

## **Rutland County Council**

Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP

Telephone 01572 722577 Email: [governance@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:governance@rutland.gov.uk)

Ladies and Gentlemen,

A meeting of the **SCHOOLS' FORUM** will be held Via Zoom - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83680892433> on **Thursday, 8th December, 2022** commencing at **4.00 pm** when it is hoped you will be able to attend.

Yours faithfully

Mark Andrews  
**Chief Executive**

Recording of Council Meetings: Any member of the public may film, audio-record, take photographs and use social media to report the proceedings of any meeting that is open to the public. A protocol on this facility is available at [www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/have-your-say/](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/have-your-say/)

### **A G E N D A**

#### **1) WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

#### **2) MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

To confirm the minutes and update the actions of the meeting of the Schools' Forum held on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022

There were no agreed actions from the previous meeting.  
(Pages 5 - 10)

#### **3) FINANCE UPDATE**

To receive a report from Andrew Merry, Finance Manager  
[ITEM FOR INFORMATION]

(10 MINUTES)

(Pages 11 - 14)

#### **4) SEND RECOVERY PLAN**

To receive a report from Louise Crookenden-Johnson, SEND Capital Programme Manager  
[ITEM FOR INFORMATION]

(15 MINUTES)

(Pages 15 - 20)

## **5) EHCP BANDING**

### **A. PARENTAL FEEDBACK**

To receive an update from Ben Solly, Chair of the Schools' Forum.  
[ITEM FOR INFORMATION]

(10 MINUTES)

### **B. UPDATE REGARDING WORKING GROUP, COMMUNICATIONS etc**

To receive a briefing from Helen Chester, Service Manager - SEND and Inclusion, Rutland County Council  
[ITEM FOR INFORMATION]

(10 MINUTES)

## **6) EARLY YEARS WORKING GROUP**

To receive an update from Mrs K Pullan or Mrs J Ward, representatives of the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) Early Years.  
[ITEM FOR INFORMATION]

(5 MINUTES)

## **7) PUPIL PLACE PLANNING**

To receive a verbal update on pupil place planning from Gill Curtis, Head of Learning and Skills  
[ITEM FOR INFORMATION]

(5 MINUTES)

## **8) FORWARD PLAN FOR 2022/23**

To review and approve the proposed Forward Plan  
[ITEM FOR INFORMATION]

(5 MINUTES)

(Pages 21 - 22)

## **9) ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

(5 MINUTES FOR FINAL AGENDA ITEMS)

## **10) MEETING DATES**

- Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023, 4.00 – 5.30 p.m. via Zoom - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81436021541>
- Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023, 4.00 – 5.30 p.m. via Zoom - <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86101580093>

The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2021 amended The Schools Forums (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 to make permanent provisions to enable schools' forum meetings to be held remotely. This includes (but is not limited to) telephone conferencing, video conferencing, live webcast and live interactive streaming. Where a schools'

forum decides to hold a public meeting by remote means only, the forum should provide support or make alternative arrangements so that any interested parties who do not have telephone or online access can attend virtual meetings.

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## **DISTRIBUTION**

### **MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOLS' FORUM:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Mr B Solly (CHAIR)	Academies
Mrs A Chambers	Academies
Mr S Cox (VICE CHAIR)	Special Schools
Mr P French	Dioceses
Mr J Harrison	Post 16 Provision
Mrs S Milner	Academies
Mr G Morphus	Trade Unions
Mrs K Pullan	Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years
Mr C Smith	Academies
Mrs F Wilce	Maintained Schools
Mr S Williams	Academies
VACANT	Academies (Governors)

### **DEPUTIES:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Mr A Menzies	Dioceses
Mrs K Smith	Special Schools
Mrs J Ward	Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years
VACANT	Trade Unions
VACANT	Academies
VACANT	Post 16 Provision
VACANT	Maintained Schools
VACANT	Academies (Governors)

