

DARLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

16th January 2018

ITEM NO 5

SCHOOL FORUM OFFICER WORK UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of the report is to update School Forum on the review of the high needs services and related activity.

Resource Base Numbers

2. The position at the start of Spring Term 2018 is:

Base	Commissioned Places	Confirmed Places Jan 2018	Vacant Places Jan 2018	Year 6/11 leavers 2017/18
Heathfield	16	12 (KS2)	4 (KS1)	2 (KS2)
Hurworth	14	14	0	5
Northwood	9	9	0	To be determined ¹
Mount Pleasant	20	20	0	7

3. The dates for the panels in 2017/18 will be:

	Spring Term	Summer Term
Deadline for Paperwork	22 nd January	7 th May
Circulate Paperwork	29 th January	14 th May
Panel Meeting	8th February	24th May

4. Applications for resource bases will not be accepted without professional support (including EP report, health professional report where appropriate), and a One Plan.
5. The School Forum Officer presented a review of application requirements for the primary school forum in Autumn 2017.

Future in Mind Projects Update

6. The project 'Emotional Learning Support Assistants (ELSA's) has been developed by the LA Educational Psychology service. 12 schools have signed up to the programme and this will train 14 'ELSA's. Service level agreements have been sent to schools.
7. The 'Mindful Schools' programme has now concluded. The graduation was well attended by school participants. Schools have been provided with evaluation tools in order to use to evaluate impact of the mindfulness courses delivered to pupils.

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.

8. A bid was made with Durham County Council and Co Durham and Darlington CCG, to participate in the ‘**the Mental Health Services and Schools Link** Programme’ run by Anna Freud National Centre for Families, and funded by the DFE. The aim of this programme is for schools, colleges and mental health professionals to make changes in the way they support children and young people with their mental health. This is an opportunity for strong relationships to be built between mental health professionals and school and college leaders.

Darlington have been allocated places for 15 different settings, to participate in two workshops which will be 6-8 weeks apart facilitated by Anna Freud clinicians. All places are now filled for this programme. Dates are still to be confirmed.

Because we are tailoring this for Darlington, we have flexibility to set out the priorities for supporting child mental health, and to identify themes for the workshop, for example, attachment theory training, or CAMHS referral procedure and how to make a referral.

This project is a key action priority in the refreshed Children and Young People’s Plan.

9. The Future in Mind plan has been updated and the new action plan is available on the Darlington website <http://www.darlington.gov.uk/education-and-learning/future-in-mind/>
10. A steering group to formalise governance for FIM and to ensure successful delivery has been set up. This will focus the areas of work and priorities for 2018-2020. School representation has been sought. Sub groups will be formed based upon the three key themes of Future in Mind ie resilience, prevention and early intervention; improving access to effective care and support; care for the most vulnerable.
11. A meeting will be held in advance of the FIM steering group to ensure the actions and priorities in the CYPP are reflected and visa versa.

Accessibility Strategy

12. The Accessibility Strategy requires review and monitoring on an annual basis, reporting to the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee. This requires support from all maintained schools that have benefited from the support from the consultant to review and refresh their plans in 2016/17. Further detail will be provided for these schools in due course.

High Needs Review

13. The SF Officer has commenced project management of the high needs review. This includes development of a communications plan and involvement in schools in consultation.

Recommendation

14. The School Forum to note progress on review of high needs services and related monitoring activity.

Eleanor Marshall - School Forum Monitoring & Support Officer