

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

SCHOOLS FORUM

October 2021

Q2 Update: High Needs Block 2021/22

Open

Classification - For Scrutiny Review & Comment

Key Decision: No

Wards Affected: (All Wards): All

Accountable Director: Jacqui McShannon, Director of Children's Services

Report Authors:

Joe Gunning - Programme Lead, Children's Services

Jan Parnell – Director of Education

Purpose of the report

This report provides an update on the High Needs Block programmes of work and performance against the Safety Valve agreement at Q2.

Recommendations:

1. Schools Forum to note the current position of the High Needs Block (HNB) and forthcoming transformation programmes.

Programme Update

Is your authority still on track to meet the deficit control or reduction targets as set out in the agreement?								
Hammersmith and Fulham remain on track to pay down the cumulative deficit in line with the release of the Safety Valve payments as agreed.								
21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26				
4,000,000	4,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000					
13,509,894	9,178,179	6,121,399	2,150,247	(8,313)				
	•		•					
	n on track to ve payments 21/22 4,000,000	n on track to pay down ve payments as agreed 21/22 22/23 4,000,000 4,000,000	n on track to pay down the cumulative payments as agreed. 21/22 22/23 23/24 4,000,000 4,000,000 3,000,000	n on track to pay down the cumulative deficit ve payments as agreed. 21/22 22/23 23/24 24/25 4,000,000 4,000,000 3,000,000 3,000,000	n on track to pay down the cumulative deficit in line ve payments as agreed. 21/22 22/23 23/24 24/25 25/26 4,000,000 4,000,000 3,000,000 3,000,000			

Programme	Aims/Update	Delivery date and status
Inclusion Funding	 A new pilot is on track to be launched that will focus on the development of a 'Team Around the school approach'. The approach will support schools in ensuring best access to the ordinarily available and local offer and the range of SEN support services and resources available to meet needs pre EHC Needs Assessment. 	Autumn term 2021
SLCN Transformation	 Launch of the Joint Communication Team that will focus on improving accessibility to Speech, Language and Communication support without the need for an EHCP to 	Soft launch Autumn term 2021

Programme	Aims/Update	Delivery date and status
	 ensure early identification and intervention via a multidisciplinary team. The service will support building capacity across the workforce through a training offer to support children with SLCN and integration into the curriculum building capacity at SEN Support. Communication Champions relaunch and developing network support for schools 	Full launch January 2022
Interim Tuition Phase 2 – Medical Needs Pathways	 A number of service refinements have been undertaken to date including: Referrals considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure the best provision for the child or young person. There is greater emphasis on schools' responsibility to use best endeavours to ensure that the child and young person has access to learning. Support from medical professionals in advising where the child is not fit to return to school. Better value for money packages secured and existing tuition packages reviewed and clarified. A brokerage function has been introduced to spot purchase from a variety of home tuition providers. Next steps include development of long-term procurement strategy for provision. 	TBC
AP review	 Regularisation of AP place commissioning requirements is on track as per the separate paper to Schools Forum setting out the 2022/23 commissioning intentions. Regularisation of LA contributions to schools commissioned provision for fixed term exclusions will deliver a part year effect from September 2021 with full year effect from September 2022 as agreed with Secondary Headteachers. Regularisation of funding recoupment activities is agreed effective from April 2021. 	September 2022 September 2021 – September 2022 April 2021
Outreach	 Launch of a new ASD Outreach model with central coordination, triage, and intervention support is on track for delivery across the Autumn term 2021. Autism Education Training model funded by Local Authority will be rolled out to develop a whole school training approach to create capacity within mainstream environments to support children with presenting needs as part of the ordinarily available offer. Review of SEMH Outreach provision is ongoing. Phase 1: has focused on the central coordination and single front door for outreach referrals developing an integrated offer with inhouse Outreach services and TBAP commissioned provision. Phase 2: will focus on a review and design of future delivery model for implementation from September 2022 with the aim of building capacity and providing mainstream settings with sufficient knowledge and skills to meet needs through a team that 'in-reaches' to schools to provide support to children, families and teachers. 	Autumn term 2021 September 2021 Phase 1: September 2021 / Phase 2 September 2022
SEN Sufficiency	H&F will shortly be releasing a tender to identify a provider to commence in January 2022 to support in developing a	2021/22 Academic

Programme	Aims/Update	Delivery date and status
planning	 medium to long-term plan to re-design specialist provision in H&F in collaboration with schools, parents, and partners. The programme will aim to build a system-wide mechanism across education, health and care to capture changing population needs, accurately project future specialist provision requirements so appropriate provisions can be identified and commissioned. 	Year
SEND Strategy	 Since becoming a sovereign service in 2018, considerable work has been undertaken in partnership with and full consultation with our young people, parents, carers and schools The feedback to date has shaped the SEND Transformation Programme (High Needs Block programme) and the development of a draft SEND Strategy which we anticipate consulting on in the Autumn term We will also be seeking to coproduce an Inclusion Charter with schools to support the implementation of the strategy via an agreed set of inclusion principles that schools and services commit to in delivery services to child, young people and their families The Ordinarily Available document will also be launched to support schools in understanding the local offer, universal, targeted and specialist provision available. 	October- December 2021