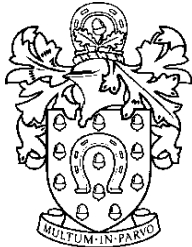
### **OFFICERS:**

Dawn Godfrey	Strategic Director of Children and Families (DCS), RCC
Gill Curtis	Head of Learning and Skills, RCC
Bernadette Caffrey	Head of Early Help, SEND and Inclusion, RCC
Andrew Merry	Finance Manager, RCC
Louise Crookenden-Johnson	SEND Capital Programme Manager, RCC
Jane Narey (CLERK)	Scrutiny Officer

### **ATTENDEES:**

Councillor D Wilby	Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services
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## Rutland County Council

Catmose Oakham Rutland LE15 6HP

Telephone 01572 722577 Email: [governance@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:governance@rutland.gov.uk)

Minutes of the **MEETING of the SCHOOLS' FORUM** held in the Council Chamber, Catmose, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6HP on Thursday, 15th September, 2022 at 4.00 pm

<b>PRESENT:</b>		<b>Representing</b>
1.	Mr B Solly (CHAIR)	Academies
2.	Mrs A Chambers	Academies
3.	Mr S Cox (VICE CHAIR)	Special Schools
	Mr P French	Dioceses
4.	Mrs S Milner	Academies
5.	Mrs K Pullan	Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years
6.	Mr C Smith	Academies
7.	Mrs F Wilce	Maintained Schools

<b>OFFICERS:</b>		<b>TITLE:</b>
8.	Dawn Godfrey	Strategic Director of Children and Families (DCS), RCC
9.	Andrew Merry	Finance Manager, RCC
10.	Louise Crookenden-Johnson	SEND Capital Programme Manager, RCC
11.	Jane Narey (CLERK)	Scrutiny Officer

<b>APOLOGIES:</b>		<b>Representing</b>
12.	Mr S Williams	Academies
13.	Gill Curtis	Head of Learning and Skills, RCC
14.	Bernadette Caffrey	Head of Early Help, SEND and Inclusion, RCC

<b>ABSENT:</b>		<b>Representing</b>
15.	Mr J Harrison	Post 16 Provision
16.	Mr G Morphus	Trade Unions
17.	Councillor D Wilby	Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services

### 1 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and a minute's silence was held in honour of her late majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.  
Apologies were received from Stuart Williams, Bernadette Caffrey and Gill Curtis.

## 2 MINUTES AND ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were approved as an accurate record.

### ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

No.	Ref.	Action	Person	STATUS
1.	4	It was agreed that the Schools' Forum would receive a report in September 2022 on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>o Nurture Hub and Practice A report exploring how additional funding could accelerate practice.</li><li>o EHCP Proposal for Banding. A report and a presentation from the Sector Led Task and Finish Group</li></ul>	<b>Bernadette Caffrey</b>	<b>ACTION COMPLETED</b> <b>Items on the agenda</b>
2.	5	Andrew Merry to discuss the proposed new formula for the High Needs Funding with Dawn Godfrey and Bernadette Caffrey.	<b>Andrew Merry</b>	<b>ACTION COMPLETED</b>
3.	11	Jane Narey to send out the tracked changes version of the updated Rutland Schools' Forum Constitution to members for their attention.	<b>Jane Narey</b>	<b>ACTION COMPLETED</b>

## 3 ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

The Clerk informed attendees that the only nominations received for the roles of Chair and Vice Chair for the academic year 2022-2023 were from the current Chair (Ben Solly) and Vice Chair (Steve Cox).

### **RESOLVED**

That the Schools' Forum:

- a) **AGREED** that Ben Solly and Steve Cox would be the Chair and Vice Chair respectively of the Schools' Forum for the academic year 2022-2023.

## 4 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF CONDUCT

The updated constitution and rules of conduct were reviewed by the Schools' Forum. During the discussion the following points were noted:

- It was noted that Item 6.1 stated that 'two headteachers...should not hold the positions of Chair and Vice Chair simultaneously, unless agreed by the Forum' but this was the current situation.

- The Clerk stated that the updated constitution and rules of conduct had been circulated to all members and no comments had been received.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Schools' Forum:

- a) **AGREED** that the two headteachers (Ben Solly and Steve Cox) could hold the positions of Chair and Vice Chair respectively of the Schools' Forum for the academic year 2022-2023.

