

# WIRRAL COUNCIL

WIRRAL SCHOOLS FORUM 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012

## REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

### The impact of the School Intervention Grant and contribution to School Improvement allocations

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#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report outlines the expenditure and impact of School Budget contributions in the following areas:

- School Intervention £674,500
- School Improvement £359,900

#### BACKGROUND

##### 1. School Intervention

The School Intervention contribution of £674,500 has been and is being spent on 4 main areas of support for schools:

1.1 Primary School intervention	£375,300
1.2 Secondary school intervention	£171,400
1.3 Post-16 school intervention	£97,200
1.4 Supporting Early Years Statutory Assessments	£30,600

##### 1.1 Primary School Intervention

A total of £375,300 including £17,000 for leading teachers, was allocated for school improvement in primary schools. A substantial amount of this money, £191,000 has been used to support vulnerable schools identified as Band 4 in line with the Local Authority School Improvement Strategy. Each school receiving financial support was required to work with a Principal Manager from the School Improvement Team to generate a School Action Plan with clear measureable milestones. Progress towards achieving the milestones are reviewed each term through the School Causing Concern process. Results at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 were analysed in August to determine progress in raising pupil attainment.

In addition £20,000 was allocated to deliver training and support for mathematics and English intervention programmes in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

£10,000 has been allocated to a pilot programme for the development of English and Mathematics subject leaders so that school staff are well prepared for subject specific Ofsted inspections. Forty subject leaders from twenty schools are attending cohort 1. Demand is such that a further two cohorts are running supported by the CPD service level agreement Education Quality (EQ). This will ensure that schools have the best possible chance of being graded at least good by Ofsted.

A further £40,000 has been allocated for school to school support. The money will be divided equally across the five Headteacher cluster groups. Headteachers will work

collaboratively to determine strategies to use the budget to raise attainment in a specific area.

The remaining budget has been kept as contingency to support schools who are judged by the revised Ofsted framework (September 2012) as 'requiring improvement', or in serious weaknesses or special measures.

### **1.2 Secondary School Intervention**

There are three elements to secondary intervention contribution:

1. Support for mainstream maintained secondary schools that are Band 2 in line with the Local Authority School Improvement Strategy.
2. Continuation of the '100 Club' project for a second year aimed at narrowing the key stage 4 attainment gaps (at 5+ A\*-C including English and maths GCSEs) between FSM pupils and non-FSM pupils.
3. A Raising Attainment for Disadvantaged Youngsters Pilot.

The amounts for these three areas have yet to be finalised as this is dependent on the final banding of secondary schools in line with agreed LA processes and the school improvement contributions. This should be achieved by mid-October. Also the detailed analysis of the second year of the '100 Club' project has yet to be done as the KS4 GCSE pupil-level data has not yet been released.

### **1.3 Post-16 school intervention**

£56,550 of this will be spent on providing the U Explore online tool for student information, advice and guidance, plus training and support for all secondary schools.

The remaining budget will be allocated for KS5 intervention.

### **1.4 Supporting Early Years Statutory Assessments**

This has been used to support Early Years statutory assessments in the summer term.

## **2. School Improvement**

The school improvement contribution of £359,900 towards the Council school improvement, has been and is being spent on the following areas in line with the School Forum report of the 24<sup>th</sup> January 2012:

- Primary Consultants who work with targeted schools
- Entitlement School Improvement Associates
- Part-funding of an Educational Analyst
- Contribution towards Governor Support Services
- Evolve
- '100 Club' project
- Post-16 narrowing the gap project
- Contribution to Acre Lane for the delivery of training, resources and equipment and utilisation by maintained schools
- Redesign of the Data Portal

## **IMPACT**

This year's funding by School Forum and the amounts previously agreed have supported the aggregated school outcomes to be:

1. Provisional attainment results at the end of EYFS, Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage are the highest ever for Wirral.
2. The gap between pupils in receipt of free school meals and non free school meals has narrowed at the end of each primary key stage.
3. Attainment against the 3 primary floor target measures (English & Mathematic L4+, 2 levels progress in English and 2 levels progress in Mathematics) has increased this year meeting the Local Authority FFTD targets.
4. At the time of writing this report at least 70% of primary, secondary and special schools have been judged as good or better which is well above national averages.
5. No maintained schools are currently in an Ofsted category.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. **Schools Forum to note the report.**

**Julia Hassall**  
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