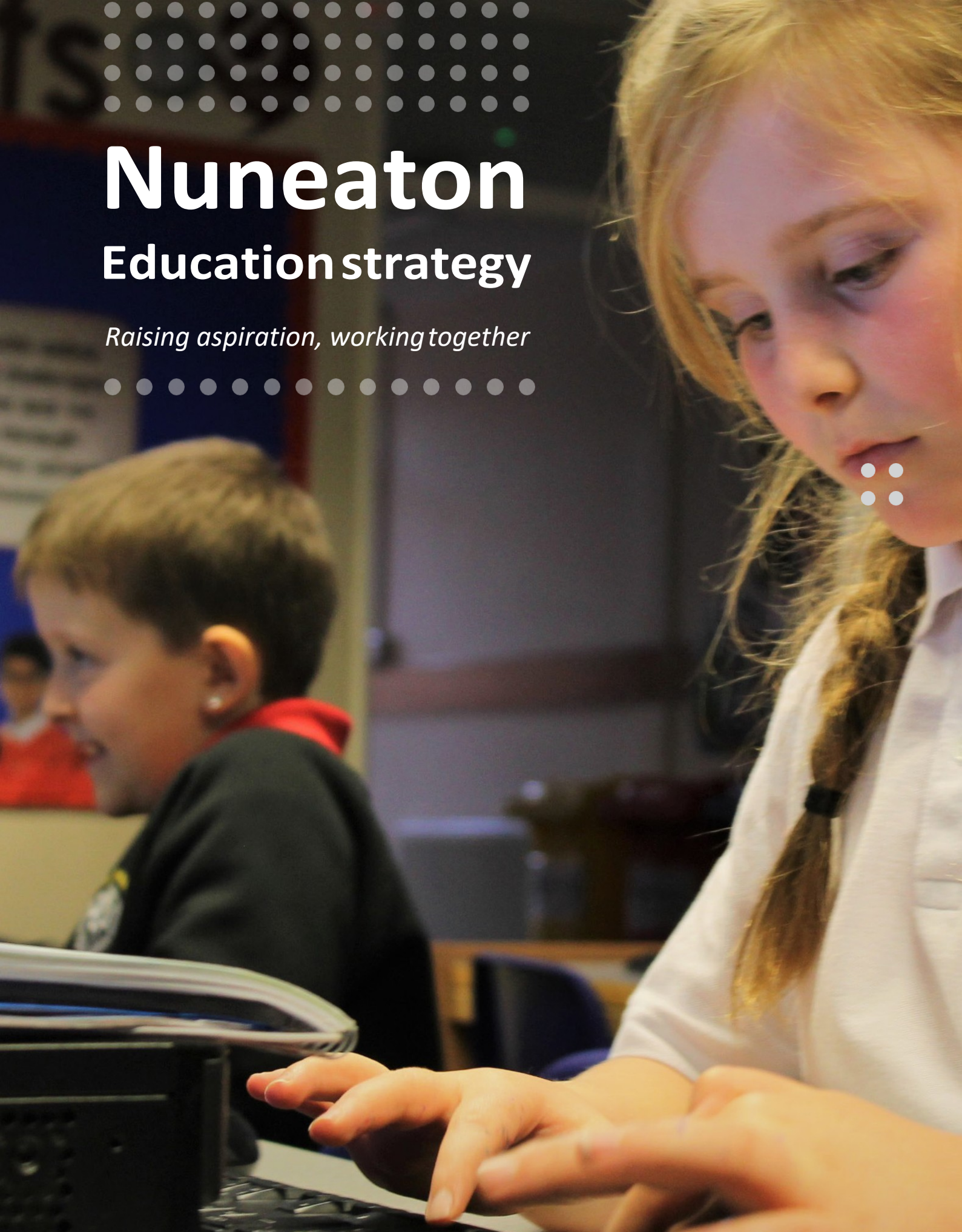





Nuneaton

Education strategy

Raising aspiration, working together



Introduction



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.

In the same way Education leaders from the Borough's schools, colleges, settings and County Council, have come together with a range of non-Education partners and stakeholders to take an innovative, place-based approach to improving education, prospects and aspirations for the young people of Nuneaton.

The multi-agency approach calls upon the whole community to play a part in ensuring every child in Nuneaton has the chance to realise their full potential and by working together in this new way we can achieve this.

