

**REPORT BY SSSAB
FOR PRESENTATION AT THE
FORUM MEETING HELD ON
19th MAY 2021**

Date of SSSAB meeting: Thursday 18th March 2021

Items discussed (brief summary of key items):

Update from Joel Desous, Head of Service – Referral, Assessment and Child Protection

JoD gave an update on Children's Services and Children's Social Care. He responded to questions as follows:

- In response to a question about whether information stored on Liquid Logic was available to other agencies, JoD explained that Liquid Logic is a centralised integrated computer system designed to store all information forwarded to Children's Services. The police, health and mental health services all have different systems for their information and they decide what they believe needs to be shared with partner agencies.
- A document setting out expectations to help schools to appropriately challenge when necessary and to build up a consistent approach was being drafted.
- A mental health practitioner has been working with MASH to consider every referral. This pilot has been very successful and they hope to get funding to make it permanent.
- JoD agreed to attend future SSSAB meetings for further updates when appropriate.

Central Services Monitoring - Julie Chrystostomou and Hollie Williams

There is a shortfall in funding for 2021/2022 and contributions from schools need to increase by 20% in order to maintain provision.

Safeguarding Update - Lorraine Lord

- The Social Care Education Group has an action plan in place.
- Thanks to schools for 100% returns on the audit.
- Safer recruitment training has been delivered.
- The Violence Reduction Unit is looking at prevention and the impact of violence on young people. They have received a small amount of funding for resources to do a project.
- A new group of Prevent policies are being worked on.

Letter to the Secretary of State for Education

A draft letter to the Secretary of State had been shared with the group and would be sent once a few amendments had been made. A copy of the final version is attached for reference.

Feedback from Groups

Feedback was shared from the following groups:

- Ed SEND
- Heads' Partnership/Conference
- NAHT

LA Update - Tim Browne and Clair McNeill

- There had been a sharp rise in identified SEND and number of EHCPs. They are contacting government departments to flag concerns due to the increasing pressure on the system.
- A number of common themes have arisen from Reshaping Education including early intervention/help so they are trying to create more support for schools without needing to go through EHCP requests.
- The Joint Additional Needs Board was undertaking an audit of SEND across the multi-agency partnership.
- Ten plus staff are being recruited to address the backlog of annual reviews.
- Conversations have been taking place with Tudor Grange Teaching Hub. The remit of the teaching hub is being worked up, and the LA are keen to be a partner in that.
- Parent anxiety around transition had been raised at Schools Cell and is being addressed.
- Moderation has been online and this has been well received.

HR Update – Andrea Ashley

- MSK Proposal October 2020 - Collaboratives were asked to feedback at the next SSSAB meeting.
- 'Well-Being Matters February 2021' and 'Solihull Council EAP Report February 2020 – January 2021' had been shared with the group.

Assessment and Data – Donna Wright

- DW asked for feedback about what the LA could do to support teacher assessment in primary schools.
- SSSAB agreed that a data collection exercise to gather end of Key Stage data across the borough would be useful. There would be no obligation for schools to provide this data but there would need to be sign up from 80% of schools for it to be meaningful. The data would be used in a non-judgemental way and would be purely supportive. Colleagues were asked to share with their collaboratives for feedback at the next meeting.

LA approach to EYFSP moderation for 2021+

A document explaining the background to the decision to remove the statutory requirements for LAs to moderate EYFSP had been shared with the group. SSSAB agreed that the LA continuing to visit schools to carry out moderation as a supportive model would be welcomed. Colleagues would liaise with their collaboratives and feedback to the next SSSAB meeting.