

### What are clusters and what do they do?

#### The city wide picture

Clusters began life as extended services for Leeds schools and have grown to engage a range of partners who provide early help, early intervention and prevention services for children, young people and families.

There are 25 clusters across Leeds with established local partnerships. They include, amongst others, representatives from schools and governors, children's centres, children's social work, police, youth services, housing, voluntary sector, health, local elected members and senior officers from children's services.

The Leeds citywide cluster model is a unique partnership approach for supporting vulnerable children and families. It has citywide endorsement and nationally from the Leeds Ofsted 2015 Report, which stated that the cluster model is "effective at identifying needs and offering timely early help to pupils", "helping to drive improvements in all pupils' attendance" and that through the cluster model "there are extensive early and targeted help services available to families at the first emergence of a problem, delivered by knowledgeable, confident and well-trained practitioners."

Put simply, our evidence base to date shows that:

**Targeted Early Intervention Work in Clusters + Good Teaching In Schools = Better Attainment**

Since 2012, cluster funding has included an annual £5.2m top slice investment by Schools Forum of the dedicated schools grant. The government is introducing new funding regulations from April 2017 so 2016/17 will be the last year that Schools Forum can top slice funding to clusters. After this it is expected that this additional funding will go directly back into school budgets. Discussions are now taking place to look at how we enable cluster working to continue whilst establishing a new approach to funding.

#### With clusters in Leeds we are stronger together. We benefit from:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Targeted early help work which supports better attendance and attainment</li> <li>• Investment in counselling in schools through TAMHs</li> <li>• Intensive Family Support</li> <li>• As insurance policy i.e. a safety net for families or pupils in crisis</li> <li>• Local knowledge</li> <li>• Domestic abuse work</li> <li>• Closer working with children's centres</li> <li>• Parenting programmes</li> <li>• Remodelled cluster based Children's Social Work Service</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidance and support meetings</li> <li>• Families First to co-ordinate support for families with multiple problems</li> <li>• Reduced numbers of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)</li> <li>• Investment in Targeted Services Leaders</li> <li>• Access to Family Group Conferencing</li> <li>• Quality Assurance and workforce development</li> <li>• Reduced Children in Needs (CIN)</li> <li>• And the list goes on...</li> </ul> |
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#### In addition to this...

Cluster working has been an integral part of the improvement journey in Leeds. They have enabled us to safely reduce the number of children in care, children on children protection plans and children in need. From time to time all schools have pupils who require additional targeted support. Clusters provide an 'insurance' that schools can dip into when their pupils need that additional support without having to contract key services separately. Clusters are increasingly providing a geography on which further investment can be attracted. For example, the additional £1.5m health funding for counselling services and the investment from our Family Valued innovation programme.

#### Seacroft Manston Cluster - Information about our cluster

The Seacroft Manston Cluster covers 3 Secondary Schools, 14 primary schools and 5 children's centres. There are around 10,500 children and young people living in the area with 5186 on a local school roll in the cluster.

The main direct funding sources for work in the cluster are currently from Schools Forum, Leeds City Council Children's Services (for targeted services) and Leeds Clinical Commissioning Groups (for additional TaMHS/counselling services).

Our Schools Forum cluster budget in the current financial year is £421,861. This budget is generated using a formula based on numbers on roll and free school meal entitlement in each school.

Cluster governance is through the Seacroft Manston Cluster Partnership made up of a broader partner representation.

Key things in our current cluster business plan are:

- Employability -business engagement, information advice and guidance, participation and progression.
- Working with families - family learning, family support services, and behaviour/attendance services.
- To reduce the risk of young people becoming looked after.
- Building a more effective partnership - voice and influence of young people, supporting one another, governance arrangements.
- Priorities are linked to the outcomes framework in the Leeds Children's and Young Plan.

A range of universal, targeted and specialist services for children are now more closely aligned with the cluster, supporting improved access to services and better service co-ordination for families. This includes dedicated social work input to the cluster, along with youth services, early start and targeted services such as intensive family support services.

### Seacroft Manston - Progress in our cluster

We produce an update report every six months to highlight progress in the cluster and local developments. This includes progress with the three children's services main priorities or 'obsessions' of safely reducing the number of children looked after, reducing the number of young people not in education, employment or training and reducing school absence.