Through the vision of 'Raising Aspiration, Working Together' the Nuneaton Education Strategy will have maximum impact on raising aspirations whilst helping young people in Nuneaton to succeed in life.

Context



At present, some schools within Nuneaton have the lowest educational performance within the county. Nuneaton also has the lowest proportion of category A and B schools and a significant number of primary and secondary schools which Ofsted judges to require improvement. Educational outcomes within some areas of the town are depressed.

The report “*Performance in Bedworth and Nuneaton Schools*” identifies the following concerns:

- Pupil cohorts are increasing
- Bedworth has higher proportions of free school meal claimants than Nuneaton, however based on IDACI scores there are higher levels of deprivation in Nuneaton. This suggests fewer families in Nuneaton who are eligible are claiming free school meals
- There are more primary schools of concern in Nuneaton than Bedworth
- Generally primary schools performance is stronger than the secondary performance
- There are three secondary schools which require improvement, all based in Nuneaton and all part of the same multi-academy trust
- Two school sixth forms in Nuneaton are particularly small
- There are higher proportions of engagement with the Youth Justice Service in the borough of Nuneaton and Bedworth than other areas in Warwickshire
- There are higher proportions of teenage pregnancies than other areas of Warwickshire.

Ambition



The ambition of the strategy is to tie in with the high ambitions of the county council and partners to make Nuneaton a town in which people not only want to come to live but also to give their children the best possible start in life with a good education. It is critical that Nuneaton's young people, so many of whom will be key to the town's future prosperity and progress, are encouraged to join in this journey. The time that they spend at school is integral to this.

- Educational aspirations within some areas of the town and community need positive actions in order to be raised
- Recruiting the best teachers to work in the schools in the town and retaining them is vital
- We want parents and carers to work with us to make a really positive contribution to the educational outcomes for their children.



Strategic approach



A new, multi-agency approach will ensure maximum impact from existing resources, using the Bradford Education Covenant¹ as a model. This model is about the whole community coming together to play a part in helping its young people to be successful in life, to aim high and to have every opportunity to achieve their ambitions.

The model is focussed on education as a top priority to:

- Help schools and teachers raise standards
- Support parents to get children ready for school, work and life
- Work with businesses and colleges to increase career options and to give young people valuable, relevant and interesting work experience, increasing their employability
- Celebrate the borough's unique qualities and encourage all to be proud of Nuneaton.

In order to maximise the opportunity to raise aspiration, linking with the Transforming Nuneaton programme board and regeneration within the town is key. Programme opportunities for all will include: clear guidance on learning pathways, access to training and development and work experience. We also want to share inspirational success stories. Nuneaton residents with successful careers will be identified and asked to act as role models, to pledge support and tell their stories to inspire others.

The aims of local education strategies are to increase the wellbeing, aspirations and outcomes for learners. Our approach builds on evaluations of previous local education strategies and initiatives including: Excellence in Cities, Education Action Zones and City Challenges.

The Local Authority can make a difference through its drive to transform Nuneaton and to encourage its residents, businesses and schools to be part of that journey by bringing people together, sharing skills and making links with the public sector and other partners that can really help local communities to fulfil their ambitions.

¹ <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/children-young-people-and-families/reports-policies-projects-and-strategies/bradford-education-covenant/>

Research and evaluation emphasise the importance of effective leadership, networking and collaboration. School leaders thrive when they feel trusted, supported and encouraged in improving provision and outcomes for local learners. This goes hand-in-hand with an approach to tackling issues and sharing learning that is driven by data and knowledge.

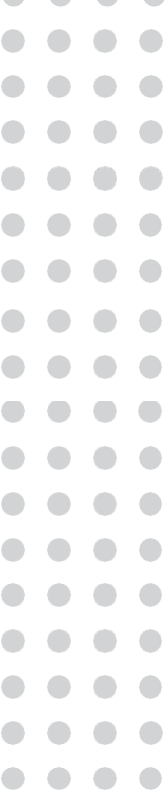
In reducing the number of under-performing schools, actions include support with effective use of data, teaching, learning and leadership. Tailor-made solutions, specific to the needs of each school, are important both in tackling the exact issues and in giving school leaders and staff a sense of ownership. We know that we cannot use a single approach and that different forms of support are effective in schools at different stages on their improvement journey.

The wider school workforce thrives where its members are equipped, encouraged and successes are celebrated. This will be done through conferences, schools working together in small groups and also establishing the Nuneaton Alliance. This will be a schools partnerships where there is outstanding practice that others can visit, learn from and be inspired by.

