

**REPORT TO:** Schools Forum

**DATE:** 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Interim OD Education, Inclusion & Provision

**SUBJECT:** Behaviour Support Service

**WARDS:** Borough wide

## **1.0 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide an overview of the offer and impact report from the Halton Behaviour Support Service (HBSS), see Appendix One.

## **2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That**

- 2.1 The report is noted. The report requests Schools Forum to determine whether a decision regarding funding and future offer of Halton Behaviour Support Service is available to support schools with approaches to support positive behaviour; to build skills and strategies for school staff and families and encourage de-escalation.

## **3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 3.1 The Behaviour Support Service is funded through the Dedicated Schools grant and comprises Head of Behaviour Support Team (post currently vacant), a Primary Behaviour Support Teacher, a Secondary Behaviour Support Teacher, and two family liaison officers.
- 3.2. At the time of writing, the Team leader post is currently vacant and has not been recruited to until the offer of the service has been reviewed and agreed by Schools Forum, as to how the service would best meet need and provide the most appropriate offer for children, young people, families and schools.
- 3.3 Due to COVID-19 the work of the team has been impacted, initially due to schools only being open for those children in the vulnerable cohort during 2020/21, and subsequent to that, some restrictions upon school visits. Members of the service have been happy to attend schools when restrictions were lifted and schools were happy to allow visits. During the last academic year, service visits returned to pre Covid offer.
- 3.4 Several members of the HBSS team have been affected by sickness, which has impacted upon the delivery of the service during the summer term 2022. All team members are now fully returned to work and are

fully operational. The HBSS offer is now being reviewed with the school sector to meet emerging need post Covid.

3.5 Attached as Appendix One are details of the training/support provided, and feedback/impact provided by schools.

3.6 As well as face-to-face training, the team have also delivered some online training to school based staff.

#### **4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 The service is funded through the Dedicated Schools Grant as agreed by Schools Forum and the benefits of the service can be seen through the impact detailed in the appendices.

#### **5.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES**

##### **5.1 Children & Young People in Halton**

The service operates with schools to ensure that staff receive training to ensure whole school, positive behaviour policy and strategies are used throughout the school consistently. Mental Health First Aid training helps support children, young people and staff with their own mental health and well-being. By using positive behaviour strategies, the aim is to reduce matters escalating which could lead to fixed term or permanent exclusions and to help retain children and young people within a mainstream school setting where that is appropriate. The service also supports school staff as part of their continuing professional development in relation to positive behaviour management., whilst the Family liaison Officers support families with modelling and training regarding positive behaviour strategies.

##### **5.2 Employment, Learning & Skills in Halton**

None.

##### **5.3 A Healthy Halton**

None.

##### **5.4 A Safer Halton**

None.

##### **5.5 Halton's Urban Renewal**

None.

#### **6.0 RISK ANALYSIS**

6.1 The Behaviour Support Team provide a range of support and training to schools in Halton to ensure staff are trained appropriately, and pupils are educated within an inclusive school environment, and the benefits of the service are detailed within the appendices.

## 7.0 **EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES**

There are no equality and diversity issues associated with the service, they support all schools and all pupils and students in Halton as appropriate.