

Leader Decision

23 April 2020

Nuneaton Education Strategy

Recommendation

That the Leader of the Council endorses the establishment of the Nuneaton Education Strategy and its launch in 2020 and implementation supported by a 5-year delivery plan.

1.0 Key Issues

- 1.1 Whilst Nuneaton is the largest town in Warwickshire, it has a number of indicators which demonstrate that it is not performing from economic and social perspectives. Nuneaton and Bedworth have the highest levels of deprivation across Warwickshire and rank as the 111th (of 326) most deprived Local Authority District nationally. Six superoutput (sub-district) areas within Nuneaton and Bedworth are in the top 10% most deprived nationally.
- 1.2 Warwickshire County Council (WCC) and Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council (NBBC) are working together to transform Nuneaton town centre. The ***Transforming Nuneaton*** programme of change aims to ***transform Nuneaton into a vibrant, attractive and prosperous town centre that offers a range of opportunities for everyone***. It will create a town where people choose to live, work, shop and visit.
- 1.3 In the same way, Education leaders from the Borough's schools, colleges, educational settings and the County Council, have come together with a range of non-Education partners and stakeholders to take an innovative, place-based approach to improving educational provision, prospects and aspirations for the young people of Nuneaton.
- 1.4 The multi-agency education-focussed approach calls upon the whole community to play a part in ensuring that every child and young person in Nuneaton has the opportunity they deserve and experiences to realise their full potential. By working together in this new, collective approach the partners and stakeholders involved in the Nuneaton Education Strategy aim to achieve these central objectives and have a real impact on the lives of young people in the area.
- 1.5 Through the vision of '***Raising Aspiration, Working Together***' the ***Nuneaton Education Strategy*** will focus on achieving maximum impact

through raising aspirations and helping young people in Nuneaton to succeed in life.

- 1.6 Improving educational outcomes in Nuneaton presents a high level of challenge in comparison to other areas within Warwickshire. Therefore, there is a need for a new and robust approach to raising the quality of provision, levels of achievement and outcomes for children and young people in Nuneaton.

The chart below shows the headline measures comparing Nuneaton and Bedworth, Warwickshire against national performance figures. Nuneaton and Bedworth performance figures are lower in every category.

National Curriculum Stage	Headline Measure	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Warwickshire	National
Early Years Foundation Stage Profile	% of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development - often used as a school readiness measure	68%	72%	72%
Key Stage 2	% of pupils achieving the Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths	60%	65%	65%
Key Stage 4	% of pupils achieving a Strong Pass (Grade4+) in English and Maths GCSEs	60%	71%	65%
	% of pupils achieving a Strong Pass (Grade5+) in English and Maths GCSEs	35%	47%	43%
	Average Attainment 8 Score per pupil	43.5	49.7	46.7
	Average Progress 8 Score	-0.35	0.00	-0.03

- 1.7 The performance of primary schools in Nuneaton has improved in the last year, however the performance of three of the six secondary schools in Nuneaton are amongst the lowest in the county. One secondary school has recently been judged by Ofsted to be outstanding. Practice and outcomes are inconsistent in the town and this needs to be addressed.
- 1.8 A multi-agency, strategic group of partners and stakeholders has been established and has developed the delivery plans to fulfil the strategic ambition of making Nuneaton an exciting, desirable place to live and work. Collectively, members of the group want to recruit and retain the best teachers to come and work in their schools. This is a key objective of the strategy. They want to encourage families to move into the new housing in the area and to be proud of the quality of education which their children receive.

2.0 Options and Proposal

- 2.1 The key focus of the strategy is 'Raising Aspiration, Working Together.' The vision and approach of the local strategy is in keeping with the values and ethos of the Ethical Leadership programme for school leaders and governors.
- 2.2 Draft 5-year delivery plans are now in place, one for each of the three task and finish groups aligned with the strategic themes:
 - Best start possible (Birth-5)
 - Promoting learning – An empowering curriculum (5-19)
 - Ready for work and life (Post 16 and beyond)
- 2.3 The plans include immediate, short, medium and long-term priorities, actions, milestones and key success measures.
- 2.4 In order to maximise the opportunities to raise aspiration, linkage with the Transforming Nuneaton (TN) Programme Board and regeneration within the town is key and has been established. It is proposed that the strategy is aligned to the TN Programme.
- 2.5 Reporting on the progress of the strategy will be made to the Education Challenge Board, Warwickshire Education Strategy Board and Transforming Nuneaton Programme Board with key success measures to be agreed.
- 2.6 There has been detailed engagement with the Executive Director and Director of Housing, Communities and Economic Development at Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council. The strategy was well received and support for the programme was endorsed.
- 2.7 Detailed briefings for elected members from Nuneaton and Bedworth have taken place in September (Shire Hall) and October 2019 (Nuneaton Town Hall).
- 2.8 A report on the strategy was provided for Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24th September 2019 and the need for the strategy was supported.

