

Hello everyone. Hope your 'new' school term is going well. Summer now seems a distant echo – still only 47 days until Christmas as I am sat writing this!

Please see below the update following our meeting with officers on Thursday 13th October. If you have any queries related to any of these items (or indeed any other issue you would like to raise), please contact your local JDP rep using the contact details at the end of this article.

1. Reminder about changes to asbestos duties:

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From September new arrangements are in place for works which may involve intrusion into surfaces:

- Now available to book - a series of face-to-face asbestos awareness training sessions, which will also explain in detail new procedures to be adopted by schools. All schools should send their principle responsible officer (usually the headteacher) along with a member of staff as deputy, who would usually be the person responsible for day to day management. Following the initial face to face sessions, it is expected that refresher training will be online. Part of the training will include awareness raising of non-intrusive solutions to everyday site issues. If you cannot find local training for asbestos duties please contact your Smart Solutions Relationship Manager
- From September 2016 all schools will normally be required to complete a brief application form (permit to work) for intrusive works and email this to the property team. Once completed with school name and contact details the only information required is location of works (eg room number), nature of works, date to be undertaken and contractor name. The property team will then review this application against site risk assessments, local knowledge and within a 3 working day timeframe approve or advise appropriate R&D survey be undertaken – if the latter they will also provide contact information though schools may of course choose their own registered contractor for asbestos surveys.

A 'refresher' of this advice will be available on the Redbag imminently to help clarify.

2. Epipen training:

After going around the houses somewhat, we now have a definitive position and from NYCC insurers, who cover most NYCC schools. A briefing note is coming out very soon on the Redbag and will be emailed out via the Headteacher Hub also. The revised insurance position is that in order to be covered schools must ensure that named staff (possibly your school 'named person' for administering medication as in guidance to schools) have engaged in face-to-face awareness training with an appropriate provider. The advice note names several providers who can provide training sufficient to meet insurance needs. The providers named include the fixed locality dates for free Healthy Child Asthma, Epilepsy and Allergy Awareness Sessions available to be booked through smartsolutions alongside additional providers that will come to school and deliver at a cost, this bespoke training must be arranged by individual schools. Schools are free to consider other providers though we would recommend that in this case, schools check with NYCC Insurance (Frank.herring@northyorks.gov.uk), before finalising a booking. Beyond the named person, schools should arrange that all employees have appropriate awareness training on signs and symptoms etc – this can be done by those trained externally, through booking further external training or through use of online packages. Watch out for the advice note and ensure that your local group of schools looks to arrange appropriate training soon!

3. Data, moderation and PLN (SINs) meetings:

Whilst NYCC moderation at KS1 and 2 was broadly in line with national figures and therefore not highlighted in any DfE reports, we queried whether the internal profile across the county may have been somewhat more 'spikey' and averaged out about right. We have asked that school experiences of moderation, combined with feedback from moderators themselves be brought to bear on training for y2/6 teachers and moderators for 2017. Quality Assurance for 2017 moderation will be based on 2016 experiences and every single moderator will be subject to QA in 2017. It was agreed by JDP reps and officers that wherever possible schools should send y2/6 representative staff to training to prepare for 2017 assessments, regardless of whether they trained last year or not. In that way, all schools will be current with advice. If you struggle to access training in your locality, contact your Smart Solutions Relationship Manager. NYCC understand that DfE advice will be available in time for briefings to schools including clarification as to what constitutes 'independent work.' There are to be no new exemplification materials this year though some revised commentary may be added to the mathematics exemplification to aid clarification.

Data presented at this term's PLN meetings allowed for schools to see how NYCC compared with national and the improvement targets at county level. Whilst it is always hard to plan such meetings to suit everyone's tastes and interests, we suggested that there was a need to move past some of the global data across county and ensure that PLN meetings really allowed Headteachers to focus on their own school/collaborative data – that there was 'something in it for them.' As an example, in this term's PLN meetings it would have been really useful to have looked at some of the Perspective Lite data reports and see how these allow for deep analysis of cohort groups pre-Raise.

4. Early years funding formula and the 30 hour offer:

We discussed the concern around the EYFS Funding Formula Consultation and the potential impact this would have on nursery viability in both maintained and private sectors. Also the impact of 30 hours free childcare and how this would combine with funding changes. Unfortunately, information streams from DfE have not allowed for answers to schools' questions to date. It is hoped that into November funding announcements will clarify whether the proposals will be put into action and we have urged that soon after NYCC consider [a](#) arranging a meeting for affected parties, possibly where questions can be submitted in advance of the session

5. Teacher pay increments:

A timely reminder to schools that a return is required to ESS by 4th November with regard teacher pay increments. The detail can be found via an email sent to schools on 7th September, with schools needing to process their return [here](#).

