



Originator:	K Morton M Hopkins
Tel:	2144068

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Scrutiny Board (Children's Services)

Date: 12 October 2006

Subject: Update on Extended Schools

Electoral Wards Affected:

All

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

An Extended School provides a range of services and activities, often beyond the school day, to help meet the needs of children, young people, their families and the wider community.

The Extended Schools agenda is an exciting vision. It is a vision which fits with what parents want for their children, with the direction that schools are already moving in and with the Government's wider Every Child Matters objectives. Schools, located as they are, right at the heart of a community, are ideally placed to take up the challenge.

There are few more exciting opportunities for communities than the prospects offered by an Extended School. For children and young people, their families, school staff, and the communities that live and work around the school, extended schools bring together new opportunities for care, learning and activity while engaging more fully with the communities that schools serve, and the high quality services that people deserve and depend upon.

2.0 Government targets for Leeds, September 2006 to March 2010

- By 2010, all schools in Leeds will be making the 'core offer'
- By 2008 a third of all high schools and half of all primary schools will be making the 'core offer'
- By September 2006, 10% (30) of Leeds schools must provide the full core offer

Please see Appendix 1 and 2 for details

The past year has witnessed rapid acceleration in Leeds around the Extended Schools agenda and the purpose of this report is to update members on the developments by highlighting the successes and the challenges by cross referencing to Scrutiny Board's recommendations of November 2005.

3.0 Scrutiny Board recommendation 1

That Education Leeds seeks to build closer partnership working between the many stakeholders to deliver the Extended Schools agenda

3.1 Active Sponsorship and Leadership

- Extended Schools is embedded within the Children and Young People's Plan for Leeds
- Extended Schools is embedded within the Education Leeds Strategic Plan 2006 – 2009
- There is effective collaboration between the various agencies to deliver the Extended Schools agenda
- Collaboration between schools and other agencies is being promoted and supported
- The national target for Leeds by September 2006 has been achieved (30 schools)

3.2 Operational Plan

There is a clear and resourced operational plan which will deliver the extended services agenda which includes:

- Clear milestones and activities with owners and dates
- Key targets and delivery dates
- 18 clusters (94 schools) have received standards fund money (see Appendix 2).
- Structured plan of engagement which aligns with the Training and Development Agency's guiding principles
- Financial and other resource plans
- Methodologies including how we will engage schools, communities and partners in the agenda

3.3 Performance Management

There is good performance management in place to deliver the extended services agenda, including:

- Assuring the quality and effectiveness of engagement with our schools and local communities
- Assuring the quality and effectiveness of support for schools
- Performance Management system including robust systems for collecting and using information on:
 - progress against milestones
 - Current state and progress for individual schools against each element of the core offer identifying issues and resolving these

3.4 Resources

Team Effectiveness

- The plan is adequately resourced in terms of people and money (2008)
- The team is clear of what is expected
- Planning for facilities and resources explicitly includes extended services in and around schools
- The team is able to engage others and build effective partnerships and 'pool' budgets and resources as and when required

4 **Scrutiny Board recommendation 2**

That Education Leeds, working with its partners, helps to develop and promote governance and commissioning arrangement models which will assist in providing the infrastructure for successful extended schools

4.1 Education Leeds is currently working with the National College for School Leadership (NCSL) on developing multi-agency models of governance

4.2 Education Leeds is contributing fully to 'Children Leeds' commissioning arrangements including:

- The Children Leeds review of partnership arrangements conducted by the Director of the Leeds Initiative.
- Development work related to the Integrated Strategic Commissioning Board.
- A 'partnership of partnerships' approach which seeks to bring Sure Start, Children's Fund, the Youth Work, and Connexions partnerships together with a view to piloting joint approaches to commissioning
- Development of extended school and service clusters with a diverse partnership base

5 **Scrutiny Board recommendation 3**

That Education Leeds ensures that plans for the rebuilding and refurbishment of schools do not compromise the development of extended schools.

5.1 Education Leeds has ensured that in developing the proposed Leeds Local Education Partnership and in relation to other contractual relationships and building design across all phases that there is sufficient flexibility to meet the extended school agenda.

5 **Scrutiny Board recommendation 4**

That Education Leeds seeks ways of engaging those school leaders and governors who are reluctant to embrace the extended schools concept, so that their pupils and wider communities may benefit from this development

5.1 Most schools are well engaged though there continues to be a challenge around governors' awareness and potential models of leadership and governance

5.2 Ongoing 'awareness raising' sessions and training for models of governance and leadership for all concerned (see recommendation 2 above)

6 Scrutiny Board recommendation 5
That Education Leeds report back to us on what is being undertaken to address differential pay rates.

6.1 Ongoing challenges are all related to the workforce remodeling agenda and the 'Children's Workforce Reform' agenda.

6.2 This remains an ongoing challenge for Ministers and the DfES

7 CONCLUSION

In the last 12 months Leeds has made rapid progress around the Government's key policy agenda and the Training and Development Agency reported in July 2006 that Education Leeds and Leeds City Council were in the top 20 Local Authorities to meet and deliver the Government's agenda around Extended Services on or around school sites.

The Annual performance review of the Leeds Training and Development Agency (July 2006) states:

'... since the targets were only set 16 months ago, Leeds has been very responsive and highly mobilised. Capacity for change has been inbuilt into the progress so far and, with many cluster coordinators only appointed in the last few months, progress is now moving faster than ever. With the clear structure of the extended schools team, including wedge advisers and cluster coordinators, there is support locally in addition to a strong central Council strategy. Leeds is in a good position to become an exemplary local authority and it is anticipated will meet government targets ahead of time as has already occurred.'

8 Recommendation

Members are asked to note this report.