

TITLE OF REPORT: De – Delegation Options

Purpose of the Report

Over the past several years Schools Forum has agreed to the de-delegation of primary funding to support the existing Primary Behaviour Support Team (formally In School Support).

Since 2014 School Forum also agreed to the de-delegation of funds to create a post for an educational psychologist to work to the primary Fair Access process.

The purpose of this report is to bring to Schools Forum an update on existing services (FAP EP and Primary Behaviour Support) that they currently fund through de-delegation so that they can consider further de-delegation for the 2018/19 financial year.

Background

1. Revenue funding arrangements for schools have changed following the school funding review which started in 2013/14. It is now not permissible for LA's to hold budgets centrally for the provision of some services to schools. This previously centrally held funding has been delegated to schools on a per pupil basis.
2. However there are some areas that schools have the option for de-delegation.

These are:-

- a) Contingencies, (including support for schools in financial difficulties, new/closing/amalgamating schools, closing school deficits)
 - b) Behaviour Support Services
 - c) Support for minority ethnic minority pupils or underachieving groups
 - b) Free School Meals (FSM) eligibility
 - c) Insurance
 - d) Library and museum services
 - e) Licences/subscriptions
 - f) Staff costs – supply cover (long term sickness, maternity, trade union and public duties)
3. For each of these areas, it would be for the Schools Forum members in the relevant phase (primary or secondary) to decide whether that service should be retained centrally.
 4. The decision would apply to all maintained schools in that phase and would mean that the funding for these services was removed from individual school budgets before they are issued to schools. There can be different decisions for each phase.

5. Academies, special schools and nursery schools can buy back into these services if they wish too.

Primary Behaviour Support Team

6. The Primary Behaviour Support Team work with primary schools, mainly, but not exclusively on early intervention in the area of behaviour. The team consists of 4 special needs teaching assistants and two teachers. They work principally with primary aged children in their school setting offering direct intervention and support with children alongside consultancy for primary Headteachers and teaching staff. This work includes assessment of pupils' needs, strategies, whole class modelling, small group and individual support and training for staff where this is identified as a need.
7. The work of the team is non statutory and since April 2013, the special needs support assistants element of the team has been subject to a buy back arrangement.
8. The buy-back was calculated on the basis of a 100% uptake by the primary schools.
9. Since 2013 funding has also been provided from the High Needs Block for the two teacher posts (to maintain consultancy and guidance for all primaries).
10. Referrals to the team continue to rise; in the academic year 2016/17 there were 81 new referrals to the team, which is an increase of 20 children from the 61 children referred in 2015/16.
11. During the 2016/17 academic year 67% of primary schools received input from the team, which is an increase from 50% of schools the previous year. Comments from schools included:

I feel that we have been extremely well supported by the Behaviour Support Service, particularly when things escalated for two of our children. We were given immediate support in terms of advice over the phone. Visits to school to see the children and meet with school staff and parents closely followed. The Teaching assistant who then came to support the children was also very skilled at managing some extremely volatile behaviour. It enabled our staff to see how to handle more extreme behaviours.

The children who have been supported by the Primary Behaviour Support Service have greatly benefited from having key staff come into school to provide directed work. These sessions have allowed pupils to engage within sessions and access learning when otherwise they would not.

12. Advice and support has been provided in a number of areas including
 - a. Behaviour management, advice and assessment
 - b. Bereavement
 - c. Anger management
 - d. Self esteem, emotional support, friendship
 - e. Social skills
 - f. ADHD

13. The team worked with 108 children during the 2016/17 academic year. Of the 75 cases which were closed at the end of the academic year;
- 51 returned to School Support (no further action from external agencies required)
 - 2 return to school action following a managed move
 - 4 returned to school action with a single plan
 - 1 was placed in Bede ARMS
 - 14 were placed in specialist provision (Eslington School)
 - 4 were permanently excluded (of which 3 were then placed in Eslington and 1 in Bede Arms.)
 - 0 were placed out of borough
14. Of the remaining 23 cases which remained open at the start of the 2017/18 academic year:
- a. 20 remained opened as work was still ongoing (Referred less than two terms previously)
 - b. 1 were open for monitoring purposes only and were expected to close at October ½ term
 - c. 6 were long running complex cases and required continuing support
 - d. 4 were waiting for an EHCP and required continued support
 - e. 11 new referrals in July to begin assessment in September 17
15. Staff provide transition support in the summer term for Y6 children to aid in their successful transition to secondary school, all of which to date have made successful transitions into secondary school.
16. Staff also work alongside the primary Fair Access process in both the referring and receiving schools, supporting managed moves which have enabled the moves to be successful.
17. A more detailed breakdown of the work of the Primary Behaviour Support Team can be found in the annual report which was sent to schools in October 2017.

