

Children's Centres and Extended Schools Update

Edition 2 | Winter 2007

Sure Start Children's Centres

1. Phase 2 progress

Progress made by Hampshire County Council in meeting phase 2 targets has been noted by the national monitoring organisation. Together for Children, who support and observe local authorities on behalf of the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), has assessed that the County Council has made strong progress. As a result they have changed Hampshire's 'traffic light' style rating from 'red' to 'amber'.

2. Recruitment

Recruitment of centre managers and centre co-ordinators for Hampshire County Council and school managed children's centres is currently underway.

Posts have been advertised using national and local press, as well as a dedicated website (www.if-anyone-can.co.uk).

Interviews are currently being held but a further round of recruitment may be necessary to fill all posts. Support is also available for third-party managed centres in their recruitment processes.

3. Service Contracts/Agreements

Service Contracts (for school and third-party managed centres) and Service Agreements (for County Council managed centres) for the provision of children's centre services have been distributed. Funds will be transferred to providers following receipt of signed contracts.

4. Quality & Performance Framework

The Quality & Performance Framework for children's centres will be launched at an event on 17 January 2008 at Winchester Guildhall. The framework will be used to support improvement in the quality of services and to measure impact against targets. The launch event will:

- ▶ enable children's centres to gain a clear understanding of the Quality & Performance Framework
- ▶ demonstrate how children's centre performance will be monitored against key targets
- ▶ evidence how the framework can support children's centres in identifying and planning services

This event is aimed at children's centre managers and co-ordinators, together with their line managers and Interim Partnership Board members, to enable a shared understanding of the County Council's expectations with regard to quality and performance and how the framework will be implemented within their centres.

5. Children's Centre Management Handbook

A Management Handbook, providing all the essential policies and guidance for children's centres, is in the final stages of being developed. Design of the handbook is focusing on ensuring it is easy to use, and will be an invaluable resource for centre managers and co-ordinators. The handbook has either direct access to specific guidance, policies and procedures, or signposts users to an online version available on Hantsnet (Intranet).

The handbook will be launched in January, at the Quality & Performance event detailed above (17 January 2008, Winchester Guildhall).

6. Phase 3

The DCSF released guidance for phase 3 Sure Start Children's Centres in November 2007. Hampshire will receive approximately £39 million revenue funding, and £10.5 million capital funding for the development of further centres under this phase, as well as the continued support of phase 1 and 2 centres.

There are no Government targets for the number of children's centres to be provided under phase 3. Instead, Hampshire has to reach a further 23,086 under 5s. This gives an indicative number of 29 centres to be developed in the county between April 2008 and March 2010.

Phase 3 centres will provide improved access to services for families living in less disadvantaged and more affluent areas and will be based on the graduated model (no phase 3 centres will be expected to provide childcare). Generally phase 3 centres will build on existing local services for children and families e.g. schools, health centres and nurseries, to offer better integration and accessibility, and will work closely with local private, voluntary and independent sector organisations.

Planning for phase 3 in Hampshire will begin in early 2008.

7. 'eStart'

Hampshire's children's centres will begin using the 'eStart' management information system from 3 December 2007. This system is used by many local authorities to support children's centre monitoring and reporting. Staff have undergone training in preparation for the launch of the system.

'eStart' will provide the County Council with a valuable tool in supporting the quality improvement and performance management of children's centres, as well as providing centres with a management information system to inform their day-to-day activities. The software enables multi-agency working, and the recording of data to help understand community needs and target excluded groups.

Extended Schools

1. Extended Schools Remodelling Support Programme

The Extended Schools Remodelling Support Programme launched in 2005 has now engaged schools from all 71 pyramid clusters in the county. The 'three workshop' programme has been delivered by teams of trained multi-agency facilitators in over 20 areas, bringing together school leaders, governors, District Council representatives and a large number of voluntary and community partner organisations. The programme has aimed at encouraging schools to work in partnership with each other, with existing service providers and with community based organisations to provide access to the core offer of services for children, families and the community. In most areas the programme has been completed, with area partnerships now working to ensure the core offer can be in place by September 2008. The table below lists the remaining workshops planned up to March 2008. Partner organisations providing core offer services in any of these areas, and interested in attending, should contact the Extended Schools Administrator, Sam Ward - sam.ward@hants.gov.uk.

