

LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting 12 January 2021

Item No 14

Title: Schools Forum Meeting Arrangements

Appendix A refers

Executive Summary

This report asks the Forum to consider future meeting arrangements.

Recommendations

The Forum is asked to:

- a) Note the report;**
- b) Express any views about the future meeting schedule.**

Members are asked to add the dates to their diaries/calendars.

Background

A draft Forum schedule for the 2021/22 academic year is attached at Appendix A. The schedule has been produced following a similar pattern to that used in 2020/21.

The Forum team have made provisional room bookings for these meetings in The Exchange conference facilities at County Hall, Preston, but these are not shown on the schedule at this stage.

In the immediate future, meetings for the next cycle of Forum meetings, schedule later in the spring term 2020, will continue to be arranged as virtual sessions, and this is allowable under the Schools Forums (England) (Coronavirus) (Amendment) Regulations 2020. However, these regulations shall cease to have effect on 1st April 2021.

The DfE have sought feedback about whether a continuation of this discretion allowing Forum's to meet virtually would be welcomed, and we understand that there has been a positive response to the suggestion. It is not yet clear if the DfE will allow virtual schools forum meetings to continue after April 2021, and if so, if it will only be for a period when the pandemic continues to impact on our ability to be in close proximity to our colleagues, or if it would be a longer term change, reflecting a 'new normal'.

The Forum is asked to comment on the schedule and the possibility of continued virtual meetings.

Individual members are asked to add the dates to their diaries/calendars.

Lancashire Schools Forum Meeting Schedule 2021/22

Autumn Term

Meeting	Day	Date	Time	Venue
Schools Forum Induction	Thursday	16-Sep-21	10:00 – 13.00	
Schools Block Working Group	Tuesday	21-Sep-21	10:00 – 13.00	
High Needs Block Working Group	Tuesday	28-Sep-21	10:00 – 13.00	
Early Years Block Working Group	Tuesday	05-Oct-21	13.00 – 16.00	
Lancashire Schools Forum	Tuesday	19-Oct-21	10:00 – 13.00	
Early Years Block Working Group	Tuesday	30-Nov-21	13.00 – 16.00	
High Needs Block Working Group	Thursday	02-Dec-21	10:00 – 13.00	
Schools Block Working Group	Tuesday	07-Dec-21	10:00 – 13.00	

Spring Term

Meeting	Day	Date	Time	Venue
Chairman's Working Group	Tuesday	11-Jan-22	10:00 – 13.00	
Lancashire Schools Forum	Thursday	13-Jan-22	10:00 – 13.00	
High Needs Block Working Group	Tuesday	01-Mar-22	10:00 – 13.00	
Schools Block Working Group	Thursday	03-Mar-22	10:00 – 13.00	
Early Years Block Working Group	Tuesday	08-Mar-22	13.00 – 16.00	
Lancashire Schools Forum	Thursday	17-Mar-22	10:00 – 13.00	

Summer Term

Meeting	Day	Date	Time	Venue
High Needs Block Working Group	Tuesday	14-Jun-22	10:00 – 13.00	
Early Years Block Working Group	Thursday	16-Jun-22	13.00 – 16.00	
Schools Block Working Group	Tuesday	21-Jun-22	10:00 – 13.00	
Lancashire Schools Forum	Tuesday	05-Jul-22	10:00 – 13.00	

All meetings take place at The Exchange, County Hall