

Minutes

Meeting of the Oldham Learning Board

Thursday 14 March 2024

Oldham College

at 1:30pm

Present:

Chair	Jane Acklam		
Vice-Chair	Gillian Kay		
Primary Districts	Zaira Cook Mary Garvey Vikki Oldham Hilary Henderson	Council	Matt Bulmer
Post 16	Alan Benvie	DFE	Natasha Robb
Research School	Louise Astbury	MAT	Jayne Clarke Jessica Giraud
		Secondary District	Sarah North Charlotte Evans

In Attendance

Council	John Gilmore Amanda Youlden	Maths Hub	Imogen Furlong Alison Heathcock
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Advisor	Tony Shepherd	Administrator	Chantelle Fraser
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Absent:

MAT	Cllr Mohon Ali	Secondary	Charlotte Evans
Teaching School Hub	Katie Dallender	Specialist	Sue Caine

1. Welcome, Apologies and Introductions

JA welcomed Board members to the meeting and thanked AB for hosting the Board. Apologies were received from Cllr Ali, Gerard Jones, Charlotte Evans, Katie Dallender and Sue Caine.

2. Minutes and matters arising

JA confirmed that all papers have previously been circulated, matters discussed are confidential. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed, and all actions discussed and addressed.

Actions noted:

MB – communications around resource provision communicated out last week.

NR – Behaviour Hubs will be presented in May agenda.

3. Maths Hub

IF/AH shared slides from NW One Maths Hub covering primary and secondary Maths Hubs. 60% of Oldham Primaries have engaged with PEIA at some point and 47% still current. 86% of secondary schools have engaged at some point, with only 21% still current. Maths Hubs are keen to get back into schools to promote their offer of support.

Primary slides presented with the current offer which has been aligned with the DFE and Ofsted. Courses cover mastery, subject knowledge and pedagogies and incorporates sustainable change. The offer is bespoke to each school and can link in with the need of the teachers which focuses on whole school development, practice development and having an impact of students development. Courses and offer discussed are discussed at length with information on who can attend. ECTs do not have to be in their first year to attend the programme.

Secondary slides presented with information covering mathematical thinking, 7-11 coherent thinking and teaching for mastery. Other work is being carried out for those students who may not be Year 7 ready. RIWG group work on good ideas and how they can be adapted. Schools can have a range of staff attending different groups, they do not have to attend them all. Post 16 options are available which include New to Core Maths, Core Maths Pedagogy, Developing A-Level Pedagogy and Resits.

Schools are funded and for first year of training there is 6 days of residential training spread over the year expected with funding for 15 days to develop that back into the school. Fully funded for approx. £400 per day, secondary works slightly differently. Great for professional development with or without specialist. The school is paid for staff to attend the sessions.

Links to contact details as follows:

[Primary Mastery Specialist Programme | NCETM](#)

[Secondary Mastery Specialist Programme | NCETM](#)

Action: Primary district and secondary members to share offer and links at meetings to encourage better take-up.

4. Skills and Employment Board Action plan

MB shared information on Employment and Skills Partnership Board which has been established to build the workforce of the community. Several members are involved in the action plan throughout the employment and skills landscape. The aim is to identify priorities and work across agencies to re-establish representatives in the sector.

AY shared paper and discussed the action plan has been developed to inform the strategy, which is currently in draft format, the final strategy will be implemented over the coming months for 2024-2028. The strategy will cover four priorities which include young people's employment, securing skills for future economy and economic inactivity and the employer's role in the curriculum. Schools will be linked up with employers across the community to encourage placement options and careers education to be implemented as early as possible.

HH questioned if there will there be an opportunity for parents to get back into work or adult learning. AY confirmed there will be an opportunity for this.

AY to return in the Autumn once the programme is launched.

Action: Members who wish to discuss this further should email amanda.youlden@oldham.gov.uk

5. LeadHERship

TS shared update paper on the LeadHERship programme, including limited take up and feedback from both survey and research to determine the cause of this.

JA invited members to discuss how Board responds to this. LA advised that there is a similar offer of a BAME leader programme available from the research school. AB commented that there is also a low representation of BAME communities completing apprenticeships. District reps commented on there being few potential candidates.

A number of ways forward for this theme were discussed.

Board in agreement that more consideration is necessary before further funding is committed.

Actions:

District reps will try to establish capacity in schools to establish the potential to progress this theme further.

JG to discuss with an AHT whether they wish to share their lived experience with the Board.

6. EEF Trials and Programmes coming to Oldham

LA has presented to Primary Head teachers on Monday about what programmes are currently available. Secondary not very much available right now. Materials available for members to take back to districts to give out, keen to recruit FE colleges. LA asked members to communicate with districts that there is still confusion with what being in a controlled group means and it does not prevent you from doing anything, you carry on as usual. LA advised AB to contact her if there is requirement to go to college wide programmes.

7. MAT CEO Roundtable

JA discussed the events of the MAT CEO Roundtable, there was a good representation from the sector. It was a positive meeting, and the theme of the meeting focused on what Oldham is like and what is being done to improve it.