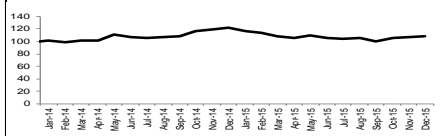
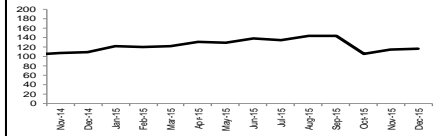
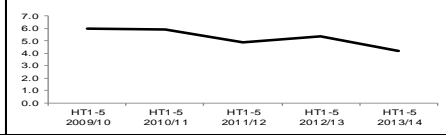

The latest information prepared in December 2015 is shown below. The full report and other information about the cluster is available from [smithm31@johnsmeatonacademy.org.uk](mailto:smithm31@johnsmeatonacademy.org.uk)

**Monthly obsessions tracker by cluster**

Month: **December 2015**

Select cluster from drop-down box below:

**Seacroft Manston**

Obsession	Latest position	Change since last month	% change since CYPP start	Change since CYPP start	Progress since CYPP start
Safely reduce the number of children looked after	108	⇒ 1	⬆ 22.7%	⬆ 20	
Reduce the number of young people not in employment, education or training (unadjusted NEET)	117	⬆ 12	⬆ -28.7%	⬆ -47	
Reduce school absence: primary	4.2%	N/A	N/A	⬆ -1.8	
Reduce school absence: secondary	5.9%	N/A	N/A	⬆ -5.3	

**Notes**

- 1 - The change columns for absence data are expressed as percentage point increases/reductions.
- 2 - Absence data covers HT1-5 of each academic year and is updated once annually
- 3 - From April 2013 Wigton Moor primary school moved from EPOSS to Alwoodley. This has the effect of moving three LSOAs from EPOSS to Alwoodley. Population totals have been updated accordingly which are part of the reason for substantial rises in CLA and NEET in Alwoodley since the start of the CYPP and corresponding falls for these indicators in EPOSS.

**The Seacroft Manston covers the following children's centres and schools:**

<b>Children's Centres:</b>	Crossgates and Manston, Swarcliffe, Seacroft, Kentmere and Parklands.
<b>Primary Schools:</b>	Beechwood Primary, Crossgates Primary, Seacroft Grange Primary, Grange Farm Primary, Our Lady of Good Counsel RC Primary, St Therese RC Primary, Swarcliffe Primary, Parklands Primary, Manston St James C of E Primary, Manston Primary, White Laith Primary, Whinmoor St Pauls C of E Primary, Fieldhead Carr Primary, Grimes Dyke Primary.
<b>Secondary Schools:</b>	David Young Community Academy, John Smeaton Academy and Leeds East Academy.

**The main cluster services available in Seacroft Manston are:**

**Cluster Leader and Targeted Services: Mark Smith**

(TSL is jointly funded from cluster budget and LCC Children's Services)

<b>Cluster Services:</b> (funded through cluster business plan)	<b>LCC Children's Services include:</b> (no direct charge to cluster)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SMaRT (Primary Resources and 4 - 7 Project)</li> <li>• On Street Attendance Project and Officer</li> <li>• Family Support (Drugs &amp; Alcohol Related)</li> <li>• Behaviour, Wellbeing and Nurture x 2</li> </ul>	<p><b>Children's Social Work Service:</b> Cluster based team at Moresdale Lane</p> <p><b>Youth Service:</b> Targeted 11+ youth work and Detached Work &amp; CME Project</p> <p><b>Early Start:</b> Early Start teams in Seacroft Manston Children's Centres</p> <p><b>Targeted Services:</b> Access to a range of targeted services is through the Targeted Services Leader, social worker or youth offending service. This includes intensive family support services and family group conferencing.</p> <p><b>Complex Needs Service, SENSAP, EP, SENIT and CHAD</b></p> <p><b>Community Sports Development - Fearnville Sports Centre and John Smeaton Leisure Centre</b></p>
<p><b>Commissioned Services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renew - Pupil and Parent Counselling, One to One and Family Mediation.</li> <li>• Leeds City Council - Education Psychology.</li> <li>• Ahead Partnership.</li> <li>• Place2be (Ended Oct 2015)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Afterschool Clubs (Maths Focused)</li> <li>• Street Work Soccer Academy - Soccer Projects.</li> <li>• Holiday Activities in partnership with Leeds Youth Service.</li> <li>• Engaging Education - Aspirational focus.</li> </ul>	

**Cluster Funding in Seacroft Manston Cluster**

The latest business plan for the cluster was signed off by the Seacroft Manston Partnership in June 2015 and was approved by Schools Forum in October 2015.

