

LANCASHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM

Date of meeting 5 July 2022

Item No 6

Title: Lancashire County Council's Education Strategy 2022-2025 and Team Around the School and Settings

Appendix A refers

Executive Summary

This report provides information on the County Council's Education Strategy 2022-2025 and Team Around the School and Settings

Forum Decision Required

The Forum is asked to:

- a) Note the report;**
- b) Express any views on the Education Strategy 2022-2025 and Team Around the School and Settings**

Background

Julie Bell, Director of Education, Culture and Skills and /or Delyth Mathieson, Head of Service Education Improvement will attend the meeting to present a verbal update on this item.

The Education Strategy for 2022-2025 sets out the county council's ambition for all children and young people in Lancashire, regardless of their starting point in life, to have access to quality learning that will enable them to thrive and develop the life skills to support them into a productive and happy adulthood.

A copy of the Strategy is attached at **Appendix A**. The document:

- Contains a foreword by CC Jayne Rear, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills Lancashire County Council;
- Outlines five priorities for the county;
- Is underpinned by 'seven pillars' to clearly demonstrate shared responsibilities across partner agencies that will help drive the joined-up approach to education in Lancashire.

Key to the strategy is **Team Around the School and Settings (TASS)**, which is an approach that involves local partners, networks and children specialist professionals to help identify patterns, address strategic issues, help make improvements and ultimately achieve the very best outcomes for all children and young people in Lancashire.

As previously requested by the Forum, further information on Team Around the Schools and Settings is available [here](#).



Lancashire Education Strategy

2022 – 2025



Foreword



Jayne Rear

County Councillor Jayne Rear
Cabinet Member for
Education and Skills
Lancashire County Council

Lancashire is a large and wonderfully diverse county, with more than 177,000 pupils at 628 schools. Lancashire County Council is the fourth largest local authority in the country, with a plethora of opportunities and our fair share of challenges.

Lancashire County Council's vision is to help make Lancashire the best place to live, work, visit and prosper, and our new Education Strategy sets out how we intend to make that happen for our children and young people.

We have high aspirations for all our children, whatever their starting point. Access to quality learning from childhood through to adulthood enables children to thrive and develop the life skills that will support them into a productive and happy adulthood.

The Education Strategy for 2022-2025 sets out our ambition for our children and young people and how we intend to fulfil our responsibilities in providing them with everything they need to go forward and do fantastic things with their lives.

We are making it our mission to improve access, quality and outcomes for all children and families in our county in the next three years. By working with our partners, we will do all that we can to drive educational excellence and get all schools to, at the very least, an Ofsted judgement of 'good'.

We want to ensure sufficient childcare for all children who meet the criteria and school places for all children, as well as aligning services, schools and settings to address barriers to learning and recognise the individual needs of both children and communities to tailor the educational support we provide.



Our Partnership Vision



Children, young people and their families are safe, and achieve their full potential.

Lancashire Children, Young People and Families Partnership Vision



Education Strategy Mission Statement



'In Lancashire, we have high aspirations for all our children and young people, whatever their starting point. Access to a quality learning pathway, from childhood through to adulthood, enabling them to thrive and develop the life skills that will support them into a productive and happy adulthood, is at the root of our council ambition to ensure that children of all abilities do well in our schools and colleges gaining important skills and expertise for life.'



Our Purpose

There are key elements that the Local Authority has to do regarding education, and these are set out within The Education Act. In summary, the statutory duties can be summarised under three key headings:

