capitalised upon and has a long-lasting impact.

In order to get an idea of how each school is getting on with their Nurture journey, I would be grateful for some responses to a short survey ([click here](#)).

Local Nurture News

As the start of this term, Christina Zanelli (Westcliff Primary HT & YEAT CEO) put the spotlight on Nurture by leading a very special event at Raven Hall Hotel. Featuring local and national speakers, the day provided a great opportunity to highlight the benefits of pursuing a nurturing, attachment-informed methodology rather than the more traditional 'zero-tolerance' behaviourist approach. As Christina noted: *'Nurture is at the heart of everything we do at Yorkshire Endeavour. We believe that if we get this right then everything else will follow. It is vitally important that every single member of our staff uses Nurture principles and understands why we take this approach. Our Trust Board is fully committed the principles of nurture. We are very excited to open 'The Rock Pool' in October, a special provision based upon the Nurture model. Once we are up and running visitors are welcome!'*

Things to do...

- ✓ Provide feedback via the Nurture survey
- ✓ Use your BPC tokens to train up staff
- ✓ Access the Boxall Profile Online tool
- ✓ Sign up to the Nurture Network