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The Lancashire Education Strategy 2022-2025

At its meeting at the start of December the Councilors on Lancashire County Council Cabinet approved the Lancashire Education Strategy for 2022 to 2025.

Some informative data was presented to cabinet:

Currently there are:

- 175,701 pupils at 628 schools.
- 56 schools are academies and 572 maintained by Lancashire County Council.
- 2,386 attend nursery schools.
- 101,399 children attend primary schools.
- 67,694 children attend secondary schools.
- 3,069 attend special schools.
- 906 pupils attend pupil referral units.

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The Lancashire Education Strategy 2022-2025 (cont ...)

Within the Education Act, there are **3 statutory duties** placed upon each local authority:

- **Access** - this relates to our 'sufficiency duty' where all children of statutory school age are entitled to education. This covers not only the entitlement for working parents of pre-school children, but also special school and alternative provision places.
- **Quality** - the Local Authority has a duty to drive school improvement so that every school is a 'good' school. This strategy adopts a 'status neutral' approach no matter what category of school the children are in and drives educational excellence across all Lancashire schools and settings.
- **Outcomes** - within its capacity as 'champion of children' the Local Authority has a duty to support the best possible outcomes for all children and young people in Lancashire. A needs-led approach called 'warranted variation' is in place, where different needs and different communities are recognised so that support is tailored in response to that need.

There are **seven pillars** underpinning the strategy: Alternative Provision; Multi-Agency Early Help; Early Years; SEND Improvement; School Effectiveness; School Place Planning; Preparation for Adulthood.

The strategy identifies the **five priorities** for Lancashire:

- Improve outcomes for early years
- Further reduce exclusions, both permanent and suspensions
- Address risks associated with the rising numbers of Elective Home Education (EHE) where this is not in the best interests of the child
- Improve outcomes for vulnerable groups
- Increase the number of children and young people in Education Employment and Training.

The strategy is to be delivered through a Team Around the Schools and Settings (TASS) model that some of you MAY have heard mention of at either our conference in October or in the Chairs' Forum meetings last term. As part of this model, Locality Boards have been established in 5 districts (Fylde Coast, Morecambe Bay, Central Lancashire, West Lancashire and Pennine Lancashire) to address barriers to learning and school improvement.

The LASGB Executive has, on behalf of governors, sought answers to the many questions which arise in relation to membership of, access to and information about the Locality Boards. ***We would urge all governors to ask questions in their areas as to what the membership is of their Locality Board and how their school has a voice and obtains feedback.***

NASEN (National Association for Special Educational Needs)

All school Governing Bodies have very clear responsibilities in relation to SEND. Any support we can get with this responsibility should be welcomed by us.

NASEN is, for those who are unaware, a charitable organisation whose aim is "Helping Everyone Achieve". Whether you are governor in a Special School, a governor in mainstream who is the SEND link or simply a governor who wants to increase their knowledge of this area, NASEN will be a source of information and expertise for you.

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NASEN (National Association for Special Educational Needs) (cont ...)

It is free to be a member of NASEN and anyone with an interest in this area of education can join. As a member you will receive a weekly information email and access to organised events and CPD. All you need to do is go to the website and sign up!

In the main events are in the form of CPD for practitioners but in addition there is an annual conference which targets a wider audience including those involved in governance. NASEN is always represented at major Education Exhibitions and events e.g., the Bett Global conference and The North of England Education Conference. Of course, it is also and major contributor to any DfE research or debate.

NASEN publishes regular briefings and information packs that can help you to be as up to date as possible with all matters relating to SEND.



Special Recognition Awards



If you have any Governor who you feel is deserving of an award, then all we need is supporting email with details of the Governor and why you think their service deserves to be recognized from the Headteacher or Chair of Governors send to admin@lasgb.org.uk



Almost 75% of Lancashire's Schools/Academies are members of the LASGB

www.lasgb.org.uk | admin@lasgb.org.uk