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NOTTINGHAM CITY COUNCIL CHILDREN'S PARTNERSHIP BOARD

MINUTES of the meeting held at LB 41 - Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham, NG2 3NG on 18 December 2019 from 4.15 pm - 5.59 pm

✓	Councillor Barnard (Joint Chair)	Portfolio Holder for Children and Young People, Nottingham City Council
✓	Councillor Khan (Joint Chair)	Portfolio Holder for Education and Skills, Nottingham City Council
	Helen Blackman	Director of Children's Integrated Services, Nottingham City Council
	Nichola Bramhall	NHS Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Group representative
	Peter Bramhall	The Futures Group representative
	Nicky Bridges	Primary Schools' representative
	Julie Burton	National Probation Service Nottinghamshire representative
✓	Zoe Butler	Further Education representative
	Karla Capstick	Small Steps Big Changes representative
✓	Helene Denness	Public Health representative, Nottingham City Council
✓	Sarah Fielding	Nottingham Schools Trust and Virtual School representative
	Sue Fielding	Department for Work and Pensions representative
	Mathew Healey	Nottinghamshire Police representative
	Derek Hobbs	Secondary Schools' representative
	Nick Lee	Director of Education, Nottingham City Council
	Scott Mason	Primary Schools' representative
✓	Stephen McLaren	Voluntary Sector representative
	Claire Perry	Voluntary Sector representative
✓	Jon Rea	Engagement and Participation Lead Officer, Nottingham City Council
✓		Representatives for Young People (Youth Cabinet)
✓	Sophie Russell	Head of Children's Strategy and Improvement, Nottingham City Council
	David Stewart	Special Schools' representative
✓	Tracy Tyrell	Nottingham CityCare Partnership representative
✓	Catherine Underwood	Corporate Director for People, Nottingham City Council
✓	Chris Wallbanks	Head of Commissioning, Nottingham City Council
✓	Maria Ward	School Governor Representative

✓ Indicates present at meeting

Colleagues, partners and others in attendance:

Tim Brown - DWP
John Burton - Care Bureau Co-ordinator
Sandrw Cowley - Futures
John Dexter - Education Director
Debbie Hemsley - Engagement Officer
Dr Geetinder Kaur - Nottingham City Council
Phil Wye - Governance Officer

20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Helen Blackman
Peter Brammall
Nicky Bridges
Matthew Healey
Derek Hobbs
Karla Kapstick

21 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

22 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 September 2019 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

23 AN UPDATE ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN THE CONTEXT OF NOTTINGHAM CITY'S CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN 2016-20

Helene Denness, Consultant in Public Health, introduced the report highlighting partnership activity that promotes the health of babies, children and young people in Nottingham, specifically focussing on efforts to reduce:

- (1) the proportion of women smoking in pregnancy, which is significantly higher than the England average and the fourth highest among statistical neighbours;
- (2) the proportion of year 6 children who are obese which is significantly higher than the England average and the third highest among statistical neighbours, and
- (3) the percentage of mothers who breastfeed their babies at 6-8 weeks in Nottingham, whilst better than the England average is not improving and a local study indicates that breastfeeding rates are lower in younger, white women in the most deprived areas of the city.

The following points were raised during the discussion which followed:

- (a) the Council Plan has ambitious targets to make reductions in all these areas, as did the last Council Plan and Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP). Funding will be sought and, if secured, dedicated smoking in pregnancy posts created, alongside training for staff and engagement with young people;
- (b) schools often reward attainment and good behaviour with unhealthy food such as cakes and sweets, and this culture can be difficult to change, particularly as the Council's relationship with schools has changed. Examples of good alternative practice should be shared;
- (c) parents can be offended when they are informed that their children are overweight or obese in writing following the National Childhood Measurement Programme. Some vulnerable parents will be unwilling to seek the suggested help and less willing to engage;
- (d) some food cooked in classes at school is unhealthy and could be swapped for healthier alternatives;
- (e) arguably, the Council has more control and power over certain aspects of the obesogenic environment, such as licensing, advertising and sponsorship.

The Board was particularly interested in the perspective of the Youth Cabinet, given their current experience of the provision of food in schools and colleges.

The Board then split into three groups to discuss each of the three areas, and where improvement could be made. At the end of discussion each group summed up their main findings as follows:

- (f) childhood obesity – different communities' attitudes to food, preparation and mealtimes could be better shared, which could start at Primary Parliament. Also, community gardens could be used as a resource to teach children and young people about healthy eating. Early intervention is key;
- (g) breastfeeding – more focus could be on young women and stigmas around breastfeeding, along with wider body image issues. A peer support model with a celebrity or locally prominent community member could be used;
- (h) Smoking in pregnancy – Small Steps Big Changes could be used to test and learn. Support could be put in place for those who wish to swap from smoking to vaping. A peer support model would also be good here.

RESOLVED to

- (1) note the contents of the report and progress on health and wellbeing outcomes in the Nottingham City Children and Young People's Plan;**
- (2) continue to support the activity to improve health and wellbeing of children and young people in Nottingham;**
- (3) continue to prioritise health outcomes for children and young people in their strategic priorities and commissioning plans.**

24 DISCUSSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Sophie Russell, Head of Children's Strategy and Improvement, explained that the current Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) finishes in 2020. The Plan has four strategic priorities:

- promoting the health and wellbeing of babies, children and young people;
- safeguarding and supporting children and families;
- supporting achievement and academic attainment;
- empowering families to be strong and achieve economic wellbeing.

As a new CYPP is developed, the Board is asked to discuss whether these themes are still relevant and what should be captured in the new CYPP.

A video produced by The Pythian Club was then shown to the Board, showing young people from a range of backgrounds talking about their worries and aspirations for Nottingham.

