

Local Authority Corporate Approaches to Sustainable Schools



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FOR THE NORTH EAST

The Children's Plan 2007



“ Sustainable development is non-negotiable for children’s wellbeing ”



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Sustainable Schools Ethos



Not everyone is familiar with the language of sustainable development, but we do understand about **care**:

- › **care** for oneself (own well-being)
- › **care** for one another (near, far & future generations)
- › **care** for the environment (locally & globally)



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Building on experience



Every Child Matters	Global School Partnerships
Extended Services	Pupil wellbeing
School Travel Plans	Community Cohesion
Healthy Schools	Eco-Schools
International School Award	Rights Respecting Schools
Enterprise Education	New Build Capital Programmes



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Integrated Approach



Curriculum

- Teaching and learning
- Pupil achievement
- Pupil wellbeing

Campus

- Operating and capital budgets
- Pupil involvement
- Staff morale
- Built and natural environment

Community

- Trust
- Parental involvement
- Local influence
- Global Influence



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Whole School Recognition Schemes



Certification Schemes



Food for Life Partnership Mark



Healthy Schools



International School Award



Eco-Schools



Rights Respecting Schools Award



RHS Campaign for School Gardening



RSPB Wildlife Action Awards

Competition Based Schemes



Ashden Awards



Green Schools Awards



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Drivers



The Sustainable Schools Framework is fundamentally about school improvement:

- *Improved pupil achievement and personal development & wellbeing*
- *Increased efficiency and sustainable operational management*
- *However, it does support a wide range of local authority priorities and initiatives so provides a great win-win opportunity*



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Corporate Approach Idea



- Outcome from successful 2 day Sustainable Schools Conference held in York in February 08 organised by the North East, North West and Yorkshire & Humber regions
- Idea came from local authorities and partner organisations
- LA's realised that no single section of an authority could offer the necessary range of support schools required
- North East and Yorkshire & Humber worked up a proposal for DCSF and each Government Office received £10K to support three local authorities each.



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Corporate Approach Aims



- Raise the profile of the Sustainable Schools and Sustainable Development agendas within LAs, across-directorates, and specifically as a school improvement tool;
- Highlight how Sustainable Schools' activities enable Local Authorities to meet wide ranging corporate targets, e.g. National Indicators (NIs), Comprehensive Performance Assessments (CPAs), and (from April 2009) LA Comprehensive Area Assessments (CAAs);
- Ensure a coherent approach across all the LA services, stakeholders and partners who support schools and authorities on this complex agenda.



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Corporate Approach Expected Outcomes



- Individually tailored, cross-directorate/service Sustainable Schools Corporate Strategy
- Each LA commits to develop a range of activities with their schools and with other partners
- Commitment to showcase activities, and spread effective practice across as many local schools as possible. Disseminate good practice regionally, cross-regionally and nationally
- Produce a minimum of three effective practice case studies
- Each authority commits to establishing a local Sustainable Schools' network, developing a minimum of 5% of its schools using the S3 tool and planning tool to self evaluate and produce an action plan;
- Taking part in interim joint regional seminars for participating local authorities in March '09 and Autumn 09



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Process



- Open invitation to all LA's in the two regions to apply to become Pathfinder authorities
- Application and selection processes took place.
- Successful authorities were:

North East

Newcastle City Council
Durham County Council
Redcar & Cleveland
Borough Council

Yorkshire and Humber

York City Council
Kirklees Council
East Riding Council



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Local Authority Activities that Involve Schools



Carbon Management Plans

Carbon Reduction Commitment

Pupil Obesity

School Meals

Sustainable Travel

Local Food

Etc etc

Waste and Recycling Targets

Fairtrade

Climate Change

Procurement

Young people participation

Cleaner, Greener, Safer



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DCSF Guidance



“Local authorities must develop cross-cutting support for sustainable schools. As sustainable schools supports a range of cross-cutting issues, local authorities must work coherently across departments to ensure schools receive joined up support. Although Children’s Services must lead this area, other departments within the local authority can play a vital role in delivering and supporting schools through their area of work, for example, facilities management, contracts, strategy, community cohesion, environment, sustainability, waste, transport or planning”

DCSF Delivering Sustainable Communities through Sustainable Schools 2009



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