

Appendix B: budget and policy implications of the recommendations

The following table highlights the budgetary and policy implications of the recommendations made by the ECYP Scrutiny Panel:

	Recommendation	Action By	Budget & Policy Framework	Resource Implications
1	That the Local Authority work with headteachers on a transition protocol which is based on best practice with a shared commitment for continuous improvement, in order to better support children's transition from primary to secondary school. This should include consistency in terms procedures and processes (including the sharing of data) and the development of a resource pack which would detail how schools will work with each other to create a city-wide approach for Year 6 to 7 transition. This process should be embedded within the next three years	Working Group established in the summer term 2022/23 - reporting to the PEP Removing Barriers to Inclusion Group. Protocol and resources agreed by the end of the Autumn term 2023/24	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy	Officer time required (through existing resources) to support the working group and draft the protocol / resources, working alongside headteachers.
2	That any child who is identified as having poor attendance when starting secondary school receives a home visit to establish why the pupil is not attending school to help them support good habits to prepare for school.	Action to be incorporated into transitions protocol as above	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy	Resource implications for schools but with multi agency support for our most vulnerable
3	That an active attendance plan be introduced which would identify those pupils who are struggling with school attendance, may have been adversely affected by the covid-19 pandemic and who have underlying needs such as anxiety or neurodiverse needs and therefore require extra multi agency support. In some cases it may be	Action to be incorporated into transitions protocol as above. Attendance should form part of any	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy	Officer time required (through existing resources) to support the working group and draft the protocol /

	Recommendation	Action By	Budget & Policy Framework	Resource Implications
	appropriate to arrange an Education, Health and Care assessment	appropriate plan e.g. Family Support Plan, Personal Education Plan, Education, Health and Care Plan, etc		resources, working alongside headteachers.
4	To at least double the number of LA Link Co-ordinators including a focus on supporting year 6 to 7 transition.	As a minimum we need to maintain the existing team of 4.8fte link co-ordinators with additional support through PEIA until March 25. Fran Shaul, Supporting Families Manager - responsible for management of LA Link Co-ordinators	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy. Additional resources to increase the school attendance team which works alongside the co-ordinators will be provided by PEIA funding (focus on persistent and severe absence) but this will only be until March 2025.	The current 4.8fte link co-ordinators are funded from grant funding - Supporting Families and Virtual School extended duties (£0.2m).
5	That the principles adopted by the Virtual School & College, including the intensive support that is provided, be expanded to all vulnerable pupils in Year 6 including those who have an EHCP.	Action to be incorporated into transitions protocol as above	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy / Virtual	Officer time required (through existing resources) to support the working group and

	Recommendation	Action By	Budget & Policy Framework	Resource Implications
			School Business Plan	draft the protocol / resources, working alongside headteachers.
6	That all schools in the city share automated daily attendance figures with the Local Authority building on the successful implementation of Studybugs.	Agreement for implementation in 2023/24 and 2024/25 be secured for all schools by June 2023.	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy	LA to continue to provide the core funding for Studybugs
7	That the local authority encourages all schools to actively engage in the relational practice programme over the next 3 years following the evidence that this is having a positive impact on attendance and reducing suspensions in schools	Wave 1 commenced in Sept 2021 Wave 2 implementation commenced Jan 23 Further waves planned between 2023 and 2025 to cover all schools	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy	Funding already secured through the DSG - £0.5m over the next 3 years
8	That the local authority and headteachers encourage school governors to scrutinise the transitional process in their schools and closely monitor attendance particularly for Years 6 and 7.	Action to be incorporated into transitions protocol as above	Within existing policy framework and School Attendance Strategy	Officer time required (through existing resources) to support the working group and draft the protocol / resources, working alongside headteachers.

- Official -