Primary Fair Access Educational Psychologist (FAP EP)

18. Every local authority is required to have in place a Fair Access Protocol (Schools Admissions Code 2012 article 3.9), developed in partnership and agreed with the majority of its schools, in which all schools (including Academies) must participate since it is binding on all schools.
19. The purpose of Fair Access Protocols is to ensure that, outside the normal admissions round, unplaced children/young people, especially the most vulnerable, are found and offered a place as quickly as possible to minimise the time they are kept out of school.
20. In 2014 Schools Forum agreed to de-delegate funds for an Educational Psychologist to work to the primary Fair Access Panel.
21. In 2016/17 academic year there were 143 referrals to the primary Fair Access Panel which was a considerable increase from the 102 children referred in 2015/16 and the 60 children referred in 2014/15.

22. Over the past two years there has been a steady increase in the need for EP assessments for the children placed by the panel. Headteacher have stated...

'We simply would not have had the time available at short notice for the school EP to assess him in the way that the FAP EP could...'

"EP's work undoubtedly affected X's ability to settle in and be accepted socially."

23. By the end of the 2016/17 academic year there had been 50 referrals to the FAP EP, 29 of which had been made during the 2016/17 academic year. There continues to be a year on year increase in the number of referrals made to the FAP EP. At the end of the 2016/17 academic year 27 children were actively being worked with. There have also been a number of referrals made at the panels we have had in this academic year 2017/18.

24. The primary needs of these 27 children were in the following areas:

- a. Social communication difficulties (3)
- b. Social, emotional and mental health difficulties (9)
- c. Speech, language and communication difficulties (3)
- d. Learning difficulties (various) (11)
- e. Hearing impairment (1)

25. Of these 27

- a. 3 EP assessments are only in the early stages
- b. 9 children have remained in their mainstream school placements; their needs have been identified and are being met within school
- c. 2 children are due to transfer to a mainstream comprehensive school
- d. 5 children have remained (or are likely to remain) in their original mainstream school placements with additional support funded through an EHCP
- e. 6 children have transferred (or are likely to transfer) into the special school system as a result of recommendations made following assessment (via the EHCP process)
- f. 2 children have settled well and are no longer likely to require additional support in school

26. Types of support/intervention from the educational psychologist included:

- a. Initial observations and assessment
- b. Advice to schools and staff
 - i. SEN needs
 - ii. Behaviour
 - iii. Anxiety
- c. Transition
- d. Training
 - i. Behaviour
 - ii. Attachment
 - iii. Anger management
- e. Problem solving workshops

- f. Attending TAF/review meetings
- g. Preparing resources to support children

27. Referrals continue to rise steadily in this academic year 2017/18 and because EP time is allocated on a weekly basis, this time is now used in a variety of ways. The time is being used to assess needs prior to a child coming to the panel as well as allowing EP's to be more proactive in supporting the needs of FAP children. This means using this time to provide direct support both to the child, while building up staff skills as well.

28. In 2016/17 whole cluster training has been delivered to schools on:

- a. Attachment
- b. Autism
- c. ADHD
- d. Bereavement, loss and change

29. The feedback from the training was overwhelming positive; in total 1168 people attended the training between January 2016 and March 2017. A second training programme has been established which is a combination of training and workshops covering the following areas:

- a. Staff mental health
- b. Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- c. Supporting Mental Health and Resilience in children
- d. Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- e. Inclusive Behaviour Management Strategies
- f. Using Play Therapeutically
- g. Introduction to Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) (for anxious children)
- h. Social interventions

30. This training is cluster based, at no costs to schools and schools can send as many staff as they wish to the sessions.