Access

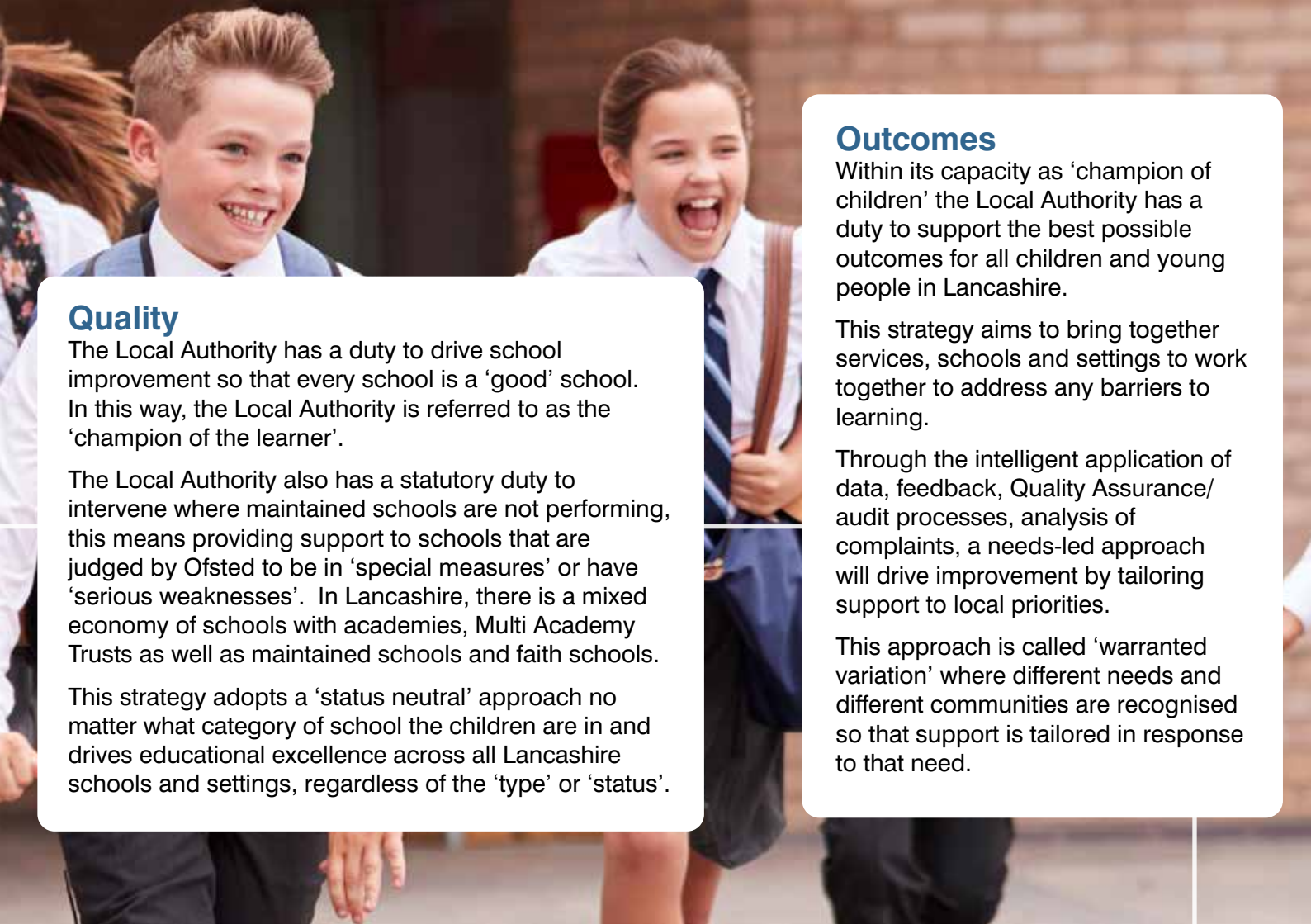
This relates to our 'sufficiency duty' where all children of statutory school age are entitled to education across a range of placements sufficient to meet their needs.

This duty relates not only to schools but also to the universal early years entitlements offer for all 3- and 4-year olds and our duty to have sufficient places for disadvantaged 2-year-olds and the 3 and 4-year-old extended 15 hours for working parents.

What this means is, the Local Authority must ensure that there are sufficient childcare and school places for all children meeting these criteria.

This duty also relates to special school places and access to alternative provision for children who either for medical or behavioural reasons are unable to access full-time education at times.