6. Prevention service review and next steps:

The Prevention Service fed back on their 12 month review. 139 responses from schools had been incorporated into the review. Generally positive feedback was gained, which included positive views about the single referral process (to Children's Social Care and Prevention) in place since January 2016. 70% of school respondents were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the involvement of the Prevention service. 96% of family respondents are 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied.' Indeed, the service is a finalist for the CYPS Early Intervention Service Award. There are currently some 2613 open cases with 7000 family members supported. Referrals to Children's Social Care are at a 5 year low.

Some of the points for further investigation include:

- Whether the name of the service is potentially a barrier for some families engaging
- Whether the single referral process elevated family concerns about the potential involvement of CSC and impacted on gaining consent
- Some respondents felt that communication between agencies should be improved in order to maximise the effectiveness of intervention
- To provide clarity about the role of CAMHS – who/when/where to access
- Family Outreach Worker quality assurance and training programmes – to ensure consistency
- A peer review process across area teams to help measure effectiveness

We discussed communication and the lack of a paper trail for school case files. It has been stated that a minimum service standard will be implemented of a 6 weekly progress update sent to schools and contact being made before a case is considered for closure.

All schools are entitled to a termly meeting with their Area Prevention Manager to discuss any open cases as well as concerns schools may have about students and whether a referral is pertinent. Area Managers can now access the CSC database and search for your school and as such the termly meeting is a good opportunity to ensure you are in tune with ALL live CSC and Prevention cases at your school. We strongly urge all schools to take up their termly meeting.

Just to confirm also, that all Prevention Service Family Outreach Workers are covered centrally by DBS and that schools do not need to add these staff to their Single Central Record – you should insist on seeing photo ID however and if in doubt check back to your Area Manager. It is still anticipated that April 2017 will see additional staff based alongside Prevention Service teams with specialisms in emotional and mental health, as part of the Futures In Mind project.

We are delighted to hear that following a successful pilot where schools 'buy in' to Prevention Service supervision for their own pastoral workers (PSAs, Learning Mentors, etc), this service has now been extended to allow 24 schools to take part. It will be interesting to hear how this service grows as we believe it has great potential to help link school based staff into the Family Outreach Worker system.

7. Director's Update:

Pete took us through the contents of the latest [White Paper News](#) as well as the exciting news that Scarborough has been named as one of only six national Education Opportunity Areas – a real opportunity to build on the work of the Scarborough Pledge and impact on social mobility and aspiration.

Staynor Hall primary is now open with new primaries to follow in Catterick and Sowerby Gateway as well as a possible new school for Northallerton.

8. Mouchel:

Schools may now be aware that the plan for parts of the premises contract management work previously held by Jacobs to be transferred to Mouchel has now been stopped. From 1st November these works will now be managed 'in house' by NYCC. Watch for communications from NYCC if you have a project currently on site or are expecting works over the next few months. NYCC believe the capacity exists to deliver all works as planned. In due course it is expected that the design, plan and project management premises aspects will be available for schools to commission directly i.e. that schools can commission their own building works through NYCC.

9. Information for schools on admission (particular reference to in year transfers) to school:

Hopefully colleagues will have seen the article with regard changes to admissions processes – it can be viewed [here](#).

With the formal allocation letter, parents will be posted a part b form which they are expected to take in to their current school for completion. The form is to be left with current school headteacher to complete and post/email to receiving school. Only on receipt of part b would it be expected that the receiving school would approve class allocation and start date. The process as described on the Redbag states that the change of school would normally occur at the beginning of the next halfterm. This is not set in stone and can be varied by the agreement of all parties. What is vital is that both sending and receiving schools exchange information – the process can only really work if it is the expectancy of ALL involved to exchange this information.

10. Holidays in term time and recent court case update:

A reminder to schools that reporting of unauthorised absences which may trigger a Penalty notice has now changed. Read the article [here](#). This article describes a 'stage one process' whereby schools should inform NYCC Attendance Enforcement (names and contacts within the article) of all pupils missing 10 or more UNAUTHORISED sessions within a six month period, WITHOUT filling in the legal paperwork for a Penalty Notice, since in most cases a Penalty Notice would now not be applied. This can simply be an email to your Attendance Enforcement Officer with attendance certificate attachments from your MIS system. NYCC will then contact you for those very few cases going to prosecution. 20 or more unauthorised absences will still be expected to trigger a Penalty Notice.

It is expected that the DfE will continue to pursue changes to legislation around leave during termtime so watch out for further updates!

11. Conference 2017:

Plans are already well underway for our 2017 JDP Leadership Conference which will be held at Harrogate Pavilions on 28th April 2017. Our keynote speakers will be Pete Dwyer, Corporate Director CYPs, John Nichol and Nicky Looby. We are hoping to time things a little differently this year with a breakfast buffet and chance to network and view stalls on arrival, ready for a start at around 10am. Hopefully, this will allow colleagues travelling afar a little more time to make their journeys.

