

# SSSAB Newsletter

## Solihull Schools' Strategic Accountability Board

### Update from the Interim Assistant Director – Children, Young People and Families

Frank McSheffrey gave an update on the Family Support Service. Members of SSSAB expressed the importance for schools to know and understand how to access additional support for families.

See Headlines 61 for links to a structure chart and briefing document.



### NAHT Update

Jane Davenport stated that the NAHT has four major areas of concern:

- The rise in violent behaviours in schools – the NAHT is working with the LA Safety Team to update policies.
- Concerns around budgets which might impact violence in schools due to the lack of trained staff.
- Bullying in the work place is an area of concern and colleagues were urged to talk to the NAHT if they have any concerns. Claire McNeill added that the LA can only deal with issues that are raised through the correct channels.
- The NAHT is driving an improvement in the health and well-being of Headteachers. It was agreed that Clair McNeill would liaise about potentially offering a shortened version of the Mental Health First Aid Course for governors.



### Local Authority Update

- Headteacher recruitment was taking place at three schools.
- Ofsted training had included a session on pupil off-rolling and curriculum had also been a focus. There had been a safeguarding update and work on peer on peer abuse.

### Membership

There was a discussion about practical difficulties around the requirement for the Vice Chair to also have responsibility for the SSSAB and Partnership budgets (which can only be managed by a maintained school). It was agreed to split the responsibilities so that Greswold would take on the financial aspect, making it possible for Jacque Nicholls to take on the role of Vice Chair.

### SSSAB Strategic Plan

#### Priority One - Mental Health & Well-Being

- An update on the SMILE research project would be given at the June Heads' Partnership meeting.
- Whilst not all schools have a Health and Well-Being Policy they do have something similar in place.

#### Priority Two - Inclusion Strategy

- Monitoring out of borough placements is work in progress.
- Development of the Inclusion Strategy is on track.
- A recent Ofsted judgement had flagged up the lack of protocol for when an out of borough provision goes in to special measures.

#### Priority Three – Transition

- The draft Transition Policy had been shared at Heads' Conference and was due to be finalised.
- Arrangements were in hand for the set Year Six transition day in 2020.

#### Priority Four - Leadership

- A task and finish group had been set up for Heads' Partnership.
- There was a discussion about progressing school to school support and it was agreed that collaboratives should contact the trainer direct for further information if interested.
- The amount that SSSAB had agreed to contribute to backfill in respect of Headteachers carrying out peer reviews from September 2018 was clarified.
- SSSAB members agreed to offer Headteacher support for any LA reviews that take place.

### Social Housing Strategy

Following discussions about the changing landscape in terms of new housing, it was agreed to invite an appropriate council officer to a future SSSAB meeting to inform the group about Solihull's housing strategy.

### Update from Councillor Ken Meeson

- The new Education Psychology Service was up and running and will operate as a traded service.
- The Free School had been given the go ahead. They are now seeking sponsors and looking at potential sites.