## **5 FINANCE UPDATE**

A report was received from Andrew Merry, Finance Manager. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- All spending remained in budget except for the High Needs Block.
- The funding for the High Needs Block continued to be a concern even with the recovery plan in place.
- It was noted that his area of concern was not specific to Rutland as all local authorities were experiencing overspends in the High Needs Block.

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**Carl Smith joined the meeting at 4.10 p.m.**

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## **RESOLVED**

That the Schools' Forum:

- a) **NOTED** the contents of the report.

## **6 SEND RECOVERY PLAN**

A report was received from Louise Crookenden-Johnson, SEND Capital Programme Manager. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Total budget for the recovery projects for 2022/23 was £364k
- The recovery projects were designed to increase capacity within mainstream schools to support children and young people with SEND.
- Panel arrangements have changed to ensure a much speedier response for children.
- A Teams EIP Review meeting will be held three times a year. Chaired by the EIP Coordinator with all primary head teachers, SENCOs, the social worker (linked to Virtual School) and the Education Lead invited.
- The monthly Providers meetings continued and were proving effective.
- Collaborate engagement sessions had been held with families which had proved helpful but families had requested that the name of the Education Inclusion Partnership (EIP) be changed to the Schools Support Partnership (SSP) as people were confused by the EIP title.
- Pathways work was progressing.

- The DfE Delivering Better Value Programme would begin in January 2023. The review would look at what we were doing regarding the High Needs Budget and also identify what else, if anything, we could also do.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Schools' Forum:

- a) **APPROVED** the change of name for the Education Inclusion Partnership to the Schools Support Partnership.

## **7 NURTURE HUB AND PRACTICE**

A report was received from Louise Crookenden-Johnson, SEND Capital Programme Manager. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- The report requested that the High Needs Block be increased by an additional £74k, to £172k.
- Nurture work in Rutland had been fantastic but more outreach work was needed moving forward.
- Children were not transferring back to their original schools as planned after receiving support from Edith Weston School. Instead, they were staying at Edith Weston School and this was putting additional pressure on the school and its staff.
- 25 children had been supported by Edith Weston School, 15 of those were through outreach work and 10 children had been prevented from leaving mainstream education. All had been prevented from moving to a SEND provider.
- The staffing needed to provide the outreach support was specialised and recruitment to these roles had proved problematic.
- A member commented that Headteachers needed a better understanding of what the nurture service actually was and did. Sharon Milner stated all were welcome to visit the service at Edith Weston School but that a briefing could be drafted for distribution to all schools.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Schools' Forum:

- a) **APPROVED** the increase of the financial commitment, to provide a further £72k to the High Needs Budget so that Edith Weston School had the capacity to respond to situations quickly before any window of opportunity was passed and that it helped staff in wider Rutland Schools to accelerate their inclusionary response.

## **8 EHCP PROPOSAL FOR BANDING**

A report was received from Helen Chester, Service Manager: SEND and Inclusion. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Following the SEND Summit in 2021, a working party was formed to develop a different High Needs Funding model for Rutland schools.
- A draft banding model was created based on a 5 tier matrix: Element 2, Band A, Band B, Band C and Band D.
- The model was tested and approved by SENCOs and all agreed that the model should be needs led.



- HNF would be reviewed at every annual review.
- **Individual banding would be agreed in discussion between the Local Authority and schools. This would be a separate discussion to the annual review but would need to be held before each annual review.**
- Helen was thanked for a fantastic piece of work as it was just what was needed.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Schools' Forum:

- a) **AGREED** to a new banding approach to HNF.
- b) **ADOPTED** the banding matrix.
- c) **ADOPTED** the proposed funding allocation for each band.
- d) **AGREED** that the new funding model was implemented from January 2023 for all new HNF applications and all new EHCP's.
- e) **AGREED** that, through the annual review process, existing EHCP's would be switched to the banding model.
- f) **AGREED** that any existing HNF applications would be switched to the new banding model at the next point of review / reapplication.
- g) **APPROVED** the suggested next steps:
  - Working Group to support the redesign of the HNF application form.
  - Communication with families to support them to understand the benefits of changes to the system.
  - Schools to provide feedback on the model and any adaptations which may need to be made will be undertaken and a revised/updated matrix released towards the end of the summer term 2023.
  - Working Group to be extended to establish how the banding matrix can be adapted and extended to incorporate the early years and post-16 provisions.

