

Cluster Education Partner

• Key Objectives

- To broker effective support for school improvement so that all schools become at least good.
- To facilitate an effective system of local accountability and school to school support
- To support the development of local education strategies
- To provide a direct link between Children's Services, other Norfolk County Council services and schools.
- To ensure that schools fully understand their role and responsibilities and the services offered to assist them in fulfilling these.
- On behalf of Norfolk County Council act as a champion of children
- To ensure that NCC has an accurate and up to date understanding of the quality of/provision and services needed to support them.

• Specified Tasks

- To conduct an **Annual Conversation** regarding performance with each school with the following agenda:
 - a. Schools own assessment
 - i. School Self Evaluation (shared by the school for information)
 - ii. Quality framework used (i.e. level of external validation/verification of evidence, external scrutiny/support for L&M)
 - iii. Discussion of coherence between self-evaluation and performance/achievement data
 - b. Good Practice to be shared and support offered to other schools
 - c. LA Grouping and school's response
 - d. Understanding school improvement objectives
 - i. proximity to inspection and current grading
 - ii. timetable for improvement
 - e. Discussion of support arrangements
 - i. Information regarding impact of previous support (review of completed evaluations)
 - ii. Feedback on services provided through Services 4 Schools
 - f. Identification of new support/services needed
- Provide an **additional service for schools which 'require improvement'** (funded through the N2GG Programme):
 - i. Ensure the timely completion of the 'Start up' element of the programme

1. Audit of non-negotiables
 2. Governing Body Supported Self Review
 3. Agreement of improvement priorities (part of Annual Conversation)
 4. Prepare plan with clear outcomes
 5. Establish a system of frequent monitoring/evaluation
- ii. Make recommendations to the Intervention team if the school becomes a school of concern
 - iii. Assist in the production of a support notice for schools not deemed ready to engage with the next step of the N2GG programme
- To support and challenge clusters in the **development of a local education plan** through
 - a. Attendance at key cluster meetings
 - b. Facilitating formal cluster reviews with divisional team (DSA,SPA)
 - c. Brokerage of collaboration between schools and other partners
 - To report to NCC Business Partners on the quality/impact/perception of the services. This is facilitated by
 - a. An **annual service review** with every school using an agreed template
 - b. Regular communication regarding the quality of services provided
 - c. An understanding of the impact of services and support through the annual conversation
 - To alert appropriate contacts within Children's Services whenever the local education system (Cluster) fails individual children.
 - To facilitate the sharing of good practice through agreed local systems and mechanisms.

- **Person specification (extract):**

The outline requirements in the Cluster Education Partner Specification are likely to be met fully or at least in part, where a person:

- Is an accredited Local or National Leader of Education
- Is a serving Ofsted Inspector
- Is an Intervention Adviser
- Has previously been designated as a SIP and maintained this type of work, as demonstrated through a track record in providing challenge and support to school leaders. This may be evidenced through a recent case study and references.

The person fulfilling this role must be 'external to the cluster', i.e. they should not have a substantive role of employment within the cluster or provide direct support for improvement within the cluster they are assigned to.