

Appendix 2

Mapping Edsential Activities to Council Priorities

When Edsential was created, part of the rationale was to help to ensure that the services that would be provided by the company would be delivered in keeping with the values and priorities of the two shareholder Councils. This would be in relation to education specifically but also in relation to children's services more widely and wider council priorities.

This document seeks to demonstrate how the work of Edsential matches key elements of the plans for both Wirral and Cheshire West and Chester Councils. The matching in the following tables is not necessarily exhaustive. There are also some Edsential activities that could appear against several priorities, but this would make the document even longer. The intention is to emphasise as fully as possible and reasonable, the contribution that Edsential makes to the two Councils and the value that the company brings.

It should also be borne in mind that Edsential would be in a position to try to support future council priorities in a way that private providers might not (and probably would not) whilst ensuring that the company remains competitive and a going concern.

Overall Council Priority	Council Objective	Contributing Edsential Activity	Impact
Sustainable Environment	Urgently tackle the environment emergency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worlds First Sustainable Palm Oil Company• Purchase of meat from a local farmer to reduce travel and emissions• Vegetarian menu one day a week to support UN recommendations• Strict food monitoring to ensure that there is minimal food waste• Services becoming aligned to a sustainability framework• Aim to use no plastic in catering by 2022 at the latest• Training, music tuition and governor meetings flexibly delivered online to reduce employee travel• Flexible employee working to reduce travel to the office	
	Protect biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• See above, especially the Palm Oil initiative. This has supported many schools who have also	

		engaged in curriculum projects with Chester Zoo and this has helped to raise the awareness of environmental challenges and the need to protect biodiversity	
Safe and Pleasant Communities	Protecting our most vulnerable residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funded by the Department for Education, the £1.8m Holiday Activity Fund received by Edsential Community Interest Company was able to support over 11,400 children across local boroughs, at a time when such provision for young people and their families was needed more than ever. Families across west Cheshire, Wirral and Halton were able to enjoy free, nutritious food and activities at a wide range of exciting clubs over the summer holidays. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 147,500 healthy meals and 97,000 family food and activity parcels. 155,904 activity-filled attendance days, with physical activities such as dance, yoga and adventure play, plus diverse enrichment activities including arts and crafts and forest school. Creative online provision, receiving 76,973 user interactions 82% of the children that took part this year were entitled to free school meals
	Engaging with communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Holiday Activity Fund worked with a wide range of third sector and charity organisations Edsential delivers a Duke of Edinburgh programme in schools and an increasing number of Duke of Edinburgh volunteers supporting the local community 	
Active and Healthy Lives	Support more people with disabilities to live independent lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edsential operates the Champions Lodge (Delamere) and Mountain View (Anglesey) centres which were purpose built to provide respite facilities for disabled children and their families Appropriate outdoor education activities are provided for children and young people with disabilities 	
	Promote healthy active lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We provide comprehensive Learning Outside the Classroom opportunities to staff, governors, pupils, and parents. All of our 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training delivered to over 480 members of staff in schools across the North West. Over 1,000 pupils and parents attended Forest

	<p>provision has been designed to ensure that it has the most impact for schools' leaders and ensures maximum engagement with children to develop their love for learning. Delivery and training not only support core curriculum knowledge and application, but also support young peoples' social, emotional, and personal development. Outdoor learning allows young people to explore their boundaries, identify strengths and weaknesses, manage and take risks, build confidence, and creates an awareness and respect for themselves, others and the environment - leading them to become responsible citizens.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edsential manages the Local Authority Evolve Contracts for CW&C/Wirral/Cheshire East totalling £93,300 and this ensures that the Councils' statutory duties as residual employers in maintained school is satisfied 	<p>Schools, Family engagement and Orienteering sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evolve off-site visits and guidance support offered for over 33,000 school visits. • 2422 visits approved via Evolve. • More than 216,000 approved visit days. • Development of Maths and English Outdoors courses for schools • Forest school delivery to young people
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edsential's School Catering team provide children with healthy, affordable food choices that will help them perform well in school • Achieving and delivering compliance standards around food quality further supports positive standards on pupil behaviour which positively impacts behaviour and attainment • Evidencing a culture of healthy eating positively contributes to your schools OFTSED rating around personal development, behaviour, and welfare for pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Edsential menus meet the "School Food Standards" and the "Food for Life Served Here" Bronze criteria, approved by the Soil Association ensuring the food on the plate is high quality • 23,000 meals per day over 150 schools – over 90% of every meal is created freshly in the kitchen • Family cooking school programme delivered to over 100 pupils