## **9 HOMES FOR UKRAINE (H4U)**

A report was received from Gill Curtis, Head of Learning and Skills. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Gill Curtis was unable to attend the meeting but the update report had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- Two meetings of the Homes for Ukraine Working Group had been held - 7<sup>th</sup> July and the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022.
- Funding guidance had been published by central government on the 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022.
- A member commented that there might be a potential for some 'back-tracking' regarding funding from national government in light of current events but that schools would need to be notified as soon as possible of any changes.

## **RESOLVED**

That the Schools' Forum:

- a) **NOTED** the update report.

## **10 EARLY YEARS WORKING GROUP**

A verbal update was received from Kathryn Pullan, representative for the Private, Voluntary & Independent (PVI) Early Years providers. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- The Early Years Working Party had met on the 5<sup>th</sup> September and issues discussed included funding, the cost of living crisis and the impact of this on families
- The funding provided for early years provision continued to not cover all costs.
- All Early Years providers were looking at other strands of income provision and training regarding business management was being investigated.
- Sustainability remained viable according to the last survey but places remained empty due to a lack of staff.
- Holiday care had been insufficient in 2022 but a Working Party had been created to further develop this for 2023.

## **11 PUPIL PLACE PLANNING**

A verbal update had been planned from Gill Curtis, Head of Learning and Skills but she was unable to attend the meeting and had sent her apologies.

## **12 FORWARD PLAN FOR 2022/23**

The Forward Plan for 2022/23 was discussed. During the discussion, the following points were noted:

- Dawn requested that the 'Delivering Better Value Programme' be added to the Forward Plan for meetings in March and June 2023.
- 'Nurture Hub and Practice: Update' to be added to the Forward Plan for the December and June meetings.

## **13 ANY URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

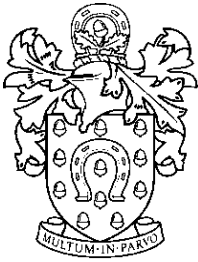
## **14 MEETING DATES**

Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 4 p.m.

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**The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 4.47 pm.**

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# SCHOOLS' FORUM

8<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## SCHOOLS' FUNDING UPDATE

### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of Schools Forum is to advise local authorities on the operation of the local Schools Budget and its distribution among schools and other bodies. This paper updates the Forum on the Schools Funding Position.

This paper is also asking for a decision on continuing the transfer of 0.5% from the schools' block to the high needs block

### 2 SCHOOLS FUNDING 22/23

- 2.1 The table below summarises the current forecast on the Dedicated Schools Grant for 2022/23.

	Schools £000	High Needs £000	Early Years £000	Central Schools £000	Total £000
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) Carry Forwards from 2021/22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(1,239)</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>(1,062)</b>
DSG Allocations prior to recoupment	28,367	5,272	1,718	184	<b>35,540</b>
Transfer between blocks	(142)	142			<b>0</b>
Academy Recoupment	(26,348)	(310)			<b>(26,658)</b>
<b>Expenditure in Year</b>					
Schools' allocations	(1,877)				<b>(1,877)</b>
Nationally Agreed School Licences				(41)	<b>(41)</b>
Admissions Service- staffing costs				(68)	<b>(68)</b>
Statutory & Retained Duties				(76)	<b>(76)</b>
Education for under 5's			(77)		<b>(116)</b>
3 & 4 Year Old Funding			(1,524)		<b>(1,507)</b>
2 Year Old Funding			(114)		<b>(87)</b>
SEN Funding Maintained Schools and Academies		(2,800)			<b>(2,774)</b>

SEN Funding Post 16		(137)			(137)
SEN Recovery Plan Expenditure		(357)			(378)
SEN Funding - Independent Special Schools		(1,312)			(1,377)
SEN Funding EOTAS & Tuition		(605)			(521)
SEN RCC Recharge		(197)			(197)
Early Years Inclusion (SENIF)		(30)			(50)
<b>Under/(Over) spends in 2022/23</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>(335)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(304)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) Carried Forward to 2023/24</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>(1,574)</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>(1,366)</b>

- 2.2 The High Needs Block continues to be the biggest area for concern. The Councils recovery plan is having a positive impact, but demand is outstripping the savings we generate from the actions in the recovery plan.

