



A brighter future for Nottingham children

Education Improvement Board

12 January 2017

Time: 10.00am to 12.00pm

Venue: The Council Room, Trent Building, University Park Campus, University of Nottingham

Minutes

Attendees:

Professor Sir David Greenaway (DG) - chair
Chris Hall (CH)
Pat Fielding (PF)
David Anstead (DA)
Phil Crompton (PC)
John Dexter (JDe)
John Dyson (JDy)
Jennifer Hardy (JH)
Matt Lawrence (ML)
Cllr Sam Webster (SW)
Rebecca Meredith (RM)
Sian Hampton (SH)
Carol Norman (CN)
Alison Michalska (AM)
Chris Rolph (CR – covering for Matt Varley)
Dave Hooker (DH)

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Apologies:

Cllr Jon Collins, Russell Andrews, Sarah Fielding, Wayne Norrie, Matt Varley, Andy Burns, Kevin Fear

Sian Hampton was welcomed as a new member of the EIB. Invitations have also been accepted by Andy Burns and Kevin Fear. Jennifer Fearon has stepped down from the board following completion of her role at New College Nottingham.

2. Minutes of the last meeting of 24th November

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th November were accepted as a true record and will be published on the EIB website – www.nottinghamschools.org

3. Matters arising, Chair's update and standing items

CH gave an update on the work of the business sub group who are further exploring the charity model and will bring a full proposal to the EIB meeting in March. The main purpose of exploring the charity options is to define the governance and independence of EIB and to maximize funding opportunities. The board was also updated on recruitment to the strand lead roles. Sarah Smiles, currently a teacher at Claremont Primary School, has been seconded a day a week to work on Transition. An appointment has also been made for a Science strand lead, Nadia Callow Hussain, who will start in May 2017.

DA advised we had not been able to appoint the Maths and English strand lead roles and alternative arrangements were being sought. Thistley Hough Academy in Stoke have been approached about providing English and mathematics coaching and training to Nottingham English and mathematics teams. Thistley Hough has outstanding progress 8 data and serves a disadvantaged community.

4. Employability and raising aspirations

Presentations were received by the board from Think Forward, Futures and the Edge Foundation about the work happening in the city on the employability agenda. Carl Elder, Head Teacher at Bluecoat Beechdale Academy, gave a customer perspective and praised the complementary agendas of these organisations. SW asked EIB members about whether employability agendas are having enough of an impact on outcomes for young people and it was agreed it is too early to see with some of these initiatives. SH spoke about the difficulties schools and trusts face because of the time detracted from curriculum and the financial pressures of some interventions. JDe said it was a long term task, with deep and profound roots and a generational shift was needed. CH suggested a coherent work experience offer was needed in the city, perhaps something outside of school time. RM and ML suggested this agenda should be bought into primary schools, because it may be too late to look at this when children get to secondary school.

SW spoke about the willingness of businesses to be involved, but suggested schools are not necessarily good at articulating what they want from their businesses and we need a coherent ask.

ACTION: JH to work with Steven Heales on identifying a coherent 'ask' of businesses, to present at a reception for business leaders to be hosted by DG in quarter two of 2017/18.

5. Reading recovery

Jose Coles delivered a briefing around a proposed Reading Recovery whole-school approach to EIB and a discussion was had by the board about the benefits. Carl Elder asked about a similar intervention being made available at secondary school level. RM talked about her experience of the far reaching benefits of Reading Recovery in her schools and extended an invite to all board members to come and observe the programme in action. The national evidence and local experience all suggest the reading recovery approach is effective in improving literacy in primary schools.

ACTION: Business group to look at how to phase building Reading Recovery in to the EIB action plans for primary schools and the associated costs of doing so.

Action: Business group to consider the additional support for literacy to be provided to secondary schools.

6. DAISI KS2 strengths and weaknesses

Phillip Burton, DAISI, ran through a presentation outlining detailed strengths and weaknesses for the city at KS2. JDy advised not all classroom teachers have had the information passed on to them by their headteachers, which needs to be rectified because the information is robust and gives scope for sound action planning for improvement.

The key weaknesses the DAISI analysis flagged up were:

- Attainment in grammar, punctuation and spelling and in mathematics was average. Attainment in reading was below average. Pupils made expected progress in all three and better than expected in mathematics.
- Boys' achievement was closer to that of boys nationally than was girls' achievement. Although girls did better than boys in 2016, they underachieved more than boys did pulling the overall city scores down most.
- White pupils have lower achievement than Asian and Black pupils except in mathematics where White pupils are the highest achieving group.
- Some marked differences in how well some test questions were answered compared to the national responses.

Action: JD and DA to support secondaries in dealing with the specific weaknesses identified by DAISI for the current Year 7 cohort through the work of the progress boards.

6. AOB

John Dexter is stepping down from EIB following his time as acting headteacher of Trinity Catholic School coming to an end. DG thanked JD for his contribution to the EIB.

The Teach in Nottingham video was played to the group and positively received - <https://vimeo.com/191818059>

Summary of actions:

- JH to work with Steven Heales on identifying a coherent request of businesses, to present at a reception in quarter two of 2017/18.
- Business group to look at how to phase building Reading Recovery in to the EIB action plans for primary schools and the associated costs of doing so.
- Business group to consider the additional support for literacy to be provided to secondary schools
- JD and DA to support secondaries in dealing with the specific weaknesses identified by DAISI for the current Year 7 cohort through the work of the progress boards.

Meeting closed at 12.00pm