Watch out for booking forms very soon via the Headteacher Hub and Redbag.

[John Nichol](#) – RAF navigator, captured by the Iraqis during the Gulf War. His experiences qualify him to speak with unquestionable authority on not only surviving challenges, but also turning them to your advantage.

[Nick Looby](#) - a communications specialist who will help us 'get the message through'

12. What schools must report online:

Some additional clarification has been sought with regard what schools must report online. This is in two parts.

- a. The bullet points with regard data to report at KS2 do not make sense. Clarification from the DfE states that the data to be reported is simply:

The percentage of pupils that achieved the expected standard or above in reading, writing and mathematics (combined)

Average progress scores in each subject: reading, writing and mathematics

Average 'scaled scores' in each subject: reading and mathematics

The percentage of pupils that achieved a high level of attainment in reading, writing and mathematics (combined)

- b. Reporting on cohort sizes less than 6 pupils – advice available [here](#). This includes online reporting for small Pupil Premium groups.

13. SEND local area inspection:

This took place in June, against a framework which only became live in May. The inspection looked at how all partners across the NYCC footprint impact on SEND – how well SEND is identified, how well needs are met and how partners are improving outcomes for SEND from 0-25 years. 5 inspectors visited NYCC and discussed issues with focus groups, visited providers, health settings, met headteacher, parents, pupils etc. Although the report is not yet published Inspectors recognised the ambitious culture and strong partnerships within North Yorkshire. More available soon. When the final report is received, the target areas will be linked into the outcomes from last year's ISOS review and will form the new SEND Strategy for North Yorkshire.

14. Communications with schools:

Over the summer, much redundant content has been removed from the Redbag, with further content streamlining ongoing across the CYPs info site. New content has been added, such as [advice on joining or forming a MAT](#). A survey will be sent to schools later this term with regard site design and access to information. We would urge schools to respond. JDP reps have already volunteered to be actively involved in any reviews/changes.

We have asked officers to check how the CYPs search engine works by testing articles and if necessary to send officers advice about how to ensure articles are found via 'search.' If you do use the search tool and get spurious/duplicated advice, then please let us know via the contacts at the end of this article as that can only be to the greater good!

Schools have stated that they struggle to find the most recent referral mechanisms and forms for the various agencies. Arriving imminently is a CYPs info page (which we will link to on the Headteacher Hub) with hyperlinks to all pertinent referrals. Let us know if this works when it becomes live!

15. Learning outside the classroom:

One of North Yorkshire's very own is up for a possible lifetime achievement award through the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom. Take a minute out of your busy day, visit the website and consider voting in the awards!

Besides that, you may found out something new about LOTC!

Simon Johnson retired as Year 3 teacher at Kirkbymoorside CP School in summer 2016, having taught in primary schools in Leeds and across N Yorks since 1982. In each of the schools he has worked in, Simon has inspired children through his genuine enthusiasm for outdoor learning and environmental science. He has engaged and inspired whole classes with projects including vegetable growing (even entering school produce in the local horticultural show) and cooking, bird-watching, pond-digging, developing wildlife areas, making bug hotels, teaching trees, incubating eggs, raising tadpoles and toadpoles and a range of Forest School and nature study activities. He has raised awareness of the true value of LOTC amongst other staff, through training days and staff meetings and leading by example. His classroom is a delight, with many displays reflecting his passion for nature and outdoor learning. He will be sorely missed, but has left a fantastic legacy wherever he has taught. Several of his former pupils have gone on to work within horticulture and many have gone on to develop the passion for nature and LOTC that they were first exposed to under his care. He was recently very proud to meet an ex pupil who has reached the final 4 of a 'Young Gardener of the Year' competition and another who has gained an apprenticeship with the North York Moors National Park. Simon has done his bit to foster and maintain children's sense of awe and wonder in their local environment and beyond. Not a bad legacy for (as he describes himself) a bog-standard class teacher of 34 years! Simon is a fabulous advocate of the LOTC message and he is so much more than the bog-standard teacher he thinks himself to be!

[VOTE NOW – click here!](#)

We are always interested in your thoughts, comments, compliments and issues – what is going well, what is causing you concern, how can we help?

Our remaining meeting dates for 2016-2017 are:

- *18th January 2017*
- *29th March 2017*
- *21st June 2017*

JDP area contacts:

Stuart Anslow (Mid, North & South Craven)	Fiona Beetles (Mid, North & South Craven)	Jane Turner (Harrogate)	Nicola Johnson (Central & North Ryedale)
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Please do contact us, if you would like to raise queries, concerns or issues for us to discuss or indeed pass on compliments or ideas for improvement. Reps are always happy to liaise via telephone or e-mail and will try and visit your cluster meetings if you would like us to do this. Comment can always be sent through to Ian Yapp, JDP Spokesperson via

headteacher@riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk