



Belleville Wix Academy

The day we went to the DfE - the Department for Education

On Tuesday 18th July we were invited to speak at the 'voice of the child' item for the Permanent Secretary's (Susan Acland-Hood) Stakeholder group (PSSG). Key stakeholders from across the department's portfolio were there, including the Children's Commissioner and the head of the NASUWT, a teachers union.

These are the questions we reflected on before our visit so we could share how we have found our time at primary school.

- **What have you enjoyed about the last year or your time at BWA as a whole?**
- **What have you found difficult this year or would you want to change?**
- **How are you feeling about going to secondary school and leaving BWA?**



This is us outside the DfE before we went in – we don't look worried at all!



We signed in – getting the visitor passes was definitely a highlight of the day.



This is us waiting in the reception area. Behind us are the pictures of the previous Education Ministers.



When we sat around the large conference table we were offered biscuits – which we couldn't refuse.

We were also offered a cup of tea – which we all accepted.



We were invited to talk about our experience at primary school and Miss Henry was so proud of how well we spoke.



There were glass lifts in the DfE – some of us thought it looked like a jungle.



We couldn't resist another group photo before we left the DfE to catch the 87 bus back to school. There is no gift shop at the DfE but a very kind member of staff at the DfE, called Mo, gave us delicious biscuits that we enjoyed on the bus ride back to school.

This was an amazing experience during our last week of Year 6.