

## **Schools Forum**

**2<sup>nd</sup> May 2017**

### **Stockton Strategic Education Board (SSEB)**

#### **Introduction**

1. In Stockton we have had a long heritage of sector led improvement and forums to enable the voice of schools to direct and drive the work of the Council. Many of these forums remain very active and some are new, such as the Raising Achievement Partnerships. Given the context of funding changes, emerging partnerships across the sub region and region and the need to respond cogently and quickly, we now forming a new sector-led board for Stockton made up of key partners and schools.
2. The intention of a new board will be to reflect on performance across Stockton, draw the intelligence from Raising Achievement Partnerships and form and articulate the priorities for Stockton schools. These priorities will help to shape local services in the context of diminishing resources, inform the agenda for the Combined Authority and inform regional partnerships in responses and bids to the national school improvement funding opportunities.
3. The purpose therefore of the SSEB is to be the sector led board that is representative of the Stockton community of schools and its key partners.
4. This board will form the cogent and robust voice to direct local support and services and represent the interests of Stockton on the Tees Valley Combined Authority's School Improvement Board and regional partnerships.
5. It will be a key driver of the agenda for Stockton around school improvement, education and skills and unite partnerships in shared, collaborative work. It will put the best interest of children in Stockton first. It will develop, therefore, collaborative capital to be the 'conscience for the system' - a champion for the vulnerable child predicated on moral imperative and an understanding that no school or institution is as important as meeting an individual child's needs.

#### **Membership**

6. Overall, The Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance has been active in shaping this proposal but it is agreed that any new sector-led Stockton board should comprise of membership to be elected from across Stockton stakeholders. As it is crucial that any such board is set up quickly in order to be in a position to inform the emerging Combined Authority, Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance has agreed to provide interim members. The full board structure and interim membership is proposed as:

- A maintained Primary rep – Lis Lees
  - A maintained secondary rep – Craig Walker
  - A special school rep – Elizabeth Horne
  - Children centre rep – Glenis Charlton
  - FE reps – Mick Hickey, Stockton Riverside College
  - Diocesan reps – Kevin Duffy, Director of Schools, Diocese of Middlesbrough
  - LA education rep – Diane McConnell. Deborah Merrett
  - Business rep – Rachel Anderson, Chamber of Commerce
  - Health rep – Sarah Bowman, Interim Director of Public Health
  - Social care rep – Rhona Bollands, Assistant Director Safeguarding and Looked After Children
  - Teaching Alliance rep – Chris Aitkin
  - Stand-alone academy rep – Louise Spellman, Conyers
  - MAT rep – Maura Regan, CEO Carmel Academy Trust
  - Voluntary sector rep- Steve Rose, CEO Catalyst
  - Elected member rep – Cllr Ann McCoy and Cllr Carol Clark
  - SCITT rep – Karen Norton
  - Schools Forum rep
  - Campus Stockton Board rep – Simon White
7. An initial meeting took place on the 4th April, at the Education Centre. This early meeting was to confirm membership, discuss terms of reference for the board and begin to set out the vision.
8. The School Forum Chair Jackie Conway and Andy Bryson attended the first meeting on behalf of the Forum but going forward the Board requires a permanent representative. Therefore a nomination is required from a member of the Forum to be the representative on the Board.

## **Functions of the Board**

9. The board will:
- Articulate the compelling vision to achieve trust, collaboration and partnership across Stockton
  - Monitor and evaluate the outcomes for children and young people in Stockton using the evidence from Raising Achievement Partnerships, data and local intelligence from a range of agencies
  - Determine the priorities for education for the borough which in turn will influence the services and activities commissioned
  - Oversee the implementation of school improvement activity across Stockton, ensuring that a range of support is available to meet the requirements of schools
  - Inform the council, the sub regional and the regional partnerships, the RSC and the Combined Authority of these priorities and the implications for service delivery and budget allocations

- Hold all providers and partners to account for their role in delivering improved outcomes for children and young people in Stockton against these priorities
- Respond swiftly to changing priorities, funding streams and capacity.

### **Recommendations**

10. That the schools formal formally nominate a representative from the Forum to attend the Board.

Andy Bryson  
Finance Manager