

MEETING:	SCHOOLS FORUM
DATE:	7TH DECEMBER 2009
TITLE OF REPORT:	DEVELOPING EARLY INTERVENTION FOR CHILDREN AT KS2 IN HEREFORDSHIRE
LEADER – SCHOOL BASED INTERVENTION PROJECT	BERNARD HODGKIN

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

County-wide – All Primary Schools

Purpose

To enable Herefordshire Local Authority Improvement and Inclusion Service (to emulate the School Based Intervention project currently in Herefordshire High schools) at KS2, by establishing School based Intervention in all of the primary schools which have at their heart the development of sound and lasting relationships.

Key Decision

This is a key decision because it is likely to be significant in terms of its effect on a large number of pupils at KS2 and their families.

Recommendation(s)

THAT Herefordshire School Forum:

- (a) **approve funding for £325,000 from DSG underspend to facilitate the development of Intervention strategies with children at KS2.**

Key Points summary

- Raise aspirations and having high expectations for all students
- Develop children's confidence to learn
- Enable children to develop the relevant skills to access a relevant curriculum
- Give children an understanding of the positive concept of personal achievement

- Ensure a cohesive approach through the development of effective partnership working both within and between schools, between schools, parents and carers and between schools and other agencies
- Develop a sustained programme of Continued Professional Development for both school and relevant multi-agency staff
- Effect change in the way the school community meets the needs of its students
- Embed the principles and practice of intervention to enhance Inclusion
- Create the environment for the sustainability of this initiative
- Develop appropriate provision as designed by school or cluster.

Alternative Options

- 1 The Alternative option to the proposal is to introduce the above project as a scheme to pilot in two clusters with a Co-ordinator assigned to each of the individual clusters,
- 2 The alternative option would inevitably be less expensive and be piloted initially for one year. The advantage of the alternative option would be to monitor effectiveness within a concentrated initiative, utilising the experience of the secondary pilot, including working with those secondary schools already operating a cross phase School based intervention programme.
3. Costings for Alternative option:

2x Intervention Co-ordinator for one year 2010-2011	£80,000
Travel	£2000
Admin costs	£19000
Additional Contingency	£2000
Total	£103000

Reasons for Recommendations

4. The particular focus of KS2 Intervention Centres will ensure
 - Earlier intervention to supplement the work of the SBIC's
 - Work directly with vulnerable groups
 - Support children requiring day 6 provision
 - Encourage partnership working
 - Reduce the instances of Persistent Absence
 - Directly enable the introduction of the new "Behaviour Challenge"
5. It will support the new demands made by the Behaviour Challenge:
6. On Wednesday 30 September 2009 the Secretary of State launched a new behaviour strategy to improve pupil behaviour in schools. The central elements of the behaviour strategy are:

7. The new Behaviour Challenge, through which schools that have only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted grade for behaviour will be encouraged and supported to work towards the 'good' or 'outstanding' standard making behaviour improvement a priority for the "Good and Great Schools" programme engaging parents through a new leaflet on how they can work with schools on pupil behaviour issues.
8. The Behaviour Challenge reflects a key recommendation of Sir Alan Steer's final report on behaviour standards and practices in schools (*Learning behaviour: Lessons learned*) in which he made clear that an Ofsted judgement of 'satisfactory' on behaviour should not be seen as good enough and should trigger additional support

Introduction and Background

9. The DCSF White Paper, 'Back on Track', was published in May 2008 and focussed on 'alternative provision' including the role of PRUs. Pertinent points from this include:
 - The strength of partnerships between schools and alternative providers is highlighted.
 - Partnership working should include Behaviour and Attendance Partnerships, PRUs, mainstream schools, Alternative Education providers, and local employers, as well as multi agency partnerships
 - Information sharing should be undertaken and data made available regarding prior attainment and 'case histories'. This should be realised in the form of PLP's, Information passports and supported with the use of the Common Assessment Framework
 - Intervention Centres in-school alternatives to exclusions will be developed and the Intervention Centres will retain a multi functional remit to work with individual pupils on a Social, Emotional and/or Behavioural programme, to enable individuals to work towards fully accessing an appropriate curriculum within school. Working alongside neighbouring primary schools will be crucial to this, in recognising particular specialism within each individual school.
 - There should be increased partnership working between services working with young people to facilitate early intervention and ensure an integrated approach.
 - There should be a greater differentiation of provision to meet the needs of all.
 - There will be a National Minimum Standard to include a minimum curriculum entitlement and number of hours in education and training

Key Considerations

- 10 It will support Herefordshire's Children Plan priorities under "Enjoy and Achieve to:
 - Improve the educational attainment of children and young people, particularly at KS2 reflecting national priority
 - To improve attendance.

Community Impact

- 11 The initiative will further support all five outcomes of the Every Child matters agenda, with particular emphasis on multi agency support and working closely with parents and

the wider community to challenge a variety of issues which create barriers to pupil learning at KS2,

Financial Implications

12 Costings

7x Intervention Co-ordinators, who will each manage two of the partnerships

7 x. £40,000 Salaries-Centre Managers

Inclusive of on costs) 2010-2011	£280,000
Resource costs (training materials, conference fees etc)	£ 4000
Travel Costs	£15000
Upgrading IT software	£3000
Administrators Salary	£19000
Additional Contingency	£4000
Sub total	£325,000
Funding request	£325,000

13 Funding will be devolved to the partnership clusters who will appoint the Co-ordinator in consultation with the Local Authority. Job specification will reflect the demands of the role

14 An Intervention Coordinator will be assigned to two of the fourteen location partnerships and will co-ordinate intervention in the primary schools across the cluster. As in the secondary model, Intervention will be school based and the programmes will be coordinated in consultation with the Secondary school Intervention centres The Intervention Coordinator, in consultation with a senior member of staff at the school will be responsible for the co-ordination and implementation of the School based Intervention programme as well as working with other agencies and co-ordinating external alternative education providers where appropriate. The Coordinator will also be responsible for admissions, protocols and common agreed practices among the centres as well as coordinating systems of information sharing and the sharing of expertise amongst the other school partnerships, and other agencies to support the needs of individual students. A central database of all children experiencing intervention through the Centres will be maintained. This data will provide the basis for reporting to identified agencies and will facilitate the measurement of impact. The co-ordinators will be managed in schools by the clusters.

Legal Implications

15 None

Risk Management

15 None

Consultees

16 In compiling this report Governor Services consulted with Herefordshire Association of Governors which includes an Executive Committee of many long standing and experienced Governors.

Appendices

None

Background Papers

DCSF "Back on Track" (2008)

DCSF The Steer report (2009)