The cluster business plan covers plans for expenditure of **£476,261** over the current academic year including a contribution of **£421,861** from Schools Forum.

Across the city the average spend per pupil from the Schools Forum budget per year equates to approximately £50 per pupil on a school roll. For pupils on roll in Seacroft Manston schools the £421,861 Schools Forum budget equates to £53 per pupil in the current year.

<b>Major items of cluster expenditure in Seacroft Manston Cluster</b>	<b>Indicative costings for some of the services accessed through the cluster (per case)</b>
<p>Cluster management, case support, co-ordination (e.g. support and guidance meetings) and administration: £105,000</p> <p>Family and pupil support work: £124,000</p> <p>Counselling and well-being services: £165,000</p> <p>Educational Psychology service: £19,000</p> <p>On Street and Attendance Officer £36,000</p>	<p><b>Cluster based services:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family support work with family, estimate based on work with family over 1- 12 weeks - £150 to £1800</li> <li>• Counselling service, estimate based on work with young person or parent over 1-8 weeks - £30 to £240</li> <li>• On Street Project 1 session = £145 /10 Referrals £14.50</li> </ul>

### Examples of recent work in Seacroft Manston Cluster

The main requests for specific cluster service support are currently for

Qtr. 2 (July - Sept 15)	Qtr. 3 (Oct - Dec 15)	Qtr. 4 (Jan - Mar 16)
147	207	65

Counselling (Renew)	145	Off - Site Support	21	4 - 7 Project	5
1 - 1 Pupil Support (Cluster Team)	18	DV / New Beginnings	8	Family Support (Cluster Team)	28
1 - 1 Pupil Support (Renew)	68	SMaRT	79	Nurture Support	70
Family Mediation (Renew)	10	Cluster School - Support	22		

#### Case Study A

#### Case Study B

#### What were the issues?

Mum and Dad are the main carers for two teenage children a boy and a girl. Both parents are drug dependent which impacted the children. Children not eating properly, exposed to crime by parents. Poor attendance highlighted the issues which affected the family. Parents missing court appearances and probation appointments at risk of incarceration and children going into care.

#### What were the issues?

Mother and partner live together with there is history of DV in the relationship three teenagers live in the house the girls are shouted at and sometimes hit by dad. When police get involved it's the girls who suffer because mother defends her partner and the girl's response to this is to leave home which put them at risk. One girl went to live with her friend but that environment was because the adult in the household was elderly with her grandchildren already living with her. Social care was aware of the situation within that house hold. Young person had no income.

#### What did we do?

A cluster family support worker supported the parents. Strategies were put in place to support the whole family. Extended family provided support to the children. Appointments were arranged with the legal, medical and drug work agencies. This provided effective support for the parents who eventually accessed a drug reduction programme. Daily contact with the family provided stability to the house hold. All financial benefits reassessed, Social services contacted when some situations reach a crises point with the children. School sent the Attendance car to collect the children on a morning. This increased their attendance levels. The cluster provided bus fare at the end of each day if the children did not have the means to get home. Food parcels taken to the home. Parent counselling.

#### What did we do?

Family support worker arranged mediation for the family but this broke down because mum would not allow daughter back into the house. Dad was not interested. Family worker supported young person through emotional upheaval. Family group conferencing failed due to non-engagement from family. Work placement arranged for two days a week, along with offsite education to get her through her GCSEs on a reduced time table. Family support worker also arranged interviews with a local housing company.

#### What difference has it made?

The family support worker worked with the family to support the children. The children moving into their grandparents homes. This provide a stable environment for them to thrive. The children's behaviour improved in school. Parents have accessed rehab and are involved in programmes to rebuild their lives. Children no longer exposed to crime. Mum and Dad rebuilding relationship with children, with extended family support.

#### What difference has it made?

Family support worker gave the young person hope when she was very low in self-esteem and could not see a way forward as her relationship with her friends where she was living had broken down. There is no contact with parents just her siblings. She tried a couple of work placements and liked hairdressing. She is on target to achieve her GCSEs. The housing company has offered a flat. She now has Income support

### Cluster Contact Details

#### Cluster Leader and Targeted Services:

**Mark Smith** ([smithm31@johnsmeatonacademy.org.uk](mailto:smithm31@johnsmeatonacademy.org.uk)) 0113 8313904

#### Cluster Chair:

**Louise Hill** (Head Teacher - Grimes Dyke Primary) [louise.hill@grimesdyke.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:louise.hill@grimesdyke.leeds.sch.uk) 0113 2941066

#### Cluster Local Authority Partner:

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