

# Shaping Solihull

## Minutes of the Solihull Schools' Strategic Accountability Board Meeting Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016 Sans Souci

<b>Present:</b>	Kara Evans Antoinette Fisher Des Foxon Jenny Godsall Dennis Jordan Phil Leivers Heather Loveridge Lynda Mackay Julie McCarthy Cllr Ken Meeson Louise Minter Amanda Mordey Jacque Nicholls Lynne Russell Karen Scott Derek Sheldon Lindsey Thorne Cllr Ken Meeson Deb Wilson	Shirley Heath Junior School Governor, Dorridge Primary School St George & St Teresa Catholic Primary School Knowle CE Primary Academy Governor, St Mary's & St Margaret's CE (Aided) Primary School Head of Early Years & Education Improvement Service Interim Assistant Director - Learning, Skills & Progression Governor, Knowle CE Primary Academy and Chair, SGA Coppice Junior School Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills Streetsbrook Infant & Early Years Academy and Chair, SAB Forest Oak School and Merstone School Dickens Heath Community Primary School Castle Bromwich Infant School Greswold Primary School Forum Chairman Peterbrook Primary School Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills Yorkswold Primary School
<b>Guests:</b>	Natasha Chamberlain Hannah Colson Deana Leonard	Education Improvement Adviser Employment and Skills Project Officer Human Resources
<b>Apologies:</b>	Dr Janette Smith	Alderbrook School
<b>Minutes:</b>	Jane Watts	Schools Forum Secretary

Item	Action
<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>Welcome and Apologies</b></p> <p>Apologies had been received from Janette Smith.</p>	
<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2016 were agreed as a true record.</p> <p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><b>Assistant Director's Update</b> HL offered to circulate an organisation chart.</p> <p><b>Partnership Money</b> The £20,000 for SSSAB had not been received yet and this was delaying payment of an invoice. HL offered to follow this up. The Primary Partnership fund currently holds very little money so there is a need to request annual dues from schools. It had been agreed to increase this year's contribution and LM will follow this up.</p> <p><b>Moderation</b> PL reported that the LA progress data had not been received yet and he made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KS2 in Solihull is the highest LA in the West Midlands and ranked within the top quartile in the country.</li> <li>There has been a slight drop in results compared to previous years but Phonics remains</li> </ul>	<p>HL</p> <p>HL</p> <p>LM</p>

