

---

## **Corporate Parenting Board**

**27 June 2016**

Report of the Head of the Virtual School for Looked after Children and Young people

### **Virtual School Development Updates**

#### **Summary**

1. Following a presentation by the Virtual Head Teacher at the last Board meeting, this report provides an update on some key areas including;
  - the development of the 16/17 Virtual School Improvement Plan [the 2015/16 Virtual School Improvement Plan is attached at Annex A for information]
  - the implications of the Rees Centre report and how this can inform the priorities for the 16/17 improvement plan [Annex B]
  - the outcome of a recent poetry competition which celebrates the creativity and talent of our Looked After Children [Annex C]

#### **Background**

2. The Virtual School Improvement plan attached is due to be re-written for the academic year 2016-17. As a local authority we need to decide what the priorities for the Virtual School will be going forward, in line with the 'Children and Young People in Care: York's Strategy 2016-2020' policy document so these can be written in to the new school improvement plan.

#### **Consultation**

3. This is the start of a comprehensive consultation in relation to the key priorities for the Virtual School's improvement plan for 2016 /17

## **Options**

4. At this stage the Board is simply invited to comment and give their views informed by the other material presented today.

## **Analysis**

5. Not applicable.

## **Council Plan**

6. The relevant sections of the Council plan that help to inform the Virtual School Improvement plan include:

Section 4.49(p.13)

Ambition – ‘We need to ensure there is a spirit of constructive challenge in our debates about the way forward, and to reinvigorate our whole approach.’

Section 5.5 (p.19)

‘Tackle the challenges around educational attainment with increased vigour and purpose.’

‘Review and implement as appropriate the recommendations of the Rees Centre report about the ‘Educational Progress of Looked After Children.’

‘Support the Virtual School in its self-evaluation processes , and implement its improvement plan.’

Other developments (p.29)

‘The Virtual School ...provides challenge around narrowing the gap..’

## **Implications**

7. An analysis of the key implications includes:

Financial: Once the Virtual School Improvement priorities are agreed a fully costed plan will be presented to the Board.

Human Resources (HR): There are no HR implications.

Equalities: None

Legal: There are no legal implications.

Crime and Disorder : There are no legal implications.

Information Technology (IT): These will be reviewed in light of the recent implementation of the MOSAIC childrens management system once the priorities have been identified.

Property: None

Other: There are no legal implications.

### **Risk Management**

8. There are no known risks.

### **Recommendations**

9. Members are asked to consider
  - the implications of the Rees Centre report and how it can inform the priorities in the virtual school improvement plan for 16/17
  - progress against the key priorities included in the 15/16 plan

Reason: To help identify the key priorities for the Virtual School Improvement Plan 2016 /17

## Contact Details

### Author

Sarah Clarke  
Head of the Virtual School  
[Sarah.Clarke@york.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.Clarke@york.gov.uk)

### Report Approved



**Date** 22/06/16

Eoin Rush  
Assistant Director – Childrens Specialist  
Services

**Wards Affected:** List wards or tick box to indicate all

**All** ☐ Yes

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

### Annexes

Annex A - School Improvement Plan - 2015/16  
Annex B - Summary of Rees Centre Report  
Annex C - Outcome of Poetry Competition