

Rotherham Virtual School for Looked After Children – Steering Group

Terms of Reference

Purpose

- The role of the Virtual School Steering Group (VSSG) is to provide the strategic vision for Rotherham's Virtual School for Looked After Children through annual preparation of a Developing Excellence Plan aimed at ensuring good or outstanding experiences and outcomes for children looked after by Rotherham. The group should support the Virtual Headteacher in the delivery of the plan through ensuring the full engagement of wider local authority services as required to deliver good and outstanding experiences and outcomes for children looked after by Rotherham.

Membership

- The VSSG will comprise a total of 3 LA officers – Virtual Head, Director of Schools & Lifelong Learning, Director of Safeguarding & Disability Services, the Chief IRO and the Lead Member for Children and Young People.
- The Chairperson is to be the Director of Schools & Lifelong Learning

Meetings

- The VSSG will meet 4 weeks before every Corporate Parenting Panel meeting
- VSSG meetings are to last a maximum of 90 minutes.
- VSSG meetings will be minuted with draft minutes being circulated as soon after the meeting as is possible.

Roles and Responsibilities

- To evaluate the Annual Headteacher report in order to:
 - o Evaluate the examination/national test results for children looked after by Rotherham
 - o Evaluate the annual level of exclusions of children looked after by Rotherham
 - o Evaluate the annual school attendance of children looked after by Rotherham
- To contribute to the writing of the Developing Excellence Plan for Rotherham's Virtual School for Looked After Children responding to evaluation of the Virtual Head's report and changes to statutory responsibilities in relation to the education of looked after children.
- Provide a strategic lead to LA services other than the Virtual School, to ensure implementation of the Developing Excellence Plan as it applies across other services.
- To implement and monitor progress of the Developing Excellence Plan

- To develop strategic policies and procedures for issues relating to the education of looked after children.
- To monitor:
 - o Educational attainment and progress
 - o The level of exclusions
 - o School attendance
 - o The level of, and distribution of, Pupil Premium Plus grant funding
 - o The impact of work funded by Pupil Premium Plus grant funding
- To maintain an overview of the staffing of the Virtual School
- In consultation with the Headteacher, to determine the staffing structure of the school.
- To oversee the appointment procedure for staff to the Virtual School
- To bring matters to the attention of the full Corporate Parenting Panel as their significance demands.

Date reviewed and adopted:

Date of next review:

Signature of Chair of Governors