31. A more detailed breakdown of the work of the Primary Fair Access EP can be found in the annual report which was sent to schools in September 2016.

Proposal

32. It is proposed that Schools Forum de-delegate funding for 2017/18.

33. Proposed de-delegation values are:-

- a. Fair Access Educational Psychologist £4.50 per pupil (primary only)
- b. Primary Behaviour Support £8.08 per pupil (primary only)
Or £3.00 per pupil and £20.00 based on low prior attainment pupil numbers

Appendix 1 shows a comparison of the funding options for Primary Behaviour Support.

Recommendations

34. That School Forum provides feedback from mainstream maintained primary schools and makes a decision on the de-delegation of funds to continue with the Primary

Fair Access Educational Psychologist and the Primary Behaviour Support Team special needs assistants.

For the following reason(s):

35. To ensure that all children and young people in Gateshead receive an education that is suitable and appropriate to their needs and abilities.

36. To enable schools to receive the support to accurately identify the needs of children and young people and implement support strategies as/when appropriate

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Appendix 1 Funding options for Primary Behaviour Support.

School Name	2018/19			Total De-delegation	De-Delegation
	£563.33	£3.00	£20.00		
	Low Attainment (P)	Basic Entitlement	Low Prior Attainment		
	£2,144,627.54	£42,888.00	£73,512.20	£116,400.20	£115,511.68
Carr Hill Community Primary School	£77,286.42	£924.00	£2,743.91	£3,667.91	£2,488.64
Kelvin Grove Primary School	£67,749.93	£876.00	£2,405.34	£3,281.34	£2,359.36
South Street Primary School	£50,263.52	£810.00	£1,784.51	£2,594.51	£2,181.60
Bede Community Primary School	£47,457.81	£516.00	£1,684.90	£2,200.90	£1,389.76
Oakfield Junior School	£23,844.64	£720.00	£846.56	£1,566.56	£1,939.20
LARKSPUR COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL	£32,487.54	£468.00	£1,153.41	£1,621.41	£1,260.48
Oakfield Infant School	£14,195.92	£540.00	£504.00	£1,044.00	£1,454.40
Ravensworth Tce Primary School	£14,417.73	£756.00	£511.87	£1,267.88	£2,036.16
Portobello Primary School	£26,232.59	£627.00	£931.34	£1,558.34	£1,688.72
Birtley East Primary School	£37,317.10	£636.00	£1,324.88	£1,960.88	£1,712.96
Dunston Hill Community Primary	£57,858.00	£1,167.00	£2,054.14	£3,221.14	£3,143.12
Emmaville Primary School	£27,147.75	£891.00	£963.83	£1,854.83	£2,399.76
High Spen Primary School	£18,640.17	£468.00	£661.79	£1,129.79	£1,260.48
Swalwell Primary School	£35,487.44	£525.00	£1,259.92	£1,784.92	£1,414.00
Winlaton West Lane Primary Sch	£44,331.36	£1,017.00	£1,573.90	£2,590.90	£2,739.12
Greenside Primary School	£16,689.79	£522.00	£592.54	£1,114.54	£1,405.92
Blaydon West Primary School	£16,967.50	£396.00	£602.40	£998.40	£1,066.56
Front Street Community Primary	£51,506.14	£1,194.00	£1,828.63	£3,022.63	£3,215.84
Highfield Primary School	£15,937.34	£324.00	£565.83	£889.83	£872.64
Ryton Community Infant School	£10,797.16	£345.00	£383.33	£728.33	£929.20
Ryton Community Junior School	£13,012.92	£570.00	£462.00	£1,032.00	£1,535.20
Washingwell Community Primary School	£19,862.01	£480.00	£705.16	£1,185.16	£1,292.80