Quality

The Local Authority has a duty to drive school improvement so that every school is a 'good' school. In this way, the Local Authority is referred to as the 'champion of the learner'.

The Local Authority also has a statutory duty to intervene where maintained schools are not performing, this means providing support to schools that are judged by Ofsted to be in 'special measures' or have 'serious weaknesses'. In Lancashire, there is a mixed economy of schools with academies, Multi Academy Trusts as well as maintained schools and faith schools.

This strategy adopts a 'status neutral' approach no matter what category of school the children are in and drives educational excellence across all Lancashire schools and settings, regardless of the 'type' or 'status'.

Outcomes

Within its capacity as 'champion of children' the Local Authority has a duty to support the best possible outcomes for all children and young people in Lancashire.

This strategy aims to bring together services, schools and settings to work together to address any barriers to learning.

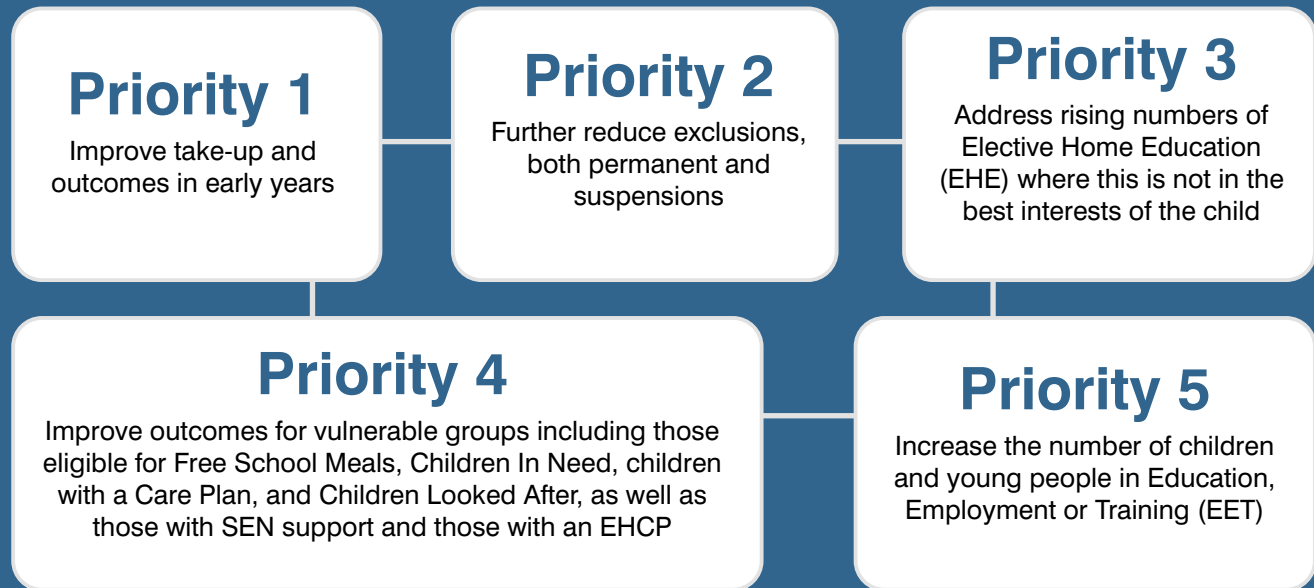
Through the intelligent application of data, feedback, Quality Assurance/audit processes, analysis of complaints, a needs-led approach will drive improvement by tailoring support to local priorities.

This approach is called 'warranted variation' where different needs and different communities are recognised so that support is tailored in response to that need.

Our improvement priorities

We will continue to focus on addressing the inequity of experience across the County by adopting a warranted variation locality approach. Using data intelligently, working with schools and settings, support will be targeted to ensure that there is a partnership approach to delivering 5 key priorities aligned to the 4 corporate priorities.

Five key priorities



Our Corporate Priorities 2021 - 2025

Our Vision

Here at Lancashire County Council we are helping you to make Lancashire the best place to live, work, visit and prosper.