Although Early Years is largely on budget, the mix of the children we are funding is different to the current funding with more 2 year old funding and less 3 and 4 year old funding. January Census will determine the Council's new funding which will impact the over/underspend in year.

### 3 SCHOOLS FUNDING 23/24

- 3.1 At a high level, the following indicative funding has been published

Area	2022/23 Funding £000	2023/24 Funding £000	Difference £000 (%age)
Schools Block	28,367	29,403	£1,036 (3.6%)
High Needs Block	5,272	5,602	£330k (6.2%)
Central Schools	184	195	£11k (5.9%)

- 3.2 Based on the above data the transfer requested from the schools' block would equate to £147k.

The government funding announcement sets out the key items nationally are as follows;

- Confirms the provisional funding allocations for 2023-24 through the schools, high needs and central school services national funding formulae (NFF). Overall, core schools funding (including funding for mainstream schools and high needs) is increasing by £1.5bn in 2023-24 compared to the previous year, on top of the £4bn increase in 2022-23.
- High needs funding is increasing by a further £570m, or 6.3%, in 2023-24 – following the £2.6 billion increase over the last three years. This brings the total high needs budget to over £9.7bn. All local authorities will receive at least a 5% increase per head of their 2-18 population, compared to their 2022-23 allocations, with some authorities seeing gains of up to 7%.
- The Government remains committed to ensuring a financially sustainable system where resources are effectively targeted to need. The consultation on the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper<sup>12</sup> closed on 22 July, and the Government will

confirm the next steps in implementing the reform programme later this year.

- Funding for mainstream schools through the schools NFF is increasing by 1.9% per pupil compared to 2022-23. Taken together with the funding increases seen in 2022-23, this means that funding through the schools NFF will be 7.9% higher per pupil in 2023-24, compared to 2021-22.
- The NFF will distribute this funding based on schools' and pupils' needs and characteristics. The main features in 2023-24 are:
- The core factors in the schools NFF (such as basic per-pupil funding, and the lump sum that all schools attract) will increase by 2.4%.
- Funding for disadvantaged pupils will see greater increases – with funding for two deprivation factors in the NFF increasing by a greater amount than other factors. These two factors (relating to pupils who have been eligible for free school meals at any point over the last six years, and the IDACI factor which relates to relative deprivation between local areas) will increase by 4.3% compared to their 2022-23 values.
- The funding floor will ensure that every school attracts at least 0.5% more pupil-led funding per pupil compared to its 2022-23 NFF allocation.
- The minimum per pupil funding levels (MPPLs) will increase by 0.5% compared to 2022-23. This will mean that, next year, every primary school will receive at least £4,405 per pupil, and every secondary school at least £5,715.
- The 2022-23 schools supplementary grant has been rolled into the schools NFF. Adding the grant funding to the NFF ensures that this additional funding forms part of schools' core budgets and will continue to be provided.
- The DfE's Schools Operational Guide for 2023-24 requires Local authorities to set an MFG between +0% and +0.5% per pupil. Any local authorities wanting to set an MFG outside of these parameters must apply for exceptional permission from the DfE.

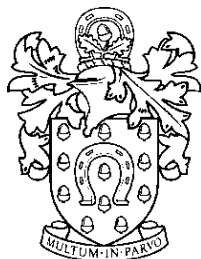
3.3 Caution needs to be applied to the information above as this was prior to the autumn statement and change in government, although during the autumn statement it was stated that there would be no reduction, in cash terms, to the funding already announced.

