

DARLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

22nd May 2018

ITEM NO 5

SCHOOL FORUM OFFICER UPDATE

Purpose of Report

1. To update Forum regarding work of the School Forum Officer in Spring Term 2018.

Resource Bases and Outreach Services – 2018/19

2. The next Resource Base panel will be held on Thursday 24th May. All bases and outreach services will be requested to submit a revised annual review report which will be required as part of the high needs review. The current position for September places is as follows (note at the time of writing the resource base panel had not yet met, therefore below is subject to change):

Base	Commissioned Places	Confirmed Places Sept 2018	Year 6/11 leavers 2018/19
Heathfield	16	10 (KS2)	6
Hurworth	14	13	2
Northwood	9	8	tbc ¹
Mount Pleasant	18	11	2

High Needs Review

3. The SF Officer has project managed the high needs review which has concentrated to date on the workstreams of graduated response; mainstream top up funding; resource base and outreach provision review; SEND capital funding plan and engagement/communications. The Officer has taken a lead on the provision review, SEND Capital funding and communications.

Future in Mind

4. Action plans for the Local Transformation Plan (LTP) priorities are being driven through workstreams – Schools (DBC led); Access and Vulnerable Groups (CCG led); Resilience (Public Health led). The schools group will meet on 18th May and school and health representatives will consider how to evaluate the initiatives that have been supported so far, will receive an update on the ELSA and Cyber Squad projects, and will consider the outcomes of the Schools and Mental Health Services workshops.
5. The SF Officer will attend a CCG led event in the Summer term which will ask each locality to update on their progress over the past 2 years and plans for future years, and discuss how to best monitor the LTPs against performance indicators to establish how the localities are improving the mental health and wellbeing of CYP.

¹ The Speech and Language base objective is to ensure children return to mainstream full time after a maximum of 2 full Academic Years or subject to progress.

Schools and Mental Health Services Workshops

6. Made possible by a successful bid to the DFE, the workshops were excellently attended by school mental health leads from a wide ranging background in SEN, Pastoral and Inclusion; CAMHS services and Primary Mental Health and other clinician representatives. At the conclusion of the workshops the participants confirmed their shared knowledge of the range of support available and good links between partners had improved and believed that referral pathways were much clearer.
7. An initial 'quick win' from the workshops is the trial of a new referral process to CAMHS based upon the '5P²' formulation framework. This will cut down on paperwork and simplify the process for schools. If successful the process will be rolled out to all schools in the Autumn term.
8. The schools that attended have joined the 'Schools in Mind' network which provides a trusted source of up-to-date and accessible information and resources that school leaders, teachers and support staff can use to support the mental health and wellbeing of the children and young people in their care. By signing up to the network education professionals can access a range of events, resources, training and consultation to better support the mental health and wellbeing of their school communities. The network is free <https://www.annafreud.org/what-we-do/schools-in-mind/>
9. The actions from the workshops will be considered by the CCG and CAMHS service in the forthcoming weeks and this will be reviewed by the Future in Mind 'schools' LTP group to consider how schools' access to support, best practice and integrated working can be improved.
10. As previously reported, Darlington has joined a consortium bid with Leeds Beckett University and Middlesbrough Catholic Schools' Partnership to the Teaching and Leadership Innovation Fund. It is proposed that this bid develop a trailblazer apprenticeship for 'School Mental Health Lead'. The application process concludes in Summer 2018 and further information will be made available to schools through forums such as Joint Head Teachers. A working group of schools may be set up to support drive this project if successful.

Accessibility Strategy and Maintained Settings

11. The annual review of the Local Authority Accessibility Strategy which was approved in April 2017 is due.
In order to review the Strategy, meetings with maintained schools have been requested for Spring Term in order to assess at what stage of finalisation of plans have been made, to provide any further support and in order to identify some examples of good practice that could be included in the Strategy.

Recommendation

12. That School Forum note lines of work as above and continuation of project management role of the High Needs Review.

Eleanor Marshall, School Forum Officer

² <https://psychologytools.com/friendly-formulation.html>