Actions to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils include working in clusters to share effective multi-agency practice, support for tuition, working with parents or involving pupils in leadership programmes.

The multi-agency approach brings together the whole community to play a part in helping young people to succeed in life. By working together, the Nuneaton Education Strategy will have the maximum impact on raising aspirations whilst helping young people to succeed in life.

A Nuneaton Education Strategy Commitment has been agreed by the strategy group members which sets out the vision for the strategy and key accountability for different stakeholders.



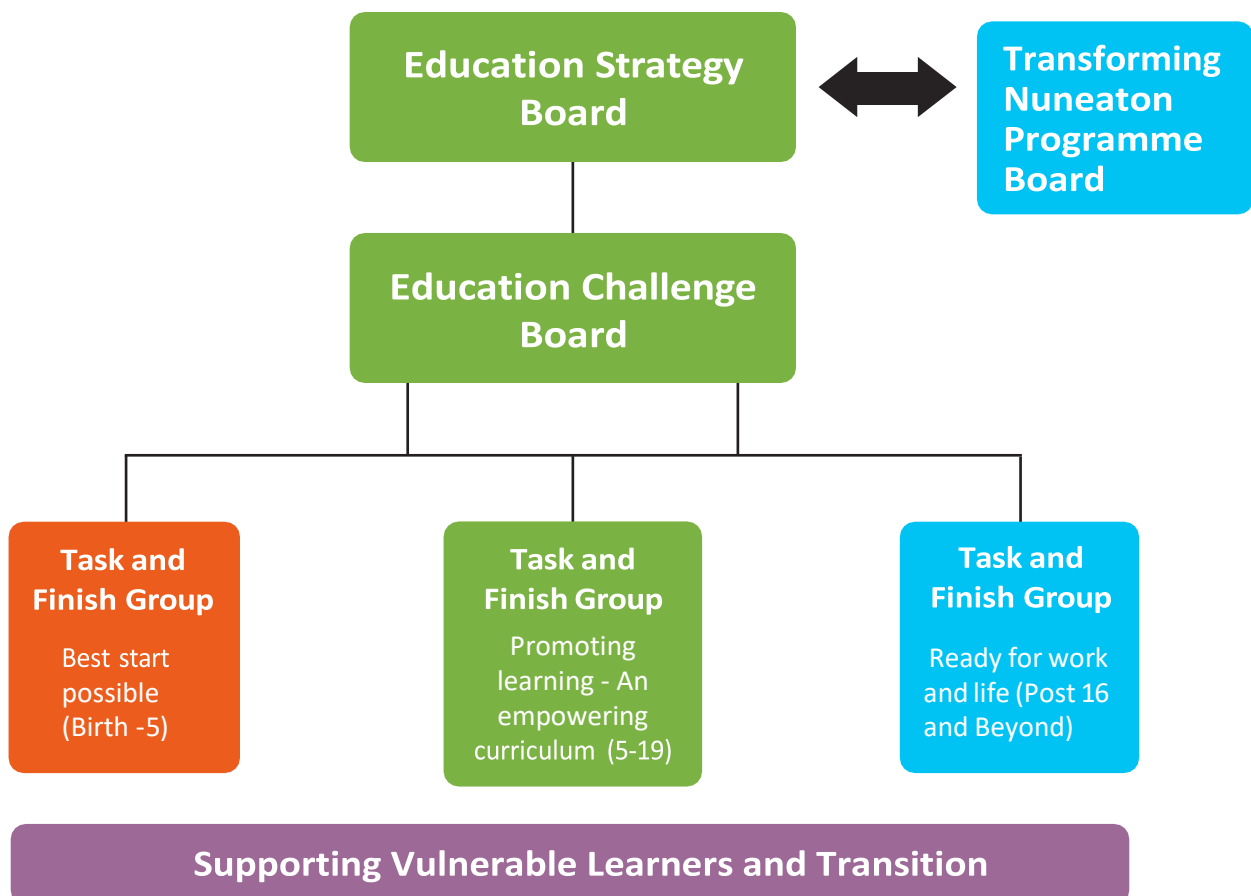
Governance framework



The Nuneaton Education Strategy is also structured in phases of education with each phase including a focus on the needs of vulnerable learners and transition as a cross cutting theme:

- Best Start Possible (0-5)
- Empowering Schools (5-19)
- Ready for work and life (19+)
- Vulnerable learners and transition

Task and finish groups will progress the work programme for the three phases of education and will be overseen by the Warwickshire Education Strategy Board, the Education Challenge Board and reports will be shared with the Transforming Nuneaton Programme Board.