Planned Extended School Remodelling Support Workshops up to March 2008.				
Area/cohort	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Connaught/Wavell	14 January 2008	9.30–13:00	Connaught School	Workshop
Hamble	31 January 2008	9.30–13:00	Pilands Wood Community Centre, Bursledon	Workshop 3
Havant/Hayling	31 January 2008	9.30–13:00	Hayling Island Sailing Club	Workshop 3
Rushmoor Area	14 February 2008	TBC	TBC	Area Conference
Petersfield	27 February 2008	9.30–13:00	TBC	Workshop 3
Alresford	4 March 2008	9.30–13:00	Watercress Line, Alresford	Workshop 3

2. Extended Service Co-ordination

Following the allocation of Standards Grant funding this year to extended service partnerships, to ensure that school clusters have access to strategic management and co-ordination of extended services in their area, over 35 cluster co-ordinators and partnership managers have been appointed or seconded. 15 new co-ordinators attended the first three-day, Hampshire based, training course for cluster managers held in Basingstoke in July. A further 18 co-ordinators attended a second course recently held in Winchester. Both programmes were run in conjunction with the national Training and Development Agency (TDA). Participant feedback from both events was very positive.

An Extended Schools Co-ordinator Forum now meets termly, with the next one being planned for Thursday 6 March 2008 at a venue to be agreed. Over 30 co-ordinators have attended induction training tutored by members of the Extended Schools Consultant Team.

The following table provides contact details of all the current area and cluster co-ordinators. Community based organisations wishing to engage with their local school clusters in the delivery of the core services for children, young people and families should, in the first instance, contact the co-ordinator in their particular area.

Hampshire Extended Schools Co-ordinators.			
Area	Area Partnerships (cluster identified by secondary school pyramid)	Area or cluster co-ordinator/ contact	Email
Basingstoke	Aldworth, Bishop Challoner, Brighton Hill	Tracey Holloway	tracey.holloway@asc.hants.sch.uk
	Everest, Fort Hill	Christine Thresher	christine.thresher@everest.hants.sch.uk
	Costello, Cranbourne, The Vyne	Maggie Jordan	m.jordan@vyne.hants.sch.uk
Farnborough Aldershot	Oak Farm	Dave Harvey	dave.harvey@oakfarm.hants.sch.uk
Fleet Odiham Yateley	Calthorpe Park, Court Moor	Lucy Ellis	lucy.ellis@court-moor.hants.sch.uk
	Frogmore	Rosemary Murray	murrayr@frogmorecollege.hants.sch.uk
	Robert Mays	Martin Longhorn	martin.longhorn@rmays.hants.sch.uk
Burghclere	The Clere	Debra Gould	debra.gould@clere.hants.sch.uk
Baughurst	The Hurst	Bob Horne	bob.horne@hurst.hants.sch.uk
Whitchurch	Testbourne	Paul Bushell	paul.bushell@testbourne.hants.sch.uk
Andover Stockbridge	Harrow Way, Winton, John Hanson, Test Valley	Clive Graham	clive.graham@harrowway.hants.sch.uk
Romsey	Mountbatten Romsey School	Tony McGovern	tony.mcgovern@mountbatten.hants.sch.uk
Forest	Arnewood, Burgate, Priestlands, Ringwood	John Taylor	jw.taylor@arnewood.hants.sch.uk
Totton & Waterside	Hounslow, Testwood	Melanie Leeder	melanie.leeder@eling.hants.sch.uk
	Applemore, Hardley, Noadswood	Geraldine Spencer	geraldine.spencer@eling.hants.sch.uk
Petersfield	Bohunt	Brian Knight	knight_b@bohunt.hants.sch.uk
Bordon, Liphook	Mill Chase	Glynis Blake	glynisblake@aol.com
Alton Alresford	Bushy Leaze EYC	Clare Allen	clare.allen@bushyleaze.hants.sch.uk
	Amery Hil, Eggars	Alison Cliffe	alison.cliffe@bushyleaze.hants.sch.uk
Winchester Swanmore	Henry Beaufort, Kings Swanmore, Westgate	Mike Simpson	extendedschools@btconnect.com
Hedge End Hamble	Hamble	Alison Horsley	horsleya@hamblecollege.co.uk
	Wildern	Suzanne Watson	s.watson@wildern.hants.sch.uk
Eastleigh Chandlers Ford Fair Oak Hamble	Crestwood	Angela Horn	angela.horn@crestwood.hants.sch.uk
	Quilley	Linda Boden	lboden@quilley.hants.sch.uk
	Toynbee	Peter Washington	p.washington@toynbee.hants.sch.uk
	Thornden	Teresa Pickup	teresa.pickup@energie-club.co.uk
	Wyvern	Simon Stocks	s.stocks@wyvern.hants.sch.uk
Fareham West	Brookfield	Kay Jackson	kay.jackson@brookfield.hants.sch.uk
	Henry Cort	Ashley Melrose	acm@henry-cort.hants.sch.uk
	Neville Lovett	Lynette Hobbs	l.hobbs@nevillelovett.hants.sch.uk
Fareham East	Cams Hill, Portchester	Susie Higgs	shiggs@farehamaction.org.uk
Horndean Cowplain Waterlooville	Cowplain	Jayne Ashberry	jayne.ashberry@hants.gov.uk
	Crookhorn	Jayne Dalley	jayne.dalley@hulbert.hants.sch.uk
	Horndean	Nicky Bugden	n.bugden@horndeantc.hants.sch.uk
		Brendan Charles	hca.manager@btconnect.com
Havant Hayling Gosport	The Hayling	Lydia Armstrong	menghamcommunityroom@hotmail.com
	Warblington	Stuart Woods	stuart.woods@warblington.hants.sch.uk
	Bridgemary	Rosellen Lambert	r.lambert@bridgemary.hants.sch.uk
	Brune Park	Zandra Ranger	zranger@brunepark.hants.sch.uk
Leigh Park	Staunton Park, Park	Jan Groom	jan.groom@trosnant-jun.hants.sch.uk
Special Schools	Special Schools	Martin Goodwin	martin.goodwin@salterns.hants.sch.uk

