

Health and Wellbeing Board

11 September 2024

Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024-2029

Recommendation

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes and comments on the priorities of the Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024 – 2029 and works with colleagues and partners to support its delivery.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Warwickshire County Council has a general duty under section 13 of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that efficient education is available to meet the needs of the population of Warwickshire. The Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024 – 2029 outlines how the Council will do this (**Appendix 1 – *Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024 – 2029***).
- 1.2 The Warwickshire Education Strategy was approved by Warwickshire County Council in July 2024 and is now the primary strategic driver for the Council in relation to its Education Service. It provides the foundation for all current and future work, facilitating a unified approach towards addressing its four priorities.
- 1.3 The implementation of the Warwickshire Education Strategy is supported by a Delivery Plan which will be monitored quarterly and updated annually. Its impact will be measured via a range of performance indicators which are aligned to the Warwickshire Council Plan 2022 – 2025.
- 1.4 Synergies exist between the Warwickshire Education Strategy and the priorities of the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 – 2026. Links have been made, and will continue to be developed, across the Health and Social Care system to maximise opportunities to work jointly together.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 Whilst there are no direct financial implications for the Health and Wellbeing Board to consider or approve, the financial landscape nationally remains challenging, and work is ongoing to ensure that the strategy can be delivered within the resources available.

3 Environmental Implications

3.1 There are no direct environmental implications associated with the Education Strategy. However, the Strategic Pipeline does encompass the current Outdoor Education Strategy 2022, the ambitions of which impact on the environment, in that.

- *All children and young people should have access to and enjoy high-quality outdoor education and learning, appropriate for their age, ability, and experience.*
- *Educators need to consider the value of and embed outdoor education and learning in their curriculum planning.*
- *Education settings provide regular, frequent, enjoyable, and challenging opportunities for all children and young people to learn outdoors.*
- *A culture of outdoor education and learning is being developed within all education settings, raising awareness of the importance of the outdoors for leisure and learning for both children and their families.*

4 Supporting Information

4.1 The Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024 – 2029 has been informed by wide stakeholder engagement, which included insight from children, young people, parents, schools, Early Years and Post 16 providers.

4.2 Its purpose is to provide a firm foundation for all current and future work across the Education Service over the next five years by nurturing a unified approach and firmly placing the Council as a strong, influential leader within the wider Warwickshire Education system.

4.3 Focusing on four priority areas, it is aligned to the Council Plan 2022-2025 and underpinned by a number of performance indicators that will complement its respective area of focus for Education, enabling the Council to monitor the impact and track progress on an ongoing and regular basis.

4.4 The four priorities within the Strategy include:

Priority one: Best Start - To secure the very best start for all children in the county.

Priority Two: SEND and Inclusion - To encourage ambition, create opportunity, and support all learners to be the best they can be.

Priority Three: Sufficiency and Admissions - To ensure that Early Years, school and post 16 places are provided in the right place at the right time.

Priority four: Strong System - To operate as a strong systems leader across the county to strengthen, influence and develop high quality, inclusive education provision that is accessible to all.

4.5 The Strategy is further bolstered by a Strategic Pipeline whereby additional, supporting strategies and plans will be implemented, developed, and delivered. These include:

- Outdoor Education and Learning Strategy 2022
- Early Years Integrated Plan 2024- 2027
- SEND and Inclusion Strategy 2024 – 2029
- Education Sufficiency Strategy 2024 – 2029
- School Effectiveness Strategy 2024 - 2029

4.6 The priorities of the Warwickshire Education Strategy complement those of the Warwickshire Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2021 – 2026 specifically relating to:

- Help our children and young people have the best start in life.
- Help people improve their mental health and wellbeing, particularly around prevention and early intervention in our communities.
- Reduce inequalities in health outcomes and the wider determinants of health.

Links across the two systems are in place and will continue to be maximised through established partnership networks.

5 Timescales associated with the decision and next steps.

5.1 The Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024 – 2029 was approved by full Council in July 2024. Implementation and delivery has since commenced.

Appendices

1. Appendix 1: Warwickshire Education Strategy 2024 – 2029

Background Papers

1. N/A

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