

Hello everyone.

Below is our first JDP update of this academic year. This update follows our meeting with officers on September 18th this year – as such it was mainly a start of the year ‘scene setting’ meeting, but hopefully still contains plenty of interest to all schools.

1. Welcome to Stuart Carlton:

We were delighted to have our first meeting with Stuart Carlton as new Director of Childrens Services and to re-affirm the vision of partnership working to benefit all in our educational community and of course, ultimately, our students.

2. Communications with schools:

We discussed the CYPS website in some detail. Content has been secured and migrated across from the old site provider in July, but we are aware that this means that several links in previous JDP articles, historic redbag articles, saved links on your desktop and the Headteacher Hub are now defunct. We re-affirmed that the core purpose of the CYPS site is the interface with the educational community and so as the CYPS info project moves to ‘improvement phase’ we will work with officers over coming months to try and ensure that the interface has the right type of information for schools, that it is current and in the right format. To ensure that school users are consulted on what they want to see in each of the focus content pages. We have suggested starting with statutory functions such as attendance management and using best practise from elsewhere (for example the very clear process maps produced by HR with regard managing staff attendance, disciplinary etc). We welcome any feedback from schools on where they would most like to see clearly laid out processes defined on the website. In the coming weeks the e-redbag digital communications tool should be launched which will allow subscription services so users can pick which content arrives in their inbox. In the interim we raised the urgent concern that the redbag was not arriving to all Headteacher accounts (as well as admin@ by default) – this has now been switched on.

3. Children Missing in Education/Attendance/leave of absence/flexi-schooling:

Examples of getting the CYPS website just right would be with regard some of these areas:

- When landing on a Children Missing from Education page there should be a very clear process detailing school responsibility and also when and how the authority will take over when notified. We have asked that this processes includes some form of formal response from NYCC to schools to evidence that the notification has been received and is ‘now in LA hands’
- The attendance landing page should have all of the current leave application and penalty notice proforma along with a clear flowchart through the process; it should also have a clear process map through general attendance management for pupils, for example a flow chart with links to sample letters to send chasing attendance, right through to who/how to refer and at what % absence. Schools have stated that there is a lack of clarity with this regard – what constitutes an appropriate referral to Prevention.

Information on the Children Missing in Education page can be found [HERE](#) and you can read more about flexi-schooling [HERE](#).

4. Prevention/Early Help Module Pilot:

The pilot work allowing schools to interchange with the Early Help Module (the secure information depository used by the Prevention Service) will shortly commence. There are schools signed up to the pilot from each of the Prevention Areas and we will take direct feedback from these schools as we focus

on this project during the next term. More news as the pilot unfolds. In the meantime, we would re-iterate Stuart's message in our meeting – that good early help work is all about an effective partnership working TOGETHER to the benefit of the student and family involved and key to this is a thorough early discussion and understanding of concerns, what is working well and what needs to improve

5. Information for schools on admission to school:

You will remember that last academic year we launched the Key Information Form (KIF) and this should now be used by default on accepting a pupil into your school. Once notified of an incoming pupil by Admissions please request a KIF from the sending school, whatever LA they may be transferring from. To quote the LA communication to parents requesting transfer: **The school your child is leaving must complete a Key Information Form (KIF) and forward it to the new school before the admission arrangements can be finalised and a start date agreed.**

You can find the KIF on the admissions page of CYPS Info [HERE](#).

6. JDP group – evolving our role to help all schools:

In our last update we suggested some changes to JDP moving forwards. These were discussed with Stuart Carlton and officers and our intention is now to action these. In summary:

- We hope to involve representatives from early years providers, special and secondary sectors as our discussion points have increasingly become about things which involve all schools. We see the group's role as helping link schools together, no matter what their status. If you are reading this from one of those phases and are interested in working to the benefit of all schools in our County, please get in touch
- We are having a name change (at no expense whatsoever!) to become the 'School Liaison Group' which hopefully will take somewhat less explanation than JDP
- We are re-orientating our work to focus on partnership development alongside NYCC officers of the core statutory duties of the local authority: school places, attendance, vulnerable pupils and special needs; we will also continue to focus on headteacher wellbeing
- In addition to these core points of focus we will also continue to act as a 'conduit of information/contact point' – helping schools find the right people to provide answers; as such we will continue to focus on communications – in such a large organisation, information flow is always high on the agenda
- Our 'Big Ticket Items' as we call them, for this academic year will therefore be:
 - Communications – CYPS info etc
 - SEND strategy and implementation
 - Process mapping – see reference to attendance above
 - Continuing to develop the processes/partnership work around early help and safeguarding

Alongside our role linking in to NYCC we have suggested (and will work with officers to help) production of a visual map of the various stakeholder and consultation groups so that schools can see where decisions are made and where best to direct queries and ideas.

