

SEND and Inclusion

Implementation of North Yorkshire Alternative Provision (Pupil Referral Service)

5 June 2020

Information for Schools and Settings

North Yorkshire County Council is committed to working with schools to reduce the need for children to be permanently excluded from school.

Since early 2019 the local authority has been working in partnership with secondary schools and Pupil Referral Services to ensure alternative provision in the Pupil Referral Service can be accessed to support children at risk of exclusion.

What is Changing from September?

We have agreed an increased commission of places across the county be used for children who are at risk of permanent exclusion and would benefit from a joint programme of support with their home school. This increase has been applied to assist the PRS in meeting the needs of those young people who have already been excluded whilst being able to offer places to schools and prevent further exclusions.

The curriculum and accreditation routes have been agreed jointly with schools and details have been included in a locality prospectus for schools, parents/carers and young people.

Each PRS will offer support for KS3 and KS4 students in accordance to the needs of schools within their area. Key Stage 3 places will generally be part time and on a short term basis, whereas KS4 students may access provision as part of a longer term agreement.

Some children currently attending the PRS will move on to longer term placements from September, creating more places which can be used proactively to prevent exclusion.

Funding arrangements

The preventative placements in the PRS are a joint commission between the local authority and schools. Each full time place is funded at £23K per year made up of a £5k contribution from the referring school and £18K from the local authority. This works out at £26.32/day for a place providing good value for money.

Travel Costs

The local authority will be subsidising the costs of transport for schools who are using the places in the PRS to prevent the need for permanent exclusion as we recognise this may be an unaffordable cost for many schools.

Schools will be 'zoned' according to distance from the PRS and contributions to funding will be dependent on the zone allocation.

Management of the Places from September

In each locality it will be important for schools, AP and the local authority to work together to utilise the places available for the benefit of those children who are most in need. This will assist in reducing exclusion and, over time, creating further flexible places to prevent exclusion.

The current Collaborative arrangements will be replaced by Local Inclusion Panels from September with part of their function being to collectively manage the places in AP. These panels and the decision making will be a joint enterprise between key partners including Schools, AP and the local authority.

Referrals from schools will be made via the Locality Inclusion Panels so that the panel are able to maintain oversight of places and prioritise the appropriate support package for each young person. Schools will be a key stakeholder in the decision making of these panels.

Impact of COVID 19

Much of the consultation and development had taken place prior to the current pandemic. This has allowed progress to ensure implementation from September 2020.

Work is continuing to review individual young people currently on roll at each PRS and make sure they receive the most appropriate long term education placement. This will then create more capacity for preventative use of the places

SEND and Inclusion Webinars

In order to ensure everybody is fully informed of the wide range of changes to SEND and Inclusion from September, we intend to hold a number of webinars towards the end of June to ensure that there is opportunity for schools and settings to raise any questions or seek clarification, before the end of the school term. These dates have already been released and you can find them here: <https://cyps.northyorks.gov.uk/locality-hub-arrangements>

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