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KPIs covering finance, service usage, health and safety and hygiene as examples help the company to monitor and report on performance, understand how we compare and our opportunity to continuously improve 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical Education, Sport and Health plays a vital role in enthusing and inspiring children and young people to participate fully and develop a lifelong love of physical activity. Our aim is to ensure every child leaves school physically literate, inspired, and enthusiastic about participating in physical activity and with the knowledge, skills and motivation to equip them to feel good about themselves. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal Best Programme supporting positive mental health through physical activity was delivered to 765 children across 23 primary schools. Following the programme, over 96% of children said they feel confident 'some' or 'all' of the time - an increase of over 100 children from before the programme. The programme aimed to increase resilience within the children. At the end of the programme, 99% of the children (757 children) said they feel they have the strategies to help them in difficult situations at least some of the time • From September 2019 – March 2020, we worked with over 10,200 children, 300 staff and 200 parents across a range of services and programmes. • Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Over 4000 children taking part in our breakfast and afterschool clubs ○ Over 500 children accessing high-quality PE lessons every week as part of our PPA delivery

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Over 800 children participating in a sporting competitive event or festival • Edsential competitions are designed to provide an inclusive atmosphere for all children of all age groups throughout the school year. There were 446 children who took part across the year from 19 different primary schools. Of these 446 children, 241 had never taken part in a 'competitive' event before. Over 50 'young leaders' from local high schools had the opportunity to referee and coach at one of the events across the year • 5000 online views from the 'Daily Challenge' during lockdown • Our staff delivered weekly PE and physical activity sessions to a group of 15 vulnerable children at one of our residential centres.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school swimming team works with schools to provide the necessary support and training required to deliver high quality, structured swimming lessons for pupils, enabling schools to not only meet, but exceed their statutory expectations. Our team provide schools with an efficient and cost-effective coordination service that promotes a much-needed increase in the number of children who are leaving primary school as competent swimmers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edsential schools are on course for a significant increase in the number of Year 6 pupils meeting the national curriculum requirements. • In 2018/19 58% of year 6 pupils achieved all 3 aspects of the national curriculum. The current figure is already 62% and is expected to increase as more schools use top up sessions in the summer term March 2020. • 69% of our pupils leave primary school as competent swimmers (predicted figure for 19/20 academic year compared to less than 50% nationally)

	Reduce loneliness and social isolation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support provided for lone workers 	
	Promote wellbeing and improve positive mental health		
	Help more people to live safe & independent lives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family cooking school programme delivered to over 100 pupils and parents. The programme focuses on developing relationships, which impact the whole family. It provides a vehicle to bring children and families together to engage with each other away from everyday distractions allowing them to bond. It encourages children and families to challenge themselves and work together to learn how to cook. The course is designed to change eating habits and promote healthy eating. Equipping and upskilling our workforce Support schemes for employees, employee advice line Youth services support provision (Wirral - starting November 2020) 	
Brighter Futures	Invest in our children and young people and their future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edsential is a Community Interest Company and not-for-profit. In 2019/2020, Edsential returned £100k to schools in the form of a grant fund. There were 12 winning applications whose projects impacted 72 schools across CWAC and Wirral. The grant fund was allocated to projects that focussed on children and would leave an educational legacy 	
	Provide access to good education and opportunities for employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We remain dedicated to supporting schools in the provision of effective school governance to ensure that children and young people receive the best education in a stable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1,223 meetings since September 2019 155 schools supported with clerking 360 online meetings during summer 2020

