

SSSAB Newsletter

Solihull Schools' Strategic Accountability Board

Local Authority Update

- Birmingham had been awarded the Commonwealth Games in 2020. Some events would be at the NEC which will be an opportunity for schools to get involved.
- Phil Leivers had made a commitment that a member of staff with an education background would sit on MASH and whilst there may be different people on there in the future, they would still be members of his team.
- The bid for money to support school to school support in Maths from the School Improvement Fund had been successful. A number of schools had been identified based on criteria they had provided, and the creation of a tier system was planned to involve more schools. Activity would commence in January 2018.
- Funding had been approved for the HRBQ which would be completed in March 2018.
- A new LA email communication would be sent to Headteachers and Chairs of Governors on Monday mornings.

Update from Councillor Ken Meeson

- SSSAB agreed that they would support the continuation of the f40 Group.
- The government was still looking at school funding, however counter organisations had been established by well-funded schools to argue their case.



SSSAB/Partnership Monitoring Statement

- Not all the contributions for 2016/2017 had been made into Partnership Funds yet due to an error. Money owed by those schools would be charged at the same time as the 2017/2018 charge to all schools.
- SSSAB had agreed to pay backfill for school staff attending EAL Task and Finish Meetings. However as only one school had submitted an invoice it was agreed that schools would be recompensed without the need for an invoice.

Model Pay Policy

Deana Leonard circulated the Model Pay Policy and outlined the recommendations. DL pointed out that Solihull needed to remain competitive with other LAs and, whilst initially many LAs were going to follow the first recommendation, many had opted for 2% across the main scale completely. The policy would be circulated to schools once it had been finalised.

The Big Classroom

Andy Pearson introduced The Big Classroom which is a social network especially for schools where they are linked with other schools in different areas of the UK. All schools in Solihull were offered a free four month trial. Schools would receive more information from their collaborative leads.

AET Training

All schools had received AET training and the Education SEND Group was questioning how schools were being held to account. Not everyone was aware that lead practitioners who had attended Level 3 training were responsible for pulling together an action plan for their school.

Pupil Voice

The establishment of video conferencing groups for Pupil Voice would be investigated.

Facilities Time

Following concerns raised about the high cost of Facilities Time in Solihull compared with other LAs it was agreed to invite Ian Backhouse to the next SSSAB meeting to provide more clarity.

Heads' Conference

The proposed agenda for Heads Conference on 25th and 26th January 2018 at Ardencote was presented to SSSAB.

Traded EP Services

Sophie Grigsby explained how different Education Psychologist services worked.

