

Response to Select Committee Scrutiny Inquiry – 12 month

Inquiry Title	Working Together to Reduce Permanent Exclusions in Schools
Select Committee Owner	Chairman, Children’s Select Committee
Date agreed by Cabinet	10 th September 2018
Lead Cabinet Member	Mike Appleyard
Lead Senior Officer (Director)	Tolis Vouyioukas

VERSION CONTROL

Version No.	Changes	Name of response author	Date
Draft Final	Agreed by Cabinet Members	Chairman, Children’s Select Committee	Sept 2019

Recommendation	Agreed Yes/No	BCC Cabinet / Partner Agency Response including proposed action	Responsible Cabinet Member (for BCC recs)	Senior Responsible Officer Owner	Twelve month progress update	RAG status
1: It is recommended that: Early Help representation should be part of the Bucks Inclusion Hub to ensure families and pupils experiencing difficulties or needing access to additional services get the early help they need	Yes	Cabinet accepts this recommendation and view it as a positive step. The Head of Early Help, Gareth Morgan, will identify a representative to become part of the work being undertaken by Buckinghamshire Inclusion Hub.	Cllr Mike Appleyard	Gareth Morgan Head of Early Help	Gareth Morgan has been added to the attendee list but we are currently reviewing the most effective way of managing this workload	
2: It is recommended that: a. A series of workshops ‘Towards Better Behaviour, Sharing Best Practice’ should be offered on selected INSET days during the academic year 2018/19,	Yes	a. Cabinet accepts this recommendation. Officers will pilot a workshop on ‘Towards Better Behaviour, Sharing Best Practice’ in December. A decision will be taken on future events once	Cllr Mike Appleyard	Viv Trundell Education Entitlement Manager	a. A work shop to disseminate good practice will be scheduled towards the end of the year.	

<p>to be attended by all head teachers, their INCOs/SENCOs and chairs of governors with the possibility of rolling out the programme on a wider basis; and</p> <p>b. Senior leadership teams across all schools in Buckinghamshire should be strongly encouraged to attend BCC-commissioned behaviour training (for example, Behaviour Network Meetings) and to include low-level disruptive behaviour training as a standard element in their school.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>this has been evaluated.</p> <p>b. Behaviour training workshops were initiated and financed by BCC as an exception for this academic year due to the importance of promoting a school led model for the future (an approach that is supported and driven by the DfE). Attendance at the Behaviour Network meetings has been inconsistent and therefore a comprehensive Communications Plan is being developed to ensure good attendance at the meetings in the next academic year (Primary Schools).</p> <p>The secondary sector will receive training as part of the 'Towards Better Behaviour, Sharing Best Practice' workshops, which will also be promoted in the Communications Plan.</p> <p>We will continue to work with schools directly and as part of the Inclusion Hub work to prevent exclusions and encourage inclusive practice. The development of an Inclusion Charter will assist this culture change.</p>			<p>b. These workshops took place and received positive feedback.</p> <p>The primary PRU are targetting individual schools to offer whole school behaviour management training.</p>	
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<p>a. Education Service officers more effectively promote and signpost guidance to schools to help them to identify, within statutory requirements, how much information and evidence to include on Education Health and Care Plan forms ; and</p> <p>b. Education Service officers review communications to head teachers concerning alternative provision opportunities through the SEND Local Offer to ensure all avenues are being explored when pupils are in imminent danger of being permanently excluded</p>		<p>Offer is hosted on the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service Website. It has a wealth of information on EHC processes and 'the SEN support' offer. EHC plans should be specific to a child's needs and therefore it would not be appropriate to publish a 'good example' generic document. BCC officers will review the published Local Offer to ensure it offers leading edge advice.</p> <p>b. BCC officers will work with Buckinghamshire Family Information Service to ensure that the current menu of alternative provision accurately reflects the alternative provision on offer to schools.</p>	Appleyard	Education Entitlement Manager and SEN Manager	<p>a. and b.</p> <p>The Local offer continues to be hosted on Bucks Family Information website and includes alternative provision. Education Services officers continue to advise schools on alternatives to permanent exclusion.</p>	
<p>6: It is recommended that: As part of the review of the outcomes of SENDIAN pilot, the Education Service should also review the impact and value of a 'named' Educational Psychologist for schools and explore ways in which mixed primary and secondary school clusters could be set up to achieve this objective where budgets allow</p>	No	<p>Cabinet is unable to support this recommendation. There is a national shortage of Education Psychologists and recruitment in Buckinghamshire is difficult. Existing BCC Educational Psychology resource is focused on meeting our statutory duties. When there is capacity preventative work will be delivered and this approach will be included in our review</p>	Cllr Mike Appleyard	Katherine Wells Education Officer	<p>The primary PRU were provided with support from the EPS.</p> <p>Schools are familiar with and well practised in privately commissioning EP advice and support</p>	

		and restructure of SEND. As an interim action the School Liaison Officers will discuss with schools the possibility of collectively commissioning a private Education Psychologist to support the schools in the Liaison Group area				
7: It is recommended that: As part of its work on the Inclusion Hub, officers should facilitate formal locally-based networks of head teachers to support each other on permanent exclusion issues	Yes	Cabinet accepts this recommendation and officers will use the established School Liaison Groups to facilitate this. The School Liaison Officers will include on September meeting agendas.	Cllr Mike Appleyard	Katherine Wells Education Officer	We continue to support this peer to peer approach. In addition put Headteachers in touch with colleagues on a case by case basis	
8: It is recommended that: The BCC website is further strengthened to make it more user-friendly for parents. This should include: a link to a permanent exclusion Q&A format or leaflet for parents whose child has been permanently excluded; and signposting to a range of advocacy services to help parents negotiate the permanent exclusion process, an approach which is favoured by other local authorities	Yes	Cabinet accepts this recommendation and will ensure that the public website is updated and improved.	Cllr Mike Appleyard	Viv Trundell Education Entitlement Manager	This is reviewed on a regular basis	

	<i>Recommendation implemented to the satisfaction of the committee.</i>		<i>Committee have concerns the recommendation may not be fully delivered to its satisfaction</i>
	<i>Recommendation on track to be completed to the satisfaction of the committee.</i>		<i>Committee consider the recommendation to have not been delivered/implemented</i>