Our Values

Supportive, Innovative, Respectful, Collaborative.

Our Partnerships

Through collaboration with partners and the sharing of ideas, assets, skills and knowledge, we will create a future for Lancashire that better meets all our needs.

Our Communities

We value local communities and will help them to provide care and support to their families, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

Our Accountability

We will ensure good governance, strong performance management, prudent financial control and transparent decision making for the taxpayer.



DELIVERING BETTER SERVICES

- Provide services that are effective, efficient and appropriate to local circumstances.
- Improve services by changing the way we do things.
- Help people and families live healthier lifestyles and enjoy a better quality of life.



CARING FOR THE VULNERABLE

- Protect, safeguard, support and enable the most vulnerable residents in our society.
- Challenge and reduce areas of inequality and provide opportunity for all.
- Ensure children of all abilities do well in our schools and colleges, gaining important skills and expertise for life.



PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Lead on environmental improvement schemes and renewable energy initiatives.
- Work with businesses and communities on flood prevention, decarbonisation projects and climate change resilience.
- Promote more recycling and better waste management.



SUPPORTING ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Develop and build effective infrastructure and transport networks, to help people and businesses connect and grow.
- Secure inward investment, to boost and level up the county.
- Invest in skills and innovation, to secure economic growth and maximise Lancashire's potential.

Seven Pillars



There are seven pillars which make clear the interdependencies across parallel pieces of work that will help to drive a joined-up approach to education in Lancashire. These seven pillars underpin the Education Strategy and have their own aims and objectives to support the delivery of this strategy.

The seven pillars are:



Multi-Agency Early Help

Early Years

SEND Improvement

Alternative Provision

School Effectiveness

School Place Planning

Preparation for Adulthood



What will success look like?

Locality gaps and underperformance will be addressed through strengthening local area prioritisation and planning in relation to school improvement and outcomes.

Improved family engagement in learning will be achieved through Team Around the School and Setting approach to support early years uptake and learning.



Governors are confident that Education Improvement and Governor Services are supported and have effective development opportunities to ensure strong and robust leadership and accountability across schools and settings.

Parents are confident that local mainstream schools are identifying and meeting their children's needs through the early identification of SEND and ensuring timely access to relevant support and intervention.



