

**DARLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM**  
16 JANUARY 2024

**ITEM NO 11**

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**TRAVELLER EDUCATION AND ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE (TEAS)**

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**Purpose of Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to make School Forum aware of the current funding deficit for the Traveller Education and Achievement Service (TEAS) and to request an increase in funding to £100,000 per annum from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

**Forum Decision Required**

The Forum is asked to:

- a) Note the activities as outlined in this report;
- b) Agree a funding increase for the Traveller Education & Achievement Service to £100,000 per annum.

**Background Context**

2. Travellers have historically been excluded from education. Although, now most Traveller children attend schools, Ofsted has noted that they are a group most at risk of underachievement in the education system.
3. The Traveller Education and Achievement Service (TEAS) aims to promote access, inclusion, achievement, attainment and opportunities for Traveller families living in or visiting Darlington. The team works in close partnership with families, education providers and Darlington Borough Council to improve the outcomes of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller pupils across the town; to help raise their attendance, attainment and aspirations.

**Traveller Education and Achievement Service (TEAS) – Impact**

4. During the 2022-23 academic year TEAS delivery supported:
  - 158 children to access education settings.
  - 255 children through the dual registration processes.
  - Up to 260 pupils were tracked at any one time by the Family Liaison Officer.
  - 65 pupils with reintegration to their base school.
  - 10 children were reported as Children Missing in Education.
  - 1,012 family support activities took place as well as 136 home visits.
  - 1 pupil was supported through the Early Help process.
  - 112 Elective Home Education (EHE) monitoring activities.
  - 217 instances of attendance monitoring took place.
  - 283 pupils were supported to ensure regular attendance.
  - 236 networking and collaboration activities with other Local Authorities were facilitated.

- 16 training events were delivered amounting to 47 hours of training.
- 3 education settings were supported with Homework clubs.
- 1 education setting was supported to develop a Literacy Ambassadors project.

**Traveller Education and Achievement Service (TEAS) - Budget Position**

5. Funding for TEAS has been set at £86,000 since Swift Academies took over management of the service 5 years ago.

6. During the **2022-23 academic year** TEAS was funded as follows:

<b>Staffing (Lead Teacher)</b>	£58,874.00		
Family Liaison Officer SLA	£24,751.00		
Management Time	£6,000.00		
Phone	£495.00		
Admin Support	£2,000.00		
Resources	£200.00		
Travel	£900.00		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£93,220.00</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>£86,000.00</b>
		<b>Difference</b>	<b>-£7,220.00</b>

*\*Swift Academies (The Rydal Academy) absorbed the Management time and Admin support costs to keep the service within budget.*

7. Projected **2023-24 academic year** costs are as follows:

<b>Staffing (Lead Teacher)</b>	£62,707.00		
Family Liaison Officer SLA	£25,217.00		
Management Time	£6,000.00		
Phone	£495.00		
Admin Support	£2,000.00		
Resources	£200.00		
Travel	£900.00		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£97,519.00</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>£86,000.00</b>
		<b>Difference</b>	<b>-£11,519.00</b>

*\*Increase in costs on the previous year are due to increased staffing costs only.*

8. Projected **2024-25 academic year** costs are as follows:

<b>Staffing (Lead Teacher)</b>	£65,842.00		
Family Liaison Officer SLA	£25,973.00		
Management Time	£6,000.00		
Phone	£495.00		
Admin Support	£2,000.00		
Resources	£200.00		
Travel	£900.00		
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>£101,410</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDING</b>	<b>£86,000.00</b>
		<b>Difference</b>	<b>-£15,410.00</b>

*\*Increase in costs on the previous year are due to increased staffing costs only.*

**Recommendations:**

The Schools Forum should:

- a) Note the activities as outlined in this report;
- b) Agree a funding increase for the Traveller Education & Achievement Service to £100,000 per annum.