

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 11 December 2012

Review of Pupil Support in Primary Schools

Item number	7.3
Report number	
Wards	

Links

Coalition pledges	P5
Council outcomes	CO1 , CO2 , CO4
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3

Gillian Tee

Director of Children and Families

Contact: David Wright, Senior Education Manager: Schools

E-mail: david.wright@edinburgh.gov.uk | Tel: 0131 469 3413

Executive summary

Review of Pupil Support in Primary Schools

Summary

The purpose of this report is to inform Committee on the process and strategy to review pupil support in Primary Schools. It contains the Terms of Reference for the review and details specific areas for consideration within the Review.

Recommendations

To recommend that the Education, Children and Families Committee:

- 1 Notes and approves the process for carrying out the review of pupil support in Primary Schools
- 2 Notes and approves the specific areas for consideration within the Review.

Measures of success

A review of pupil support in Primary Schools will establish effective and consistent practice across all Primary Schools which will enhance outcomes for pupils.

Financial impact

There will be no overall budget reductions proposed as a consequence of the review. It is anticipated however that budget realignments may result to ensure consistency of approach to pupil support across all Primary Schools.

Equalities impact

There are no adverse impacts arising from this report.

Sustainability impact

Not applicable

Consultation and engagement

School based staff including Primary Head Teachers, staff from Professional Support Services and Trade Union representatives will be involved in the working group that will carry out the Review of Pupil Support in Primary Schools.

Parent representatives will be consulted throughout the review before final recommendations are made.

Background reading / external references

How Good is our School, Sections 5.3, 5.8 and 9.4. (Appendix 1)

Review of Pupil Support in Primary Schools

1. Background

- 1.1 The Education Children and Families committee approved the Review of Pupil Support in Secondary schools in June 2012.
- 1.2 The Committee asked that a Review of Pupil Support in Primary Schools be carried out during session 2012/13 for implementation from August 2013

2. Main report

- 2.1 A Project Board, led by Mike Rosendale, Head of Schools and Community Services has been set up to manage the Review of Pupil Support in Primary Schools.
- 2.2 A working group led jointly by David Wright and Moyra Wilson and comprising school based staff including Head Teachers, staff from professional support services and Union representatives, will be set up to consider the content of the review, produce recommendations and develop an implementation strategy.

Terms of Reference for the Review

- 2.3 Pupil Support structures in Primary Schools should be consistent with and articulate clearly with the agreed Pupil Support structures in Secondary Schools. The agreed structure should:
 - Meet the needs of all pupils in Primary Schools
 - Incorporate and support the key principles of A Curriculum for Excellence, Health and Wellbeing, Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) and the National Parenting Strategy
 - Meet the needs of the Additional Support for Learning Act and the Equalities Act
 - Be fully in line with inclusive practices
 - Incorporate the key areas of How good is our School 1, Sections 5.3, 5.8 and 9.4. **(See Appendix 1)**
 - Incorporate the key principles of Improving Relationships Strategy

- Ensure that all teaching staff have a support role for pupils as Key Adults and make their full contribution to the delivery of an inclusive curriculum and meeting the needs of pupils with additional support needs
- Link clearly to the Service Plan for the Children and Families Department
- Support and enhance pupil achievement and attainment
- Provide a consistent model of pupil support across all Primary Schools while taking into account the needs of all school communities

Specific Areas for Consideration within the Review

2.4 The working group will produce recommendations which will establish effective and consistent practice for Pupil Support in all Primary Schools and consider changes to the allocation of available resources to support these recommendations. Specific areas for consideration would include:

- Carrying out a full evaluation of recognised positive pupil support initiatives e.g. 'Creating Confidence' and partnerships with Voluntary Organisations including 'Place to Be' with a view to establishing these more widely in a more affordable and sustainable way. 'Place to Be' currently operates in 10 Primary Schools, 6 of which are designated Positive Action schools. Positive action schools are able to use additional funding to engage this service whereas the other 4 use funding from their devolved budget.
- Establishing and supporting a more consistent approach to Parenting Support, Nurture Groups and the use of Support Bases by identifying and expanding current good practice
- Strengthening the links between CLD Family Learning and Primary Schools to achieve stronger and more consistent support for families
- Carrying out a comprehensive audit of the resources devolved to schools designated as Positive Action Schools and developing a pupil outcome based approach to identify good practice which can be applied across all Primary Schools. Positive Action funding is allocated to 17 Primary Schools in which 40% of pupils are entitled to Free Meal and Clothing Grants. Schools below this threshold do not receive this funding. **(See Appendix 2)** Currently £2.2 million is allocated to those schools and this additional funding is used to enhance the staffing complement, their educational supplies and their excursion allowance. The group will liaise closely with the working group set up to review the Devolved School Management Guidelines to ensure that budget recommendations are applied effectively and consistently

- Undertaking a full evaluation of the deployment of senior staff (Depute Head Teachers and Principal Teachers) with a view to achieving a consistent model of leadership in Primary Schools to deliver effective Pupil Support

3. Recommendations

To recommend that the Education, Children and Families Committee:

- 3.1 Notes and approves the process for carrying out the review of pupil support in Primary Schools
- 3.2 Notes and approves the specific areas for consideration within the Review.

Gillian Tee

Director of Children and Families

4. Links

Coalition pledges	P5 Seek to ensure the smooth introduction of the Curriculum for Excellence and that management structures within our schools support the new curriculum
Council outcomes	CO1. Our children have the best start in life, are able to make and sustain relationships and are ready to succeed CO2 Our children and young people are successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens making a positive contribution to their communities CO4. Our children and young people are physically and emotionally healthy
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3. Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential
Appendices	1. How Good is Our School 2. Positive Action Primary Schools

How Good is Our School

5.3 Meeting learning needs

- Tasks, activities and resources
- Identification of learning needs
- The roles of teachers and specialist staff
- Meeting and implementing the requirements of legislation

5.8 Care, welfare and development

- Arrangements for ensuring care, welfare and child protection
- Approaches to and provision for meeting the emotional, physical and social needs of children and young people
- Curricular and vocational guidance

9.4 Leadership of improvement and change

- Support and challenge
- Creativity, innovation and step change
- Continuous improvement

City of Edinburgh
Positive Action Primary Schools

Broomhouse Primary School

Brunstane Primary School

Canal View Primary School

Castleview Primary School

Clovenstone Primary School

Craigentenny Primary School

Craigroyston Primary School

Forthview Primary School

Granton Primary School

Leith Primary School

Niddrie Mill Primary School

Pirniehall Primary School

Royal Mile Primary School

St Francis RC Primary School

St Catherine's RC Primary School

Sighthill Primary School

Stenhouse Primary School