## **4 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.1 Schools Forum agree to continue to transfer the 0.5% to the high needs block schools

4.2 That Schools Forum Note the contents of the report.

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## SCHOOLS' FORUM

8<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### DSG SEND RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE

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#### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 To update members of Schools Forum on the progress of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Recovery Plan initiatives and projects designed to reduce the pressure on the Designated School Grant (DSG) High Needs Block:
- To update on the proposed DfE Delivering Better Value review
  - To update on the SEND Capital plans
  - To highlight related risks and issues.

#### 2. Financial Modelling

- 2.1 To support decision making and project investment, the SEND Recovery Plan financial model for high needs expenditure was developed. This utilises demand-based assumptions which include:
- **The total budget for the recovery projects 2022/23 is £364k**
  - High needs funding to increase by 5% annually.
  - A recurring 0.5% transfer from the schools' block.
  - Increase in placement costs has been extrapolated using the change in EHCP plans over the last few years.
  - Update average placement costs based on latest information.
- 2.2 The financial model is based on assumptions of success such as proportionate reduction in special school placements, and it must be noted that each action within the recovery plan factors in assumed impact and so there are no guarantees to each element.
- 2.3 The success of projects is also subject to influencing factors including the commitment and capacity of schools to engage, test and commit to alternative approaches. There is also now a demonstrable negative impact on the recovery plan from the pandemic and increase in SEND and Inclusion demand.

#### 3. SEND Recovery Plan Projects

- 3.1 SEND Recovery Plan projects background and assumptions can be found in Appendix A.

#### 4. Education Inclusion – Schools Support Partnership

- 4.1 Schools Forum approved agreed to a name change for the Education Inclusion Partnership in September 2022 to become the Schools Support Partnership (SSP). The Coordination is still provided by Caroline Crisi, now known as the SSP Coordinator.

- 4.2 The model of delivery and decision making has been iterative since the work started in 2018. Initially there was a panel for decision making with 6 Head teachers agreeing funding for packages of support proposed for children with escalating SEMH needs, based on the observations and assessment from the SSP Coordinator.
- 4.3 The SSP Primary Model changed in June 2022 to create a more responsive approach where SSP Coordinator continues to write action plan for cases, but interventions are arranged at the earliest opportunity direct with the SEMH specialist teachers linked to each school.
- 4.4 A Teams call SSP Review meeting chaired (three times a year) by the SSP Coordinator has been arranged for all primary head teachers and Sencos and the social worker (linked to Virtual School) and Education Lead.
- 4.5 This also allows for the SSP Coordinator to report back on data, gaps in provision and areas for development, using case studies examples to provoke discussion. It is anticipated that with good attendance all schools will then have a voice and the arrangement will enable robust analysis and quality assurance in the use of funding.
- 4.6 Recovery Plan contracts have been adjusted to need and a detailed list of the toolkit interventions was provided to SF in June 2022, briefly:
- The EIP Coordination and assessment functions – this is due for renewal in June 2023
  - SEMH teachers procured from Leicester City Council, just renewed
  - Speech, Language and Communication (SLCN) contract with Leicestershire Primary Trust with Early Years providers and Primary continuing to assist in shaping communicating rich environments- Sarah Patel
  - Additional SLCN capacity purchased for Secondary interventions from September 2022 - Jo Fredericks from Futures in Mind
  - Play Therapy contracts supporting attachment and trauma have been increased- two providers for flexibility
  - A range of interventions spot purchased according to budget from ADHD solutions, CASY counselling. The SSP has not recently required First Class specialist tutoring and psychological interventions from PiP.
- 4.7 Nurture outreach from the Hub at Edith Weston and some places on site in the Nurture Nest, Schools Forum agreed additional investment for this work to respond to demand, there has also been a refresh of the contract which now also includes a school to school agreements.
- 4.8 The monthly Providers meetings continue, bringing coordination for the best use of collective resources to avoid overlap and overwhelm of schools. The SENCo network require an alternative schools self-funded arrangements from September 2023 if it is to continue as it is.