3. Third Sector Pilot

The Extended Schools Officer has been working with representatives from the Voluntary Alliance, Community Action, Hampshire Children and Families Forum (HCFF), ContinYou including KIDS, the YMCA, and extended school leads to develop further opportunities for third sector organisations in Hampshire to strengthen collaboration between schools and voluntary and community organisations in the delivery of extended services. A small planning group has been meeting to consider ways in which Community and Voluntary Sector (CVS) organisations could share best practice further with school clusters. As a first step, it is anticipated that the proposed Extended Services Conference on 28 March 2008 will incorporate a 'market place' exhibition area for voluntary and community organisations to communicate what they do and how they could work with schools in the delivery of the core offer. Organisations interested in taking a table at this conference should, in the first instance, contact Sally Brook at HCFF – admin@hcff.org.uk

4. School Improvement Framework

The TDA has recently published a School Improvement Planning Framework. This has been developed through a nine month pilot, in which a number of Hampshire schools (including The Hurst School) were involved. The framework provides a toolkit of six modules aimed at enhancing school improvement planning by connecting two key objectives; raising standards of achievement and maximising the well being and learning potential of all pupils.

Briefings about the framework have been provided this term in liaison with the TDA to the Education and Inclusion Senior Management Team, to Secondary School Improvement Managers, and to Extended School Co-ordinators and Consultants. Further briefings are planned for Primary School Improvement Managers in February 2008. It is anticipated that further briefings and hands-on training will be made available through area partnerships for interested schools early next year.

Copies of the framework summary can be downloaded from the Teachernet - www.teachernet.gov.uk.

5. 'Starting School' Project

The DCSF is currently undertaking a two year pilot project to identify the most effective ways to provide transition information sessions to those in a parenting role at the beginning of the primary and secondary phases. Since 2006, 50 Hampshire schools have been engaged in this Starting School pilot. The DCSF is now looking to roll this initiative out to all Hampshire schools by September 2008, and build on the experience of the pilot project and the good practice that already exists in schools in the delivery of transition programmes for parents – a key strand of the core extended schools offer.

The National Family and Parenting Institute (NFPI) has been commissioned by the DCSF to develop a toolkit for facilitators, to include materials for use at information sessions, and fact sheets for parents to take away. To support Hampshire schools in providing access for all parents to information sessions at key transition points, free training is being provided by the NFPI for cluster based transition facilitators at two courses being held in February – one in the north of the county and one in the south of the county. Each course will include an introduction to materials to support the sessions, delivery models and approaches to working with parents. Further information about the project can be found on the following websites, and by contacting Sharon Goodchild, Project Manager at the Parent Development Team - sharon.goodchild@hants.gov.uk.

www.dcsf.gov.uk

www.teachernet.gov.uk

www.governornet.gov.uk

www.familyandparenting.org

Children's Centre Services

Children's Services Department (Southside Offices)
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UG

Tel: 01962 847291

Email: childrenscentres@hants.gov.uk

Web: www.hants.gov.uk/childrens-centres

Extended Schools

Children's Services Department (Southside Offices)
The Castle, Winchester SO23 8UG

Tel: 01962 845470

Email: carole.warmington@hants.gov.uk

Web: www3.hants.gov.uk/extended-schools