

Wiltshire Council

Children's Select Committee

6 July

Executive Response to the Final Report of the Disadvantaged Learners Task Group

Purpose of the report

1. To present the response of the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills to the Final Report of the Disadvantaged Learners Task Group.

Background

2. On 8 June the Children's Select Committee endorsed the Final Report of the Task Group.
3. The Committee resolved to refer the following Task Group's recommendations to the relevant Cabinet member for response at the Committee's next meeting on 6 July.

Executive response to the Task Group's recommendations

Recommendation No.1	that the respective Cabinet members for Children's Services, Education and Skills and Public Health ensure that the emerging strategy for Early Years places the first 1001 days as a core principle within the document's development, focusing on uptake in health checks and increasing Early Years take up above 80%.		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes/ Cllr Ian Blair-Pilling	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes
Executive response	date of response	select one option	Copy and paste executive response
Action	specify action(s) to be taken to implement recommendation		Success criteria Success criteria - any KPIs or other measures of success of the implementation
Target date	Target date (should at least include month and year)		Implementation date Implementation date (should at least include month and year)

Recommendation No.2	that the emerging Early Years Strategy, to improve outcomes, places quality of teaching as a core principle within the document, further promoting communication, phonics and skills development in the 80% of children taking up placements and, understanding the 20% not attending and their risk in relation to being a future disadvantage learner.		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes
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Action			Success criteria
specify action(s) to be taken to implement recommendation			Success criteria - any KPIs or other measures of success of the implementation
Target date			
Target date (should at least include month and year)			

Recommendation No.3	that the Executive develops and shares with the CSC, before the end of the academic year 2021-22, an expansion plan to increase the number of pupil premium partner schools to ensure further reach for the DL team and the principles it is helping to promote.		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes
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Action			Success criteria
specify action(s) to be taken to implement recommendation			Success criteria - any KPIs or other measures of success of the implementation
Target date			
Target date (should at least include month and year)			

Recommendation No.4	that the DLs team enhances its feedback loop in relation to all training delivered. Particularly relevant to 'peer to peer' training, this will enable trainers or online materials to evolve to ensure, with confidence, that they address the needs of the schools accessing the support.		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes

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Target date			
Target date (should at least include month and year)			

Recommendation No.5	that further collaboration takes place between the council's SEND and DLs teams to further tailor the council's support of DLs, particularly those with SEND, recognising that quality of teaching is key to both.		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes
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Target date			
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Recommendation No.6	that the developing Attendance Strategy produced by the Virtual Schools team seeks input from the Public Health, Early Years and DLs teams and that any lessons learnt are incorporated into the CPD provided to schools by the DLs team and used by the Early Years and Public Health teams to further promote uptake of health checks and free nursery placements.		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes
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Target date			

Target date (should at least include month and year)

Recommendation No.7	that the Cabinet Member for Children’s Services, Education and Skills adopts the term ‘educational neglect’ corporately to reflect the organisation’s collective effort to address this area. This will help the critical educational and life implications relating to that child/young person that may not previously otherwise have been communicated. It will support thresholds, decision making and multi-agency planning and support to improve attendance and educational outcomes for children/young people.		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes
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Target date			
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Recommendation No.8	that the Children’s Select Committee invites a future report from the Executive detailing its transitional plans in response to the reduction in funding for School Improvement Advisers (SIAs).		
Cabinet member	Cllr Laura Mayes	Lead Officer	Helean Hughes
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Target date			
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4. As well as responses to the individual recommendations above, this section is space to provide a general response or comment as necessary.

Proposal

5. To note the executive response to the Final Report of the Disadvantaged Learners Task group.

Cllr Laura Mayes, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills

Officer contact: Ceri Williams, Senior Scrutiny Officer, 01225 713704, Ceri.Williams
Ceri.Williams@Wiltshire.gov.uk