7. SEND:

Schools will be aware that NYCC has been conducting local consultations around each of the core strands of its SEND provision. Core within this has been looking to create a strategic plan to secure sufficiency of places, with local mainstream provision wherever possible and also to reduce high-cost out of county

placement of pupils. There continues to be substantial pressure on the high needs funding block, with increasing needs, increasing fixed term and permanent exclusions.

The first area of SEND to be consulted was SEMH and local area proposals have been developed over the summer. These proposals will be rolled out for further consultation with schools during October – there are local elements along with a universal/mainstream offer. The SEND team are very keen to visit local clusters so please do get in touch should you wish such a visit to your local alliance/school group - contact strategic lead Jane Harvey in the first instance on jane.harvey@northyorks.gov.uk We also discussed how school level SENDCo meetings with parents could add feedback.

8. School funding and the national funding formula:

Schools may well have seen the information released by the DfE earlier this month including spreadsheets detailing indicative National Funding Formula figures at school level. You can find that information [HERE](#). The indication is that for each of the next two years, the NFF will 'create' an indicative budget for each maintained school, which will then be collated to form the NYCC schools block and that for 18-19 and 19-20, the authority will still use a local formula to distribute funding to schools, but there will be an expectation around minimum funding amounts per student in each of those two years. NYCC will be working with the North Yorkshire Education Partnership to revise formula and roll-out further details to schools over the coming few months.

9. Pay Policy:

Earlier this term, schools will have been in receipt of a model Pay Policy for 17-18, in preparation for any staff consultations and passing through FGB early this academic year. Because of the need to implement a 2% pay increment to MPS1, there was a consultation process at the beginning of term to consider whether NYCC should continue to recommend an MPS pay scale and if so, whether this 2% rise should impact across all of MPS or just at certain points. This consultation process has now been completed. The outcomes can be found [HERE](#).

10. Conference 2018:

Each year we host a conference to which we invite all senior leaders, from all phases. Feedback from our last few conferences has been incredibly positive - 100% of 2017 delegates said that the conference was relevant and meaningful – 'a great opportunity to get back to ethos and moral purpose' 'thank you for a highly motivating day' 'As a new leader great to be inspired and motivated and encouraged to think outside the box' 'hugely inspirational' – just a few of the comments we have received.

Our leadership conference WILL be back in 2018, so mark the date in your diary – Friday 4/5/17. More news on speakers etc very soon.

We are always interested in your thoughts, comments, compliments and issues – what is going well, what is causing you concern, how can we help? There is no 'time frame' for queries – please ask at any time of the year!

Our meeting dates for this academic year are:

- 17th January 2018
- 25th April 2018
- 27th June 2018

Current JDP area contacts:

Stuart Anslow (Mid, North & South Craven)	Fiona Beetles (Mid, North & South Craven)	Jane Turner (Harrogate)	vacancy (Central & North Ryedale)
01756 793026 headteacher@waterstreet.n-yorks.sch.uk	01535 633064 headteacher@sutton-in-craven.n-yorks.sch.uk	01423 872407 headteacher@pannal.n-yorks.sch.uk	vacancy
vacancy (Easingwold & Thirsk)	Sally Cowling (Ripon & Rural)	Denise Crosier (Filey & Scarborough)	vacancy (Bedale & Northallerton)
vacancy	01765 677583 headteacher@bishopmonkton.n-yorks.sch.uk	01723 513077 headteacher@filey-inf.n-yorks.sch.uk	vacancy
Sarah Beveridge (Swaledale, Catterick & Wensleydale)	Ian Yapp (Selby, Sherburn & Tadcaster)	Matt Shillito (Boroughbridge & Knaresborough)	Roy Gunning (Whitby & Rural)
01969 623187 headteacher@leyburn.n-yorks.sch.uk	01937 832899 headteacher@riverside.n-yorks.sch.uk	01423 862617 headteacher@goldsborough.n-yorks.sch.uk	01947 820231 headteacher@stakesby.n-yorks.sch.uk

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