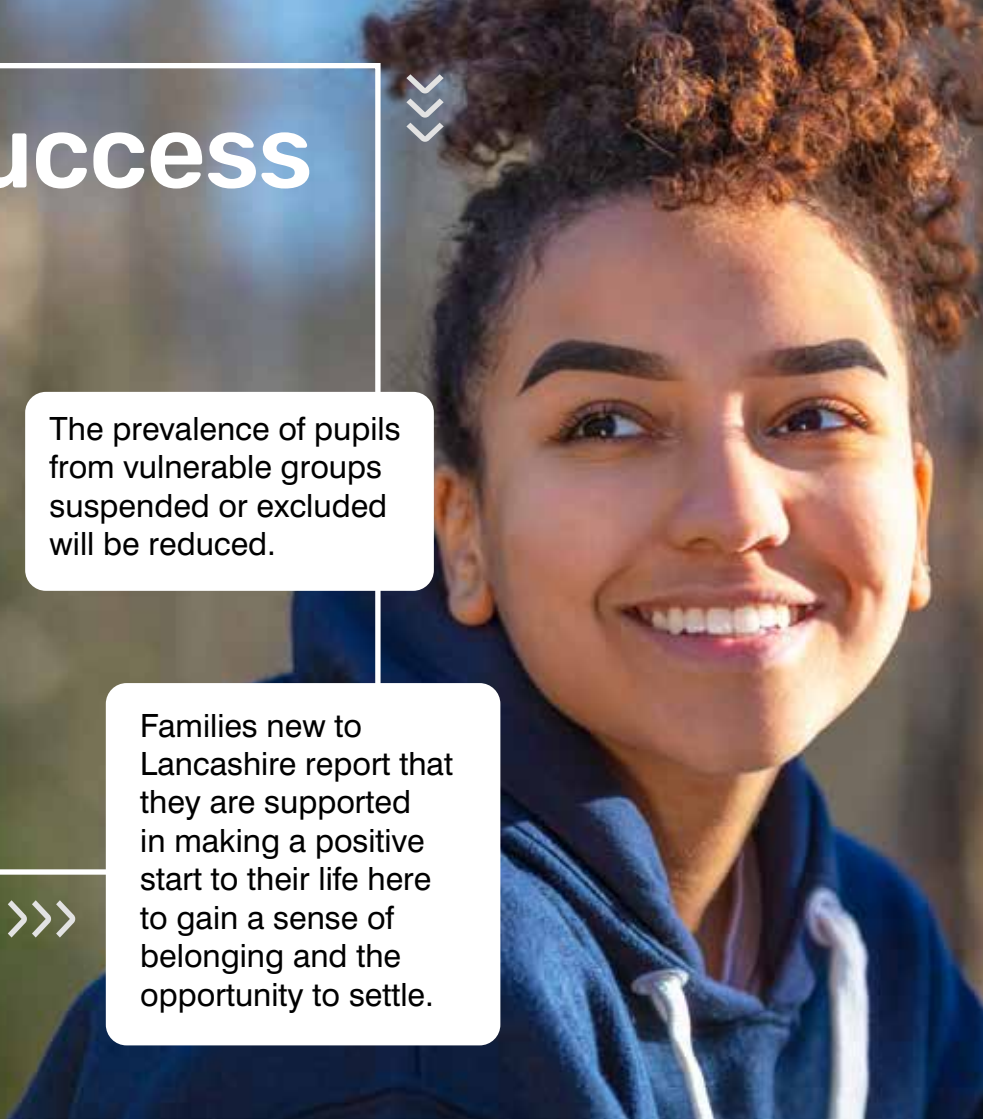
What will success look like?

Commercial services to schools provide a coherent traded offer which reflects the changing needs of schools and reflect increased academisation.

The prevalence of pupils from vulnerable groups suspended or excluded will be reduced.

The number of pupils who are suspended or excluded will reduce through the review and development of inclusion hubs and specialist support/ Alternative Provision outreach.

Families new to Lancashire report that they are supported in making a positive start to their life here to gain a sense of belonging and the opportunity to settle.



How will the Education Strategy deliver improvement?



Working in collaboration, the services within the Council combined with the services and partners within the Team Around the School and Settings (TASS) locality groups will listen to the voice of children, young people and their families in order to deliver the aspirations articulated within this strategy and realise the shared ambition for all children and young people set out within the vision statement.

The Education Strategy sets out the aspirations for education in Lancashire but the context in which the strategy is delivered will shift year on year. For this reason, the Education Strategy will be supported by an annual delivery plan. The priorities within the annual delivery plan will be informed by data, local intelligence and the lived experiences of children young people and their families. They will be agreed with sector representatives across early years, primary, secondary, post 16 and special schools at the Lancashire Education Partnership Group.

The Education Scrutiny Committee will receive a copy of the delivery plan at least annually to scrutinise and challenge performance against the targets agreed at the Lancashire Education Partnership Group.

The Education Strategy itself will be reviewed on a three yearly basis and so the term of this strategy is from 2022 to 2025.





**Our pledge to
ensure all our
children get the
right support, in
the right place,
at the right time.**

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- We will produce an annual delivery plan identifying clear aspirational yet achievable outcomes, measures, and timeframes.
- Our annual plan will identify how we will work to create the better future through:
 - o Strong leadership, management and governance structures across the partnership that will drive the work of the Education Strategy forward providing quality and assurance
 - o Ensuring stakeholders are fully engaged and involved, and interests taken into consideration
 - o Continuing to build on our strong teams and structures
 - o Developing policies, practices and processes that reflect the changing needs of our communities, guided by data, evidence and the experiences of children, young people, and their families
 - o Working together to develop systems and improve our use of digital tools to shape the way we work together to share information to improve outcomes