## **5. Mainstream capability to support children with EHCPs**

- 5.1 Rutland has remaining DFE High Needs Capital allocation deigned to meet local SEND priorities
- 5.2 The SEND Programme Board provide governance for this work and in line with the changes that the Government wants to make to the special educational needs and disabilities services outlined in the **SEND Green paper**.
- 5.3 Recently this has provided the created facilities for mainstream plus arrangements at UCC to enable small group teaching for more children with EHCPs to access their learning locally



at Uppingham Community College. Phase 1 of the works will provide 2 teaching spaces; Phase 2 will provide 3 further teaching spaces at a total cost of £741k for an additional 50 students. The Enhanced Resourced Provision on site also provides 10 places for students with Education health and Care plans.

- 5.4 Before further Capital is committed options have been considered in light of the likely requirement for places. RCC Cabinet must grant approval to delegate the funding to preferred projects that progress the Rutland Inclusion Strategy.
- 5.5 The DfE Delivering Better Value Review of SEND arrangements, now underway as part of Tranche 2, this will also contribute analysis of Rutland's data, looking at children's needs, predicting demand and best use of available funding, to assist in considering transformation programmes that could help make Rutland's SEND systems more inclusive and meet the DfE Green Paper intentions. Key stakeholders including parents, schools and Health colleagues will be required to engage and assist in shaping plans between February and June 2023. Further information is expected in December 2022. This work approved by SF in September goes live in January, the SENCos briefing in February will cover this in detail.
- 5.6 Any projects considered will be set out in the SEND Recovery Plan and the Children and Young Peoples' Partnership Plan associated with **Rutland's SEND and Inclusion Strategy**.

## 6. EY pathways

- 6.1 Work continues between RCC, and OCE and The Parks Governing bodies, the culmination of shared vision work for early years arrangements. A shared timeline for developments including possible expansion of SEND unit provision places has been developed
- 6.2 It is hoped that we can replicate the learning from the SSP in providing hands on advice and support to providers to underpin confidence and practice in inclusion.
- 6.3 The plans include how best to share sector expertise and SEND resources across LA, Private Voluntary and Independent and maintained EY settings for the benefit of children and families.
- 6.4 Family Hub developments are coalescing to provide consistent support for parents, and increased help to set children who develop SEND

## 7. Key Project Risks and Issues

Risks	Mitigating factors
Covid affecting parental anxiety, children and young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health and concern about attending school.	<p>RCC are commissioning Anxiety Related Non -Attendance support (ARNA) over the next year.</p> <p>Schools taking up this training and implementing recommendations will be a significant mitigating factor</p>
Parental pressure for Specialist places	All practitioners can help build confidence, carry reassuring messages about meeting need in mainstream school and consistently seek help at the earliest stages through the EIP if unsure.
Change to existing SEN funding systems is difficult and may be opposed by Schools staff and Parents	<p>Well-constructed business case and inspired leadership required to develop fit for purpose services.</p> <p>RPCV informing practice and Communications strategy.</p> <p>Collaboration sessions with parents seeking positive and possible solutions</p>
Budgetary pressures, since all SEND Recovery plan EIP purchased interventions are now in demand.	Monitor spend carefully adjust intervention allocations accordingly. Utilise first line of support through SEMH link teacher, enable more responsive support so that the window of opportunity to help is not lost as needs escalate.
There is a risk that schools see places at the Nurture hub as a single solution. This is unsustainable and not the intention of the project.	Proposed further investment in 'Nurturing Schools' Practice and outreach across Primary and Secondary schools so this becomes a way of supporting children and families that is more widely adopted to help children with trauma and attachment issues often presenting as difficult behaviour
Parental concerns over changes to The Parks provision miscommunicated at a public meeting	<p>A meeting in early November with the collaborative parents group involving members of Rutland Parent Carers voice has helped clarify intentions.</p> <p>Agreed joint communications plan with RCC and OCE post Cabinet report in Nov 2022, which affirmed strategic direction.</p>
An increase in permanent exclusions in the last academic year, and a scheduled review of the Fair Access Protocol meeting scheduled with secondary school-leaders and DfE Advisor in January which was delayed from November.	Need to review and refresh and sign of an agreed Fair Access Protocol which is in line with Rutland's stated Inclusion Strategy, maintaining children in local education when their needs escalate.