Bill Quay Primary School	£24,573.86	£621.00	£872.45	£1,493.45	£1,672.56
Falla Park Community Primary School	£39,942.96	£651.00	£1,418.10	£2,069.10	£1,753.36
Brandling Primary School	£23,427.05	£366.00	£831.73	£1,197.73	£985.76
Lingey House Primary School	£67,103.74	£1,200.00	£2,382.40	£3,582.40	£3,232.00
THE DRIVE PRIMARY SCHOOL	£26,683.06	£546.00	£947.33	£1,493.33	£1,470.56
White Mere Comm Primary School	£19,950.10	£402.00	£708.29	£1,110.29	£1,082.72
Clover Hill Primary School	£19,089.92	£624.00	£677.75	£1,301.75	£1,680.64
Crookhill Primary	£24,872.08	£567.00	£883.04	£1,450.04	£1,527.12
Brighton Avenue Primary School	£48,240.13	£804.00	£1,712.68	£2,516.68	£2,165.44
Lobley Hill Primary School	£45,480.02	£1,149.00	£1,614.68	£2,763.68	£3,094.64
Wardley Primary School	£49,561.15	£837.00	£1,759.58	£2,596.58	£2,254.32
Glynwood Primary School	£48,037.38	£990.00	£1,705.48	£2,695.48	£2,666.40
Barley Mow Primary School	£23,801.98	£558.00	£845.05	£1,403.05	£1,502.88
Windy Nook Primary School	£37,350.66	£867.00	£1,326.07	£2,193.07	£2,335.12
Colegate Primary	£23,821.24	£540.00	£845.73	£1,385.73	£1,454.40
Roman Road Primary School	£28,157.81	£504.00	£999.69	£1,503.69	£1,357.44
Fellside Primary School	£17,200.53	£627.00	£610.67	£1,237.67	£1,688.72
Fell Dyke Primary School	£54,371.26	£846.00	£1,930.35	£2,776.35	£2,278.56
Caedmon Community Primary	£49,150.97	£621.00	£1,745.02	£2,366.02	£1,672.56
Kells Lane Primary School	£25,440.10	£1,245.00	£903.20	£2,148.20	£3,353.20
Chopwell Primary	£45,547.54	£636.00	£1,617.08	£2,253.08	£1,712.96
Park Head Primary School	£49,431.63	£942.00	£1,754.98	£2,696.98	£2,537.12
St Aidan's CofE Primary School	£42,368.51	£621.00	£1,504.22	£2,125.22	£1,672.56
Harlow Green Primary School	£56,050.03	£1,161.00	£1,989.95	£3,150.95	£3,126.96
Rowlands Gill Primary School	£34,716.13	£873.00	£1,232.53	£2,105.53	£2,351.28
WHICKHAM PAROCHIAL PRIMARY SCH	£17,203.03	£636.00	£610.76	£1,246.76	£1,712.96
Corpus Christi Catholic School	£31,620.03	£591.00	£1,122.61	£1,713.61	£1,591.76
St Joseph's R C Primary School	£37,027.34	£612.00	£1,314.59	£1,926.59	£1,648.32
St Oswalds RC (Aided) Primary	£22,722.88	£564.00	£806.73	£1,370.73	£1,519.04
St Peter's R C Primary School	£27,253.03	£633.00	£967.57	£1,600.57	£1,704.88
St Annes Catholic Primary School	£17,816.61	£378.00	£632.55	£1,010.55	£1,018.08
St Joseph's Catholic Junior School	£16,381.84	£342.00	£581.61	£923.61	£921.12
Birtley St.Joseph's Catholic Infant School	£10,286.60	£267.00	£365.21	£632.21	£719.12
St Agnes' R C Primary School	£23,368.70	£624.00	£829.66	£1,453.66	£1,680.64
St Joseph's R C Sch Highfield	£13,547.00	£366.00	£480.96	£846.96	£985.76
St Mary & St Thomas Aquinas	£17,902.30	£639.00	£635.59	£1,274.59	£1,721.04
St Philip Neri R C Primary Sch	£21,618.27	£489.00	£767.52	£1,256.52	£1,317.04
ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL	£30,350.90	£639.00	£1,077.55	£1,716.55	£1,721.04
St Mary's R.C. Primary School	£23,139.82	£627.00	£821.54	£1,448.54	£1,688.72
St Alban's Catholic Primary School	£48,177.97	£651.00	£1,710.47	£2,361.47	£1,753.36
Felling St.Augustine's R.C.P	£47,744.79	£918.00	£1,695.09	£2,613.09	£2,472.48
St Wilfrid's R C Primary Sch.	£20,559.77	£342.00	£729.94	£1,071.94	£921.12