

Briefing on Kirklees Behaviour and Attendance Collaborative (BACs): Nov '20

Context:

- Secondary schools within Kirklees have formed two Behaviour and Attendance Collaboratives (BACs) which take greater responsibility for all students in a collaboration of schools, particularly those with behaviour and attendance difficulties.
- Within Kirklees there are two BACs, one in the North and South which have been running for the last three years.

Key Aims/ Priorities:

- Reduce fixed term and permanent exclusion.
- Improve collaboration between schools and key agencies within Kirklees.
- Share good practice and generally promote inclusive practice.

How do they work?

- BACs operate outside of the Fair Access Protocols and follow the core principles that support the approach of securing learning places for pupils: the health, happiness and success of all children in the community is a collective responsibility.
- BACs share information around learning and behaviour, share resources, staff and expertise in a genuine partnership based on integrity, equality and ambition and make joint decisions about managed moves particularly those relating to more complex cases.
- BACs will report on in year admissions and managed moves agreed for fair access panels to take into consideration when placing a child.

Where and when do they take place?

North – Rotation, fortnightly **South** – Via Microsoft TEAMS – fortnightly, Tuesday, 8-10am.

Membership:

- All schools and Ethos Academy Trust are represented by a member of staff with delegated responsibility to make decisions at the meeting.
- Other agencies that attend include: Kirklees Admissions, Attendance and Pupil Support, the Police and some alternative provision providers.
- Other agencies that are encouraged to attend include: Virtual School, SENACT and Social Care.
- The Head Teacher is the core member and determines representation/ delegation for their school, ensuring continuity of membership and a commitment to timetable that person to attend on a regular basis.

Agenda:

- There will be a chair and vice chair from one of the schools within the collaborative. These roles will be reviewed annually and appointed by members of the BAC.
- Each school will submit and present on their in year admissions and managed moves received since the last meeting.
- There are also updates from REACH Academy around fair access consultations/ placements, outreach support, placements and professional development opportunities will occur.
- The agenda will include briefings from key agencies around their offer in supporting harder to reach students remain engaged with mainstream.
- Opportunities for sharing good practice will be a regular feature of agendas.
- Support and challenge will be provided for schools from external agencies to ensure that protocols are understood and followed.

Information Sharing: The BAC will pay regard to GDPR and will sign up annually to an information sharing agreement to ensure procedures are in line with DfE guidance.

Managed Moves:

- A school can also transfer a pupil to another school – a process called a ‘managed move’ - if they have the agreement of everyone involved, including the parents and the admission authority for the new school.
- It is a *voluntary* agreement between schools, parents/carers and a pupil, for the pupil to change school/ educational programme under controlled circumstances.
- Managed moves are often used as an alternative to permanent exclusion; the result is that no exclusion is formally logged on the pupil’s school record.
- It may not be in a child’s best interest to move schools in year therefore the home school/academy is always requested to liaise with the parent/carer of the pupil seeking a new school/academy to discuss concerns and BACs are encouraged to discuss if a managed move may be more appropriate in these circumstances if this is agreed by parent/carer.

Key References: Members of the BACs pay due regard to and work within the protocols set out in guidance issued by Kirklees and Department for Education:

Exclusion from Schools, Academies and Pupil Referral Units, September 2017:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/641418/20170831_Exclusion_Stat_guidance_Web_version.pdf

Child Law Advice: Managed Moves:

<https://childlawadvice.org.uk/information-pages/managed-moves/>

Kirklees Fair Access Protocols for Primary and Secondary Pupils, April 2015:

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/admissions/pdf/fair-access-protocols.pdf>

Departmental Advice on Alternative Provision:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-for-children-with-health-needs-who-cannot-attend-school>

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/268940/alternative_provision_statutory_guidance_pdf_version.pdf

Departmental Advice on Behaviour and Discipline in Schools:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/behaviour-and-discipline-in-schools>

Departmental Advice on Behaviour and Mental Health:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-behaviour-in-schools--2>

Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities:

<https://www.gov.uk/children-with-special-educational-needs/overview>

Departmental Advice on attendance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-attendance>

Department Advice on Data Protection: A Toolkit for Schools, August 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/data-protection-toolkit-for-schools>

James Wilson
Vice Principal, Moor End Academy
Chair South Kirklees BACs

Gillian Hughes
Deputy Headteacher, Batley Girls High
Chair North Kirklees BACs