3.0 Financial Implications

- 3.1 There are no direct funding implications for WCC.
- 3.2 There are indirect financial implications for the strategy in the form of capacity requirements for the provision of programme coordination.
- 3.2 DfE School Improvement grant funding has been allocated to support the programme.

4.0 Environmental Implications

4.1 None directly.

5.0 Timescales Associated with the Decision and Next Steps

5.1 The Leader is asked to endorse the strategy. A 5-year delivery plan has been developed and three working groups are in place in order to begin to implement the strategy. A launch is being planned for later in 2020.

Background Papers

None

Appendices:

- Nuneaton Education Strategy Summary Graphic
- Governance and reporting arrangements
- Nuneaton Education Strategy - Raising Aspiration, Working Together

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	Hayley Good	hayleygood@warwickshire.gov.uk Tel: 07342067600
Assistant Director	Ian Budd	ianbudd@warwickshire.gov.uk
Strategic Director	Mark Ryder	markryder@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Colin Hayfield	colinhayfield@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s):

Other members: Cabinet/Portfolio Holder

APPENDIX 1

Nuneaton Education Strategy Summary Graphic

Best Possible Start	Vulnerable Learners and Transition	Empowering Schools	Ready for Work and Life
<p>Good Level of Development (GLD) at age 5 for disadvantaged learners in Nuneaton compared with non-disadvantaged learners will be in line with or better than the national and Warwickshire average.</p> <p>The percentage of Early Years providers/settings that are judged by Ofsted as good/outstanding will be in line with or better than the national average.</p> <p>The percentage of 2-year olds benefitting from funded early education places in Nuneaton will increase in line with the county figure.</p> <p>The percentage of free school meal (FSM) claims in Nuneaton will exceed or match the percentage of claims in Bedworth.</p>	<p>By 2020 every school and college in Nuneaton will have a designated lead in mental health, who works closely with the School Nurse and other relevant professionals.</p> <p>The number of children of statutory school-age not on a school roll due to exclusion/ill health will decrease annually.</p> <p>School leaders in Warwickshire will be taking full responsibility for ensuring that all children have a school place, especially vulnerable learners and Children Looked After. This will mean that learners finding it difficult to participate fully in school will all be on the roll of a school where they are nurtured. They will experience an appropriate education that meets their needs and allows them to achieve.</p> <p>Disadvantaged learners in all formally assessed Key Stages (at the end of: Reception, Years 2, 6 and 11) will be reaching at least the levels of the equivalent cohort nationally.</p> <p>Outcomes for vulnerable learners will improve in schools.</p> <p>The percentage of learners aged 16-17 with an EHC plan recorded as participating in Education training will be above the national average.</p>	<p>The 'Nuneaton Alliance' will be established to offer professional development opportunities, school to school support, recruitment and retention initiatives.</p> <p>All schools will have made a commitment to the Nuneaton Alliance by September 2020.</p> <p>Educational outcomes for children in Nuneaton will be in line with or above the national figure.</p> <p>All schools (maintained and academy) judged as less than good in Nuneaton should, when re-inspected achieve a good outcome.</p> <p>There will be sufficient school places to meet the demand in Nuneaton.</p>	<p>The number of young people in Nuneaton who are in care/care leavers aged 16-19 and not in education employment or training (NEET) will reduce.</p> <p>The percentage of learners aged 16-17 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in Nuneaton will be in line with the Warwickshire average.</p> <p>The percentage of young people in Nuneaton in sustained education or employment/training destinations (for at least two terms after leaving KS4 or KS5 study) will be in line with the Warwickshire average.</p> <p>Building on the successful Skills for Employment programme, Warwickshire's young people will experience a wide range of career opportunities through further and higher education and apprenticeships. All secondary schools will build on their current relationships with Warwickshire businesses.</p> <p>Post-16 education will include a focus on ensuring choice into apprenticeships and technical or academic pathways.</p> <p>The number of qualifications achieved by adult learners in Nuneaton will increase annually.</p>

APPENDIX 2

Governance and Reporting Arrangements

