

Select Committee for Children's Services - 21 January 2009

Report of the Director of Children's Services

Dudley Health Promoting Schools Services - Progress Report

Purpose of Report

1. To report on the progress of the Health Promoting Schools Service for the period April - December 2008.

Background

2. The Service was established 15 years ago to provide advice, training and consultancy to schools, pupil referral units (PRUs) and alternative providers on the promotion of pupils' health and wellbeing. It is a partnership between the Directorate of Children's Services and Dudley Primary Care Trust, and consists of staff employed or seconded from both organisations to form a specialist team. The aim of the Service is to work in partnership with a range of agencies (voluntary and statutory) to achieve better outcomes for children and young people.
3. The following support has been offered to all schools, PRUs and alternative providers in the borough for this period:
 - termly themed network meetings to brief participants on current national and local developments, sharing good practice and action planning:
 - Summer networks (theme – healthy eating and physical activity) attended by 115 staff from 89 schools and PRUs;
 - Autumn networks (theme – safety education) attended by 113 staff from 84 schools and PRUs.
 - training – either centre based or in house. A total of 2,840 training places have been accessed by staff from schools and PRUs;
 - Biennial Health Related Behaviour Questionnaire (HRBQ), undertaken by 12,915 pupils in years 5, 6, 8 and 10 from 103 schools. This provides schools, PRUs, alternative providers and partner agencies with essential information on the knowledge, attitudes and experiences of pupils relating to their health and wellbeing which is then used as a basis for the

development of action plans, service development and the measurement of outcomes.

Theatre in Education programme	Theme	Key Stage	No. of schools	No. of pupils
Cinders	Anti bullying	1+2	42	8,400
Charlie and the Kitchen Cook	Healthy Eating	1+2	30	7,500
Glug	Alcohol Education	2	9	1700
R U Ready?	Teenage Pregnancy And Alcohol	3 (yrs9+10)	13 + 1 PRU	2098

In addition 59 staff from 46 schools attended workshops on analysis of their data.

- a range of Theatre in Education programmes;
- regular surgeries and school visits to offer specific help to schools who are working towards National Healthy Schools Status (NHSS). This is a national award recognising schools who meet criteria in 4 themes (healthy eating, physical activity, personal, social and health education and emotional health and wellbeing). The Service is required to achieve a stretch target in the Local Area Agreement of all schools achieving NHSS by 31 March 2009.

Outcomes

- Due to the diversity of the service it is difficult to summarise all the outcomes. The key outcomes are listed below.
 - 100% sign up to Health Promoting Schools Service Level Agreement by schools and PRUs;
 - On target to achieve 100% of schools achieving National Healthy School Status by the end of March, 2009, currently at 92%;
 - Our work contributes significantly to the major strengths identified in the Annual Performance Assessment of children and young peoples services 2008 – as quoted in the Being Healthy section;
‘Schools contribute very effectively to health promotion.’
‘Effective partner and interagency work promote and provide support for healthy family lifestyles.’;

- The service also contributes significantly to the Every Child Matters outcomes as evidenced in the 2008 HRBQ.

Finance

5. The funding for the service is provided by:
- PCT £148,000 - In addition, the PCT fund a total 131 staff hours per week
 - Dudley MBC £243,000 (includes £78,200 Area Based Grant)
 - Drugs Pooled Budget £59,400

Law

6. The Council may do anything which is incidental to, conducive to, or which facilitates the discharge of its functions under section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972. In this case the report relates to the Councils Education function under the Education and Children's Acts.

Equality Impact

7. The remit of the service is to enable schools to ensure that all their health related work is relevant to all pupils, regardless of their academic ability, gender, race or religion. To achieve this we insist on a whole school approach which has the child at the centre of all planning.

Recommendation

8. It is recommended that:-

The committee receive this report on behalf of the Council.



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Jane Porter

Interim Director of Children's Services

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