The Board was then asked in groups to discuss what they would put in their 'house of good things', 'house of worries' and 'house of dreams' in the context of Nottingham. Each group was then asked for one thought to share with the Board, which were as follows:

- It would be good if there was more inter-generational discussion of problems and solutions in local communities;
- Some families are excluded from city events such as those at Old Market Square, due to high costs;
- There should be more investment in individuals and local role models in the Voluntary Community Sector.

25 YOUTH CABINET UPDATE

This item was withdrawn from the agenda as Youth Cabinet members had contributed to earlier discussions.

26 PARTNERSHIP UPDATE: PRIMARY SCHOOLS

This item was withdrawn from the agenda as the Primary Schools representative was unable to attend. A written update was available to Board members and is attached to these minutes.

27 KEY MESSAGES AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

None.

28 FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan was noted.

Partnership Update: Primary Schools (December 2019)

There are 77 Primary Schools in Nottingham City (3 Independents within this number). Every school is unique and all serve very individual communities with very different barriers to learning. There exists a range of schools with Academy status and some who are within the NST (Nottingham Schools Trust).

Nottingham City Primary schools are now in the majority Good or better schools as judged by Ofsted. Schools work collaboratively across local partnerships and within the City to share success and support each other. Attendance figures are now in line with national averages. Schools work incredibly to ensure the children attending them make good and better progress in order to attain well. Children now have more points than ever where their attainment is captured and their progress is calculated.

Early Years Foundation Stage Profile
Year 1 Phonics Screen Check
End of KS1 SATS
Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check (will be compulsory from 2020)
End of KS2 SATS

I can only reflect my own views as a Headteacher at Robin Hood Primary School which is located in Bestwood. We are a larger than average school with 420 pupils on roll from Reception through to Y6. The community we serve is diverse and the dynamics have shifted over the past 8 years. 34% of our pupils are in receipt of Pupil Premium and this is decreasing year on year. We have increasing numbers of children from other countries and with English as an Additional Language entering the school – especially Poland. We are part of the NST and also the Aspire Local Partnership of Schools. We are very lucky in terms of our physical environment and our school is partially new build (completed in 2011) and we have some extensive outdoor areas which means that we can run a successful Forest School / have plenty of areas to promote physical education and growing. We have a large staff (approx. 70) who work incredibly hard to support every child in our care as an individual and we are guided by our mission statement of “A community of learners aiming high to excel and exceed!” Below is a brief idea of the current sorts of challenges we (as are many primary schools) face at present:

1. Curriculum

Schools have been given the freedom to design a curriculum which best meets the needs of its pupils. This is a fantastic opportunity and allows every school to develop engaging and inspiring projects which reflect the community they serve. Curriculums must be built upon delivering the skills of the National Curriculum and be rigorous in terms of evidencing progress between year groups. This change has come about alongside a new Ofsted Framework (Sept 2019) This evolving ambitious curriculum sits alongside the subjects of Math, Reading and Writing and the key knowledge in these subjects which we must be aware is acquired and retained.

2. Children’s Mental Health

We are lucky and have a very skilled Nurture Team in our school. As part of this team we have a dedicated Talking Therapist. We have seen a significant increase of children struggling with their mental health in the past couple of years.

The Routes to Inclusion programme has been very well received in our school. We are very committed to working with individual children and their families in order to prevent exclusions. Our Nurture team run a variety of programmes e.g. Lego Therapy / Circle of Friends / Marvellous Me to support many children across school in raising self-esteem and building self-regulation strategies.

3. Reading

Our ambition is to be a book loving school and ensure children and staff alike have a good breadth of texts and literatures. We want to celebrate local writers and encourage children to read widely – seeking the support of libraries inside and outside of school as much as possible to do this. We reward children regularly with books – we aim to share classic texts and current new titles as much as we can and engage children at every opportunity of the curriculum to be exposed to books / text. We run a spoken word project (a 2 week period where every year group learns a section of text linked to their curriculum project by rote and which is then performed). We aim to engage parents (as we believe parents are a child's key educator) in loving books too and have run a family book club. Early Reading is very much a high profile topic on the Ofsted agenda and we continue to review and evaluate our approach to the teaching of Reading – in particular the teaching of Phonics and Shared Reading.

4. Early Help

We have six trained DSL's (Designated Safeguarding Leads) in our school and also have a Family Support Worker and several staff who work with Nursery parents and with siblings of children in our school who are 0-3. We aim to build great relationships with parents and their families. We are finding more and more that we are directing families to Early Help Services. More and more schools are very much part of the Early Help package. Safeguarding concerns are various and often complicated – many of them increasingly point to an increase in adult mental health which impacts directly on the children we teach. Several of our Office staff and Nurture Team have accessed the MHFA training and we have several staff looking to access the Adult Mental First Aid Training also.

5. Staff Wellbeing

The staff at Robin Hood are well established and work very hard. As time goes on there is a greater focus on staff workload and wellbeing. Staff work passionately to support children in school and it is a difficult job getting the balance of pastoral care and academic rigour. We encourage staff to support one another and

6. Budgets

It is difficult to forecast for a 3 year plan as the political and educational landscape is so uncertain. In order to run successfully (with high levels of SEND, a significant number of children requiring 1:2:1 adult support, running our Hayroom provision – to support children with ASC and our Hub – our internal provision to support children with self-regulation strategies) and the usual staffing – the budget is stretched. It is a key part of the job to get the most from it. We have a significant Pupil Premium budget but accessing the funding which is available is not straightforward.

These are just some of the current challenges in the educational climate which we are currently in and they are ever changing. Being a Headteacher at Robin Hood is a great job – a great privilege and I very much appreciate the support of staff, Governors, local Headteachers and the NST.