

NORTH YORKSHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting:	Thursday 17 March 2022 (via Teams)
Title of report:	Minutes of the North Yorkshire Schools Forum
Type of report:	For information only
Executive summary: Including reason for submission	The minutes of the previous meeting of the North Yorkshire Schools Forum are presented for approval.
Budget / Risk implications:	N/A
Recommendations:	The minutes are approved as an accurate record.
Voting requirements:	N/A
Appendices: To be attached	N/A
Report originator and contact details:	Marion Sadler – Clerk to the Schools Forum Tel: 01609 532234 E-mail: marion.sadler@northyorks.gov.uk
Presenting officer: If not the originator	N/A

PRESENT:

Chair:	Ian Yapp
Primary Headteachers:	Jillian Baker, Karen O'Donnell, Nick Styles, Rob Campbell
Secondary Headteachers:	Nick Hinchliffe, Kath Jordan, Julia Polley
Nursery Headteacher:	Charlotte Hope-Harrisson
Special Headteacher:	
Pupil Referral Service:	
Academies:	Helen Flynn, Helen Williams, Michelle Hockham, Jane Turner, Josh Greaves, Francis Loftus, Andrew Robinson (sub for David Barber), Helen Channing
Governors:	Corinne Cross
Early Years Providers:	

16-19 Providers:	Ann Hardy
Diocesan Representatives:	Emma Higgins
Trade Unions:	Anne Swift
Observers:	Alison Kaye (Moorlands Learning Trust), Lisa Marron, Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust.
In Attendance:	Stuart Carlton, Howard Emmett, Jane le Sage, Sally Dunn, Martin Surtees, Councillor Janet Sanderson, Mandy Lambert (LSO Minute Taker), Deborah Wilbor (LSO)
Apologies:	Andrew Smith, Dominique Osbourne, Fiona Beetles, David Barber (sub Andrew Robinson), Michael Pettaval, Patrick Mulligan, Brian Crosby

1059: WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1060: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Circulated: A list of the current membership:

Current vacancies were outlined, 4 x primary LA, 1 x secondary LA, 1 x PRS LA, 1 x academy, 1 x Special School LA. Total membership 36 (reviewed 2019) – Quorum is 11 members.

NOTED: It was noted that Chris Parkhouse had resigned from Schools Forum.

1061: MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 January 2022 be agreed as an accurate record.

1062: MATTERS ARISING

NOTED: There were no matters arising.

1063: NOTIFICATION OF ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no notification of any other urgent business.

1064: SCHOOLS BLOCK 2022-23

CONSIDERED: A report setting out the final position with regard to the planned expenditure on the Schools Block Budget in 2022-23, following confirmation from the Secretary of State of:

- (a) The closure of Baldersby St James CE Primary Academy on 31 August 2022.
- (b) Approval of the LA disapplication request to de-delegate funding from school budgets to support the provision of statutory core school improvement activities. The de-delegation had been built into schools budget for 2022-23. A further review would be undertaken through Schools Forum on the delivery of the School Improvement Service.

NOTED: A question about the School Improvement function going forward. SC stated that School Improvement would continue as it is now. There is no discussion around out-sourcing the service. The longer-term view would be taken into consideration along with the Schools White Paper.

AGREED: The Schools Forum notes the contents of the report.

1065: EARLY YEARS FUNDING UPDATE 2022-23

CONSIDERED: A report providing an update on the results and feedback received from the recent consultation on the funding rates paid to early years' providers for the funded early education entitlement for three and four year olds and disadvantaged two year olds for the 2022/23 financial year. The report also details the 2022/23 Early Years DSG allocation and requests approval for the associated planned expenditure in respect of the LA retention of disadvantaged two year old funding, as informed by the outcome of the early years' funding consultation and the resultant decision on base provider funding rates for 2022/23.

NOTED: Michael Pettaval had submitted some questions for Schools Forum:

- ***That with the now agreed (following the consultation) retention of 1% of disadvantaged two year old funding for 2022/23, is it possible to have greater clarity on the purpose and aspects of the review of the EY strategy in North Yorkshire?***

It was noted that the LA recognises that more work is required in the Early Years sector. Amanda Newbold had agreed to pick up with Early Years providers going forward.

- ***It was clear from the comments from providers included as an appendix, that sufficiency is becoming a bigger and bigger problem for all providers. Is there a contingency plan in place (or as part of the developing Early Years Strategy) to address the possible closure of settings who cannot afford to operate or who cannot recruit staff?***

It was noted that the LA would pick this up at a future Schools Forum meeting.

- ***Given the circumstances around the lack of support for the Early Years sector following the pandemic, the lack of identification of needs and the scarcity of services such as paediatrics, speech therapy and health visiting, is there a discussion planned for supporting children and families through settings through other means (such as the main DSG) to prevent these issues from compounding? The evidence is clear, early intervention prevents later disadvantage and is cost effective in the longer term. Would a planned, detailed educational intervention programme, delivered rapidly prevent much higher expenditure when children have started school and opportunities to address medium level developmental concerns that have been missed?***

It was noted that the LA would pick this up at a future Schools Forum meeting.

AGREED:

- (a) To note the outcome of the funding consultation undertaken with early years' providers within North Yorkshire on the level of the provider base funding rates for the 2022/23 financial year for three & four year olds and disadvantaged two year olds.
- (b) To note CYPS Executive Members and the Corporate Director – Children & Young people's Service approval of:
 - An increase in the provider base funding rate for the universal and extended funded entitlement for three & four year olds from £4.15 per hour to £4.31 per hour for the 2022/23 financial year.
 - An increase in the provider-funding rate for disadvantaged two year olds from £5.36 to £5.51 for the 2022/23 financial year.

(c) To note the 2022/23 Early Years DSG allocation and to take the approval of the associated planned expenditure in respect of the LA retention of disadvantaged 2 year old funding to the May Schools Forum meeting.

1066: HIGH NEEDS BLOCK 2022-23

CONSIDERED: A report outlining the planned budget for the High needs Block in 2022-23, how this compares to an anticipated in-year cash allocation of £64.5m (including £2.63m Supplementary Funding) and the extent of the anticipated financial pressures. The 2022/23 High Needs Commissioning was outlined setting out the budget line and spend along with further development work.

NOTED: The Chair explained the lobbying work to explain to the Government, the issues of the High Needs Block funding in North Yorkshire.

AGREED: To note the contents of the report and the financial position.

1067: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No other business had been raised.

1068: FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday 19 May 2022 - virtual

Thursday 22 September 2022

Thursday 17 November 2022

Thursday 15 December 2022 – if required