There was positive feedback from members and a great desire for people to work together and a census of cross support was evident and the collaboration for across Oldham. NR furthered this and reflected the want for collaboration across Oldham.

Next steps include all trusts to be able to contribute and shape the vision for Oldham going forward. Themes included increasing level of need within communities, increased transparency with statutory agencies, using school workforces differently and making sure that Trusts can link into what is happening in Oldham through family Hubs, early help, reform of initial teacher training, teacher recruitment and retention and what action plan could be established from this. In addition, pupil number and projections and what that means for schools and trusts going forward, and a deeper understanding of the demographic drivers.

The Roundtable will meet on a termly basis and have agreed more information is needed on capacity, expertise and demonstration projects within communities. Important first step in re-establishing that community.

HH stated it is refreshing to hear about collaboration across the sector.

Action: NR will encourage non-attendees for the next meeting.

8. Priorities 23/24

8.1 Partnerships

Population paper distributed and discussed. TS confirmed that most schools have now been visited and. Communicated with DFE and awaiting some further information on what has worked in other boroughs.

GK questioned low numbers and the moment and split classes, there is no opportunity for growth. TS advised that data for the next ten years does not show there will be a need for this.

Visits have been positively received and there have been offers from schools for further collaboration. JC asked about schools in other districts and TS confirmed that any affected would be visited in summer term.

Action: TS to summarise information gathered and feedback next meeting.

8.2 Attendance

Attendance dashboard distributed to members. Key themes discussed were the primary school strategy and to advise that primary attendance is being affected by Term-time holidays. JG gave an evidence-based examples of this. The

purpose of the strategy is to determine what can be done as a partnership to tackle term time holidays. Greenacres have a positive attendance and looking at sharing good practice.

The coding query for SEND schools has been investigated. It has been discovered that when children have been out on AP, they were not being registered in the alternative provision and therefore, there was no record of attendance. This has now been resolved with the school.

For information, data/social work data has been established and will be added to the next dashboard. Also, breaking down SEND needs into specific areas of needs will be available on the next dashboard.

LA advised on useful resources available to assist with attendance. As follows:

- EEF supporting school attendance resource
page: <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/education-evidence/leadership-and-planning/supporting-attendance>
- Bradford Research School - communicating with parents: <https://researchschool.org.uk/bradford/news/attendance-communicating-with-parents>
- @LeadingLearner sample letters: <https://leadinglearner.me/2017/07/02/absences-matter-and-you-can-help/>
- Public First attendance report: <https://www.publicfirst.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/ATTENDANCE-REPORT-V02.pdf>

Districts questioned penalty notices and request from parents to appeal. TS confirmed that there is no right of appeal.

Actions:

NR to bring update from Greater Manchester AAA.

All school reps to encourage use of Councillor message with parents <https://vimeo.com/915536110/450b74e93a>

KT to come to the next Board meet to discuss good attendance practice.

TS to confirm the advice given by the attendance team - Anne Clark: "There is no right of appeal, however if parents believe that a fine should not have been issued, they should contact school."

8.3 Alternate Provision

For information, MB advises numerous discussions are in progress with the secondary sector with regards to improving and increasing capacity on the number of Alternate Provisions. Further information to follow.

9. Priorities 24/25

JA discussed with members the necessity to start considering the priorities for the next academic year will be. JA welcomed thoughts on the following:

1. SEND (agreed by Board)
2. Attendance (agreed by Board)
3. For consideration - Literacy, Recruitment and Retention, All age Careers, Cross-Sector Green Agenda

10. Date of next meeting; AOB

JA thanked all members for attendance.

The confirmed OL Board meetings for current academic year

- Thursday 2nd May 2024 Location: Earl Mill Business Park
Please note: due to elections, this has been changed to Thurs 25th April 2024
- Thursday 27th June 2024 Location: Earl Mill Business Park

All meetings for 1:30 -3:30pm

10.1 Summary of actions

	Action	Responsibility
1	Members to shares information from Maths Hub through districts. Please contact Maths Hub if you feel there are schools that would engage with the support. Links to contact details as follows: Primary Mastery Specialist Programme NCETM Secondary Mastery Specialist Programme NCETM	Districts
2	Members who wish to discuss the Skills and Employment Board Action Plan further should email amanda.youlden@oldham.gov.uk	All
3	LeadHERship - District reps will try to establish capacity in schools to establish the potential to progress this theme further.	Districts
4	LeadHERship - JG to discuss with an AHT whether they wish to share their lived experience with the Board.	JG
5	TS to summarise partnerships information gathered and feedback next meeting	TS
6	NR to bring update from Greater Manchester AAA.	NR
7	All school reps to encourage use of Councillor message with parents https://vimeo.com/915536110/450b74e93a	Districts
8	KT to come to the next Board meet to discuss good attendance practice.	JG/TS
9	TS to confirm the advice given by the attendance team - Anne Clark: "There is no right of appeal, however if parents believe that a fine should not have been issued, they should contact school."	TS

Meeting finished: **15:30pm**