

SCHOOLS FORUM AGENDA ITEM

For Action

For Information



Brief Description of Item (including the purpose / reason for presenting this for consideration by the Forum)

To update Forum members on the range of programmes now on offer from the Centres of Good practice for new arrivals to the district who have English as an additional language or who are classed as New to English (NtE) i.e. are non-English speakers because...

- New to English (NtE) learners need to make accelerated progress in order to close the attainment gap with their peers, achieve their potential and become productive Bradfordians.
- The any Other White and Roma ethnic groups represent the largest number of NtE learners recently moving to the Bradford District.

Date (s) of any Previous Discussion at the Forum

First presentation to Forum on 23 September 2015. Updates provided on 21 October 2015, 4 December 2015 and 8 February 2016.

Background / Context

- Funding received from BEICB to set up Centres of Good Practice for New Arrivals to increase capacity within a sector led school improvement strategy.

Details of the Item for Consideration

N.B. This summary paper to be read in conjunction with the presentations to be made to Forum members on 6 July by the lead professionals from 3 of the hubs. (see section below for representation)

- Hubs have now been operational for a term and a half. Uptake from schools has been slow in the first instance; however, this is gradually increasing through the development of publicity events such as open days and visitor days.
- Each hub has created a brochure, (distributed by 22/2/2016) to outline their core school ethos and detail their teaching and learning approaches and/or key specialisms as well as outlining the range of bespoke out-reach work and training which they are able and ready to provide. These are of high quality and provide an appropriate introduction for schools covering the 2-19 age range.
- Each hub has had an on-site quality assurance visit from the Manager of the New Communities and Traveller Service and the Lead Area Achievement Officer from school improvement. These visits have confirmed that each hub has an appropriate infra-structure in place as well as providing each hub with a 1:1 conversation about how to take their hub development forward. Hubs have used their start-up funding responsibly. Examples of this are: to appoint staff e.g. have appointed learning assistants with specific language skills and/or Roma heritage (St Anne's Catholic Primary school) or provide time for current administrative staff to provide high quality frontline responses and professional quality publicity information (Bowling Park). All hubs have used some funding to release the key leaders for the hubs to liaise with schools; provide ITT training and prepare and plan the programmes of support available to schools and create web pages and blogs.
- Hubs are now actively engaged with schools. They have each taken responsibility for liaising with schools previously in receipt of LA support for Ethnic Minority Achievement.
- 32 schools across the district have had 1:1 contact with a hub to date and in addition one school from outside Bradford LA. This more than doubles the 13 schools previously supported by a centrally run service. In addition;
- One hub has liaised with the 14 schools in the Catholic Partnership.
- One hub has worked with 6 Children's Centres.
- One hub in particular works across the area / Parish they are sited in and have supported 28 families in February 2016 and 43 families in March 2016.
- Some hubs have delivered under graduate training at ITT establishments e.g. University of Northumberland and the SCITT in York. It is noteworthy that the input from our "Centres of Good Practice" is extremely highly valued at these events and feedback is universally positive.
- A network for sharing practice / programmes is in place for the hubs to meet, which they have done

twice to date. The final meeting of this academic year is on 14 July 2016.

- A web page has been created on BSO for initial level 1 contact by schools and then a specific page has been created for each of the 6 hubs which are now managed by the leaders of each hub. A “Google translate” function is attached to these pages so that all materials can be accessed in a range of languages.
- Hub leaders have already presented to the Bradford Commissioning Board and are booked to make presentations to BPIP, Bradford Partnership Board and the DAP.
- In April some of the hub leaders made a visit to the Czech Republic to further develop their understanding and knowledge base about educational provision in the EU.
- All hubs are currently preparing case studies from their own settings to exemplify the impact of their approaches with children and young people and families they have worked with. These will be available on their respective web pages.

Implications for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) (if any)

- The BEICB has allocated a further £120,000 to enable the hubs to continue their work into the new academic year.
- Sustainability needs to remain an item for further consideration as we continue to move towards a sector led model. Hubs do not currently charge for their support to schools and therefore do not generate any income to self-sustain.

How does this item support the achievement of the District’s Education Priorities

- To build capacity within a self-improving school system
- To build commercial skills within the school sector
- To build sustainability to provide support for schools across the district
- To close the gap in achievement for underperforming groups

Recommendations

- **The hub network and the New Arrivals strategy group may need to merge from September 2016 for efficient information sharing and cohesive future development of services to schools.**
- **The reporting protocols from hubs to the Forum will need to be agreed for the next academic year. This is currently provided by an LA officer.**

List of Supporting Appendices / Papers (where applicable)

- 6 programme brochures, one from each hub to available for each member at the meeting
- 3 hubs will make presentations to show their work to date. Sadie Cordingley representing Bowling Park, Sally Wike representing Southfield Grange Trust and Lynda Salthouse representing Horton Grange.

Contact Officer (name, telephone number and email address)

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