		<p>and thriving school environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This support is provided through information, advice, and guidance (via council briefings), a clerking service and training. Edsential also supports head teacher recruitment processes. These activities support the school improvement agenda in both councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1915 total of governors' meetings clerked in schools across Cheshire West & Chester, Halton and Wirral 69 admission appeals hearings supported 79 Schools bought back the Governor Training SLA Membership 39 New schools signed up to Governor Hub full subscription
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edsential acts as the Accountable Body for Newly Qualified Teacher processes in many schools across both councils. This is a statutory duty operated on behalf of the councils though funded by schools themselves. This involves a training programme, access to support and advice, and support for the observation and validation processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 143 New NQT registrations over 84 schools
	Ensure that the children in our care are better off as a result of being in care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edsential has worked with Wirral Fostering teams to design and develop a programme to support fostered children 	
	Help children with special education needs or disabilities and their families to be and feel included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SEND at Edsential provides expanded provision across Special Educational needs, Disability, Behaviour and Mental Health and Wellbeing. The service supports inclusive practice and pupils with additional needs by providing consultation, advice, and training across a range of areas. Edsential provides the Postgraduate National Award for SEN Coordination on behalf of Manchester Met University to schools in Cheshire West and Chester and Wirral 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edsential has provided regular support to over 40 schools each year • It has delivered 41 training sessions to support teachers in schools • It has directly supported 148 parents/carers of children with SEND • It has provided online videos to support parents with learning for children with SEND during Covid-19 lockdown 	
	Enable families to access the support they need when they need it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edsential has provided support to enable children to receive food during lockdown, especially those most vulnerable • See also the Holiday Activity Fund programme 	
Inclusive Economy	Create jobs, support businesses, and attract ethical investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top quartile employer with excellent T&Cs • Payment of the Local Living Wage as a minimum • Regular training and development for employees with all staff undertaking safeguarding training, health and safety training and over 60% of staff hold a food qualification. All governor clerks receive national training • Recruitment of apprentices • Awards evenings and monthly awards to celebrate employees and acknowledge their work • Lone worker helpline • We support local businesses by using them to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meat from local butchers ○ Training venues ○ Swimming pools ○ Equipment maintenance at all catering and cleaning schools ○ Marketing ○ Vehicle hire and maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct employment of 926 people across Cheshire West & Chester and Wirral • Regular employment for approx. 40 self-employed staff

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Telecoms and IT solutions 	
	<p>Deliver an ambitious, high quality and inclusive culture events programme with impacts positively on civic pride and outcomes for residents as well as attracts visitors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edsential delivers a high-quality music education that engages and inspires pupils to work together, embrace other cultures, explore emotions, build imagination, develop language skills, self-confidence and intellectual curiosity. • Edsential manages the Arts Council Music Grant of £1 million for the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5700 children and young people attended music ensembles • Edsential Musical Routes has worked with 260 schools to support or deliver music education programmes and activities • Over 5500 children had their first experience of learning to play an instrument free of charge in our 'First Access' programmes. • 6460 students have been taught on a weekly basis in 166 music classes (whole class instrumental teaching or curriculum teaching) • Edsential has supported 208 schools to teach Singing via curriculum teaching, teacher training and other vocal projects. • Created over 500 videos for First Access with 8 weeks of content across 12 instruments for pupils to access during lockdown. • 1209 young people accessed online tuition between March 2020 and September 2020 • Six weeks of summer holiday activities exploring rhythms from around the world called 'Groovin' Around the World' for the Holiday Activity Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 80 young musicians collaborated in a performance video playing and singing 'We'll Meet Again' to commemorate VE Day.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaps and Bounds is a £100,000 Grant funded by the Charity Youth Music. Specialist music tutors will have worked in 17 primary schools and their 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported children's musical progress through prime and specific Early Learning Goals 	

	<p>linked nurseries across Wirral and CWAC with Foundation 1 and 2 teachers and practitioners with the aim to improve the learning outcomes for children at risk of developmental delay due to economic hardship by enabling active engagement in creative music sessions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased their individual participation in group and class creative music-making activities. • Developed their social competences, including language skills by listening to, participating in and performing music in their own and external settings • The Leaps and Bounds programme for early years has involved over 1,250 children and supported over 80 professionals.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edsential facilitates the Tuscany Arts Trip which supports the most able arts students across the two boroughs. Edsential has successfully attracted £5000 each year from the Erddig Trust to support disadvantaged children to attend the Tuscany Arts 	

