

The Doveshell Federation Case Study

Data-Driven Identification and Trauma-Informed Support

Identification

Impact

Introduction

The Doveshell Federation - comprising St Thomas' Moorside Primary School and East Crompton St James Primary School - places pupil mental health at the heart of its culture.

Facing rising levels of anxiety, emotional dysregulation, and trauma-related behaviour, the federation has developed a robust, whole-school mental health strategy anchored in both universal and targeted interventions.

A key enabler of this approach is its partnership with BounceTogether, which supports the federation's commitment to early identification and responsive care.

Implementation

Led by the Executive Headteacher, the federation has embedded a trauma-informed ethos across both schools, supported by a skilled mental health team. This includes a full-time SEMH Lead, an Inclusion Lead trained as a Trauma and Mental Health Informed Practitioner, and two Emotional Literacy Support Assistants (ELSAs).

Together, they deliver a continuum of support - from whole-school emotional literacy to targeted psychotherapy and ELSA interventions.

BounceTogether was introduced to give the team reliable, consistent data to inform and evaluate their work.

Using validated surveys like the Stirling Children's Wellbeing Scale, pupils regularly complete assessments that provide insight into their emotional states, social belonging, and outlook.

The results are used to track trends, identify students struggling, and inform timely referrals.

BounceTogether gives us consistent data we can trust. We're no longer relying on gut feeling - we have a clearer picture of what's really going on.

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Identification

BounceTogether has transformed how the federation identifies pupils in need of support.

Survey data allows staff to spot individual pupils who might otherwise go unnoticed, while also revealing broader trends across year groups or demographics. For instance, if a pupil consistently scores below average, staff are alerted and follow up with a wellbeing check-in.

One pupil, whose low survey scores flagged concern, disclosed the recent loss of a parent. The SEMH team immediately coordinated a personalised plan involving ELSA and psychotherapy sessions focused on grief.

As a result, the pupil learned about the stages of grief, developed emotional coping strategies, and showed measurable improvement in their wellbeing scores.

The data not only prompted timely action but also validated the effectiveness of the support offered.

The pupil's pre and post BounceTogether survey data clearly demonstrated the positive impact of the support provided.

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Impact

BounceTogether is now embedded in the school's cycle of intervention and review.

Pre- and post-intervention surveys are used to evaluate ELSA and psychotherapy work. Pupils set personal SMART goals as part of this process, helping them reflect on their growth and success.

Group provision has also become more targeted. Pupils with shared challenges - such as anxiety, anger, or low self-esteem - are placed in focused support groups led by trauma-informed staff.

These sessions use BounceTogether data to tailor strategies and monitor impact, ensuring that provision stays relevant and measurable. Leaders can now easily track group-level trends over time and use the data to decide what types of support to run each term.

It gives the children ownership. They can see their own progress, and it really boosts their confidence.

What The Federation Achieved

By combining trauma-informed care with structured wellbeing monitoring, the federation ensures that no child slips through the net - building a school culture where emotional health is valued as much as academic progress.

- ✓ **Identification** - Enabled the SEMH team to act on hidden needs - such as bereavement or anxiety - through structured, timely follow-up.
- ✓ **Impact** - Empowered pupils to set and track SMART goals, increasing self-awareness and ownership of their emotional development.



Ready to Get Started?

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BounceTogether helps schools bring structure and clarity to pupil wellbeing — surfacing hidden needs, enabling smarter support, and evidencing what makes a difference.

Run your first wellbeing survey completely free as part of our trial offer.

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