## **Appendix A**

### **The SEND Recovery plan- purpose and assumptions**

- a) Schools Forum provides £364k of additional annual investment from the High Needs Block (HNB) with a range of projects and activities designed to increase capacity within mainstream schools to support children and young people with SEND, to be maintained in Rutland Schools as part of the SEND Recovery Plan.
- b) All schools in the partnership also contribute a small sum equivalent to £1 per student on roll yearly, a sum of about £3k
- c) All projects are predicated on the determination by schools' leaders to grow skills and knowledge in inclusionary classroom practice, to identify children early whose needs might otherwise be missed, misdiagnosed or misinterpreted in order to build sustainable capacity, expertise and confidence in supporting children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. The focus is that children are assisted to grow and succeed in mainstream school and to get practical help avoid exclusions and to support children quickly to help de-escalate situations and meet needs earlier to avoid an unnecessary EHCP (or follow a dual approach where this is the right path).
- d) Success for the SEND Recovery plan projects is based on recovering avoidable or unnecessary costs of specialist placements over time, with fewer children escalating out of the local mainstream education system and in line with intentions of the SEND Inclusion Strategy for Rutland and reflective of the line of direction indicated in the Governments intentions set out in both the recent SEND Green Paper and education White Paper.

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## Schools' Forum Forward Plan: 2022/23

Schools' Forum Meeting	Description	Type	Lead
Standing Agenda Items for every meeting	Welcome and Apologies	N/A	Chair
	Minutes and actions from previous meeting	N/A	Chair
	Finance Update	Information	A Merry
	SEND Recovery Plan	Information	L Crookenden Johnson
	Early Years Working Group	Information	PVI Representative
	Pupil Place Planning	Information	J Weller / G Curtis
	Review of Forward Plan and date of next meeting	Discussion	Chair
30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Notification of the Annual Review of the Constitution and Rules of Conduct including the Nomination of Chair and Vice Chair	Information	G Curtis
	Learning and Skills: Fees and Charges	Information	G Curtis
	Pupil Place Planning: update a) Childcare Sufficiency Statement	Information	G Curtis
	LPT SEND Annual Review Processes	Information	B Caffrey
	High Needs Funding	Discussion	S Milner
	Nurture	Discussion	S Milner
15 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 Council Chamber	Schools Budget 2023-24 forecast and request for a 0.5% transfer between the School Block and the High Needs Block.	Decision	A Merry
	Annual Election of Chair & Vice-Chair	Decision	G Curtis
	Annual Review of the Constitution and Rules of Conduct: Final Version for approval	Decision	G Curtis
	Nurture Hub and Practice A report exploring how additional funding could accelerate practice	Discussion	L Crookenden Johnson
	EHCP Proposal for Banding A report and a presentation from the Sector Led Task and Finish Group	Discussion	H Chester
	Homes For Ukraine (H4U)	Information	G Curtis
	a) H4U Working Group: Update b) Update on Funding for Ukrainian Children Who Have Entered England via the Homes for Ukraine Scheme		
8 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	EHCP Banding: A) Parental Feedback B) Update re. Working Group, Communications etc	Information Information	Ben Solly Helen Chester

	Rutland Schools' Data	Information	Lizzie Papworth
<b>16<sup>th</sup> March 2023</b>	Annual Review of Schools Forum Membership	Decision	G Curtis
	Annual SCAP Return	Information	D Wylie
	SCAP Scenario Planning	Information	J Weller
	Draft Forward Plan for 2023/24	Discussion	ALL
	Delivering Better Value Programme	Information	D Godfrey
	Attendance and Inclusion	Discussion	Helga Spry-Shute
	Rutland Schools' Data	Information	Lizzie Papworth
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023</b>	Notification of the Annual Review of the Constitution and Rules of Conduct including the Nomination of Chair and Vice Chair	Information	G Curtis
	Learning and Skills: Fees and Charges	Information	G Curtis
	Nurture Hub and Practice: Update	Discussion	L Crookenden Johnson
	Delivering Better Value Programme	Information	D Godfrey