Best possible start

Our Challenge

Our challenge is to foster children's love of learning from birth through early childhood and into Year 1 so that all young children achieve their potential.

Objectives

- To improve outcomes for children within the Early Years and Foundation Stage
- Parents/Carers will support and value early education, encourage and celebrate their child's learning
- Parents/Carers will access a funded early years nursery place
- Early Years Providers and Schools will recognise that all types of early education are part of a wider education system and will share solutions and ideas to improve standards and outcomes
- Raise awareness with leaders and managers across the Early Years sector in relation to ensuring uptake of Early Year Pupil Premium and 2 Year Old funded places.

Activities

- Develop 50 things before you are 5 approach
- Develop training approach and materials for language rich learning at home and family engagement in learning at home
- Pilot "Ready to Learn, Ready for Life".

How we will measure success

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.

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.

The percentage of 2-year olds benefitting from funded early education places in Nuneaton will increase in line with the county figure.

The percentage of free school meal (FSM) claims in Nuneaton will exceed or match the percentage of claims in Bedworth.



Empowering schools

Our Challenge

Our challenge is for all learners to enjoy a high quality learning experience.

Objectives

- Improve outcomes for children and young people
- Improve recruitment and retention of high quality school staff
- All schools to have access to family support workers
- Establish Nuneaton Alliance and encourage all schools to make a commitment to actively engage and raise standards of education through collaborative support and development.

Activities

- Nuneaton Alliance launch event
- Strengthen collaboration between head teachers in Nuneaton
- Magistrates in the Community Project (primary schools)
- Collaborative professional development sharing the best practice
- Active engagement with local developers to raise awareness of the Education offer in Nuneaton
- A range of projects targeted to improve outcomes in primary and secondary schools.

How we will measure success

The 'Nuneaton Alliance' will be established to offer professional development opportunities, school to school support, recruitment and retention initiatives.

All schools will have made a commitment to the Nuneaton Alliance by September 2020.

Educational outcomes for children in Nuneaton will be in line with or above the national figure.

All schools (maintained and academy) judged as less than good in Nuneaton should, when re-inspected achieve a good outcome.

There will be sufficient school places to meet the demand in Nuneaton.



Ready for work and life

Our Challenge

Our challenge is to champion employability by promoting the best opportunities for all learners and to Develop a systematic and engaged approach to accessing sustainable employment and further Education opportunities.

Objectives

- Increase engagement with all stakeholders
- Overcome poverty of aspiration and provide opportunities for growth, development and sustainable employment
- Develop strong, sustainable links with local business and industry.

Activities

- Promote social enterprise through the curriculum e.g. Oak Wood youth market
- Develop work experience and supported internship opportunities and access to volunteering
- Strengthen links with Coventry University, City of Culture and Arts and Industry
- Develop peer mentoring opportunities
- Map careers and employability and NEET activity.

How we will measure success

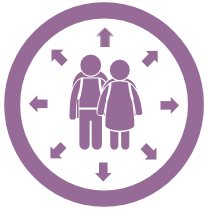
The number of young people in Nuneaton who are in care/care leavers aged 16-19 and not in education employment or training (NEET) will reduce.

The percentage of learners aged 16-17 Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in Nuneaton will be in line with the Warwickshire average.

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.

Post-16 education will include a focus on ensuring choice into apprenticeships and technical or academic pathways.

The number of qualifications achieved by adult learners in Nuneaton will increase annually.



Vulnerable learners and transition

Our Challenge

Our challenge is to promote a broad, empowering and creative curriculum, focusing on times of transition, and prioritising vulnerable groups.

Objectives

- Improve outcomes for vulnerable learners
- Greater awareness of mental health issues in schools
- Better understanding of behaviour strategies in mainstream schools
- Deliver the SEND transformation programme across all education settings within Nuneaton.

Activities

- Draw together key WCC education projects focused on improving social, emotional and mental health of children and young people, intervention and support for our most vulnerable learners.

How we will measure success

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.

The number of children of statutory school-age not on a school roll due to exclusion/ill health will decrease.

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 allow them to achieve.

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.

Outcomes for vulnerable learners will improve in schools.

The percentage of learners aged 16-17 with an EHC plan recorded as participating in Education training will be above the national average.