Record of meeting

Schools Forum

*24th February 2023*

*1pm – 2:30pm*

*Bremerhaven Room, Grimsby Town Hall*

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| *Attendees* | George Krawiec (GK, Chair), Dave Kirven (DK), Sally Jack (SJ), Janice Spencer (JS), Cllr. Cracknell (Cllr. C), Jane Aukett (JA), Richard Gargon (RG), Liz Brummer (LB), Alex Allenby (AA), Marie Wilson (MW), Allie Majer (AM), Carol Shaw (CS), Steve Kernan (SK), Karen Linton (KL), Phil Hutchinson (PH) |
| *Note taker* | Maisie Salkeld |
| *Apologies* | Mark Wood, C Robson (Oma Academy), Lorna Pendred, Jennifer Steel, Wendy Jackson |

**Minutes and matters arising of the meeting held on 13th January 2023**

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| *Discussion* | The previous minutes were agreed to be a true and accurate reflection of the meeting.  Attendees gave thanks to DK for all his hard work within the forum and wished him good luck for his new role. |

**Schools funding formula 2023-24**

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| *Discussion* | DK provided a verbal update to note the formal submission of the Schools Funding Formula for 2023-24 and notification of a change to the Growth Fund value as discussed at the meeting on the 13th of January 2023. |

**SEN – high needs block allocation 2023-24**

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| *Discussion* | DK presented the following documents for information and explained them in greater detail.    A brief discussion took place in relation to the percentages of EHCP’s, the need is increasing at a slower pace, and all agreed that this is an issue that needs to be addressed.  As below we’re not above the national average, but still face a challenge for the number of children with an EHCP.     |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Academic Year** | **National %** | **Regional %** | **NEL %** | | 2015/16 | 2.8% | 2.3% | 2.0% | | 2016/17 | 2.8% | 2.4% | 2.1% | | 2017/18 | 2.9% | 2.6% | 2.3% | | 2018/19 | 3.1% | 2.8% | 2.7% | | 2019/20 | 3.3% | 3.0% | 3.1% | | 2020/21 | 3.6% | 3.2% | 3.5% | | 2021/22 | 4.0% | 3.5% | 3.8% |   GK highlighted that schools must take responsibility in ensuring that EHCP’s in place are necessary for the child.  The deficit isn’t as significant in comparison to other authorities and actions through the DBV programme should hopefully result in this deficit not increasing.  GK queried what the local authorities’ plans are in relation to transferring children to inhouse provision and SJ confirmed that we are reviewing primary provision, this will be resource based and we are working with Little Coates School for this.  GK emphasised the benefits of children being placed locally; they are closer to families, and this is a lower cost to the authority.  GK queried whether inclusivity has progressed within secondary schools and SJ confirmed that this is improving, but they require further assistance and exclusion figures have increased. |

**Early years hourly rates 2023-24**

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| *Discussion* | The following document was presented. |

**Any other business**

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| *Discussion* | A government announcement was released, wages are to be increases for NJC support staff. |

**Date and time of next meeting**

Tuesday 19th September 2023

1.00pm – 2.30pm

Grimsby Town Hall