	<p>high at 84% in Year One.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GCSE data is not completely in but some schools have shown real improvement. Again there is a completely new accountability system with changes to curriculum etc. There is a slight difference in Maths performance compared to Literacy in some schools.</li> </ul> <p>PL agreed that advisers will bring data from their risk assessment meetings in July to the collaboratives – this will give collaboratives an idea of where their schools are sitting and enable them to draw on good practice. Collaborative leads should put this on the agenda for their next meeting and PL agreed to ask Clive Worrall to produce a report.</p> <p>LM asked PL to liaise with Kate Sirrett and bring some of the collaborative data to the next meeting.</p> <p><b>Schools Forum</b> It was established that the statement on the Forum Report about £20,000 uplift to collaborative funding being used to part-fund bespoke work for the Rural collaborative was incorrect. DS will follow this up at Forum and arrange for the minutes to be amended.</p> <p><b>Head of Music</b> HL confirmed that the permanent post of Head of Music was being advertised that week.</p> <p><b>Safer Recruitment Policy</b> PL confirmed that the Safer Recruitment Policy was with HRE and should be sent out by half term. HL agreed to chase this up.</p>	<p>PL</p> <p>PL Agenda</p> <p>DS</p> <p>HL</p>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>The Terms of Reference were reviewed and there were no amendments for 2016-2017.</p>	
<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Membership</b></p> <p>The membership of SSSAB was reviewed. In the interests of equity it was felt that further representation of the three Teaching Schools was needed on the group. AM offered to approach Hazeloak School about taking her place on SSSAB as a Special School/Teaching School representative.</p> <p>Dr Janette Smith, Acting Head at Alderbrook School, will replace Tracey Lord until she returns from sick leave.</p>	<p>AM</p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>LA Update</b></p> <p>HL gave an update and made the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bev Petch is leading a review of alternative provision. She is investigating best practice around the UK and has already established a link with Birmingham University. The group has Terms of Reference and there is an outline work plan. HL offered to ask BP to send regular updates to schools to keep them informed of progress.</li> <li>All of the SEND teams (except Adult Transition) are now located in Elmwood. They are working with young people from Year 9 around seamless transition.</li> <li>There could be a SEND inspection at any time and a SEND Strategy has been drafted. Judith Anstiss has been brought back in to assist with these.</li> <li>Stage 2 of the Fairer Funding consultation will take place later in the autumn and implementation of the National Funding Formula has been delayed until 2018. The £1.8m ESG which funds statutory services will go and there needs to be a discussion around what part of the DSG will form statutory services.</li> <li>The Early Years National Funding Formula had a very quick turn-around and there will be an increase of funding for schools of around £1.8m over 2 years with a unit value for entitlement - so PVI and schools will receive the same amount per child. The government has made it clear that there is an expectation that the LA will delegate about 95% of the total sum (currently the LA delegates 93%). The intention is to have a scheme in place by April 2017.</li> </ul>	<p>HL</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the event for Chairs of Governors and Headteachers which takes place on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016, discussions will take place about what statutory services are, which services are discretionary and services that are duplicated. Heads of Service are working to identify those three categories.</li> <li>• The Good School for Everyone Consultation requires a response by 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016. The LA response will go through DLT and Cabinet and schools might wish to respond.</li> <li>• HL had met John Callaghan from Solihull College who expressed an interest in sponsoring primary schools that are considering becoming academies in the north of the borough. The LA would support the college with brokering that if necessary but it is a matter for schools to decide whether they are interested.</li> <li>• The government still expects schools to become academies and PL will be enquiring about schools' intentions on his visits. This is not about the LA forcing the issue but to enable them to make plans for the future.</li> <li>• A Chinese delegation visited in August and they were keen to learn about Solihull's systems and the accountability of schools. They are keen to establish a strong link with Education in Solihull and they might also want to explore links with schools.</li> <li>• Following a query HL confirmed that Birmingham Diocese had informed her that they were considering options for the Diocese to become an academy sponsor. Governor Services will be holding seminars in the future for governors wanting independent advice about becoming an academy.</li> <li>• PL confirmed that Clair McNeill is covering Bev Petch's role as Senior Adviser which will mean some re-allocation of advisers.</li> </ul>	
6	<p><b>Forum Report</b></p> <p>The Forum Report had been previously circulated and there were no queries.</p>	
7	<p><b>Life Ready</b></p> <p>LM introduced Hannah Colson who is the Lead for Life Ready in Solihull and HC circulated an update.</p> <p>Schools who are interested in becoming a Life Ready school should complete the Expression of Interest Form and email it to HC. She asked the group to inform their governors about the scheme.</p> <p>JN added that Life Ready is about bridging the gap between school and employment. She wished it to be recorded that the work that Hannah had done has really driven this agenda forward. She thanked her and Phil Leiver's team because having a project lead is really driving the project forward.</p> <p>DW stated that the School Improvement Group is setting up a work group that will focus on the Life Ready curriculum and she felt that it needs to be a SSSAB priority.</p> <p>HC confirmed that she is trying to engage with small businesses and is working with Solihull Observatory to provide a list of businesses within their catchment for each school.</p> <p>It was agreed that HC would return to SSSAB in the Spring Term to provide an update.</p> <p>DS left the meeting.</p>	Agenda
8	<p><b>HRBQ Collaborative Data</b></p> <p>Natasha Chamberlain gave an overview of LA and collaborative data gathered through the Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire. The survey is carried out every two years and is optional – this year 80% of schools took part and the data indicates possible emerging issues for the borough.</p>	

9	<p><b>Update from Cllr Ken Meeson</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CKM had tried to contact Specsavers about the Primary School Science Awards and will let the group know as soon as they have reached an agreement. He asked schools to try and participate.</li> <li>• There is frustration with the delay in the fairer funding implementation and the lack of clarity about the future role of the LA in Education.</li> <li>• CKM is keen to visit schools – please contact him if you would like him to attend an event.</li> <li>• CKM has urged the Principal of WMG to liaise with schools about working together to make facilities available to each other.</li> </ul> <p>CKM left.</p>	
10	<p><b>Admissions</b></p> <p>Admissions had asked a number of Headteachers to take additional children this year, taking class numbers above 30. However it had been found that some of these children have significant needs which have put pressure on schools in terms of staffing with no extra funding. Some Headteachers felt they had not been given a choice in the matter.</p> <p>It was felt that it would be useful to understand the rules for Admissions and it was agreed to add this to the Heads' Partnership agenda in November. HL will ask AP to do an update on the School Organisation Plan.</p> <p>Other issues raised were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting children from abroad, amongst whom there is a huge amount of mobility between schools.</li> <li>• Understanding the Appeals Panel.</li> <li>• Why certain schools have been chosen to increase number forms of entry and not others.</li> <li>• Extra places for Catholic Schools.</li> </ul>	
11	<p><b>Facilities Time</b></p> <p>It was agreed to have an item at Heads Partnership on the future of Facilities Time and an overview of what schools receive for their subscription. An independent person would be preferred and DL recommended Peter Ellmer from HRE.</p>	
12	<p><b>Collaborative Fund</b></p> <p>LM reminded everyone about the leaving present fund.</p>	
13	<p><b>Model Pay Policy</b></p> <p>A paper had previously been circulated which showed proposed updates following consultation with the unions. DL went through each of the amendments and SSSAB agreed them.</p> <p>DL confirmed that the LGA guidance document will be circulated in October 2016 and in the meantime the 2015 version is still fit for purpose.</p> <p>DL confirmed that the Safer Recruitment Policy has been to the unions who wanted to make some amendments. Once this has been approved the new policy will be issued. LM asked DL to stress that Headteachers need it as soon as possible.</p>	
14	<p><b>Risk Assessments – EVOLVE</b></p> <p>JN shared issues she had with the EVOLVE system because it requires input so far ahead of events that it creates planning problems and prevents them from being spontaneous. Other schools had similar issues and found the system onerous.</p>	

	<p>Following discussion about how schools use the system effectively it was agreed that they would benefit from guidance around the use of EVOLVE. LM will invite Steve Dean to the next Heads Partnership.</p>	
15	<p><b>SEND Inspection Preparation</b></p> <p>LM reported that an inspection of SEND in the Local Authority is imminent and in preparation she had been involved in a group identifying the strengths and weaknesses in the borough. There was discussion around the future of SISS and LM suggested inviting Lesley Wright to Heads Partnership to open the debate and provide an opportunity for collaboratives to discuss SEND further.</p> <p>HL agreed to try and circulate paperwork in advance of the Headteacher/Governor meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016.</p>	
16	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p><b>Heads Partnership – November 2016</b></p> <p>It was agreed to change the date of Heads Partnership to 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 due to commitments on 24<sup>th</sup> November. The following agenda was agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Admissions (HL to invite AP)</li> <li>• EVOLVE (LM to invite Steve Dean)</li> <li>• Update and opportunity for discussion</li> <li>• Update on what should be on school websites (DF to invite David Butt)</li> <li>• Break</li> <li>• SEND (LM to invite Lesley Wright)</li> <li>• Facilities Time (LM to invite Peter Ellmer)</li> </ul> <p><b>PRU Management Board</b></p> <p>DW reported that the PRU Management Board had agreed with collaborative representatives that schools will send someone to speak to the Board about a pupil referral when it is submitted. DW asked for this to be disseminated and an email will be going out.</p> <p><b>EHC Panel</b></p> <p>LM commented that there needs to be a rota to share attendance at the weekly meetings of the EHC Panel due to their frequency.</p>	
17	<p><b>SSSAB Strategic Plan</b></p> <p>The SSSAB Strategic Plan now spans three years. LM asked leaders of the current sub-groups to send their evaluations and future actions to her. To be added to next SSSAB agenda.</p> <p>LM asked those involved with the peer to peer reviews to contact her with any problems when they commence in October.</p>	Agenda
18	<p><b>Date of Next Meeting</b></p> <p>8.30am on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 in the Lecture Room, Sans Souci.</p>	