

DSG-Task and Finish Group Report

Alternative Provision

September 2024

Task and Finish Group participants
Headteacher/ principals: Claire Morris, Louise Minter, Dave Evans, Darren Gelder, Stuart Shelton, Michael Wade,
AP rep/ Other:, Chanda Patel, Stephen Steinhaus, Claire Smith
L.A reps have also attended some meetings: Bern Timings, Kate Bradley, Jamie Rynberk, Steven Fenton

Purpose of the group
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we make Secondary AP more cost-effective – with a particular focus on 6th Day provision?• Do secondary schools want a SISS High Needs Pathway? What does that look like?• How much money could be devolved into secondary schools to manage their own AP? What would this look like?• What would a lower tier model look like from Solihull Academy?• How would any changes impact on existing Alternative Provision providers?• How do we move from one system to another?• What happens in other L.A's

9th September

8th July

10th June

13th May

Met 4 times all face to face

Recommendations from the group

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1. Continue commissioned places at S.A- explore the potential of being able to commission a place mid-year if needed. (Blackwater/Riverside model)
2. Offer commissioned places at Triple Crown
3. SEMH AP set up/offered at a current AP setting
4. If AP can't meet need, what/where is the next level of support on offer? Should there be a review of whether the student goes back to the home school or a new school via a managed move?
5. Clear KPI's for all AP's (some common/some bespoke) shared with all schools that commission places
6. All processes at the AP's clear (enrolment, curriculum, reporting, Q.A, etc)
7. Solihull Academy places more flexible, too many pathways restrict the transparency of the offer. More flexibility to potentially allow part time as well as full time places. Greater flexibility

as year groups finish. ((year 11) Transparency around year group numbers and pathway numbers.

8. £608,120 currently spend on tutoring. Tutoring could be moved into schools or school hubs and the above money used to support this.
9. Consider the use of Blackwater, can Solihull based A.P accommodate these students? Or is sharing 'the load' a preferred option. Using Blackwater is £20.9k per pupil, £11.4k cheaper than Saturn.
10. A recognition from the L.A that for some students A.P is a destination (Year groups/Key Stage to be considered)
11. LA and AP clear roles and responsibilities

As discussed, some recommendations will:

- Save money (no.8 and 9)
- Might make money (no.1,2,3)
- Some will ensure heads have more faith in the whole system

Feedback from ALTERNATIVE PROVISION TASK & FINISH GROUP OPPORTUNITIES OVERVIEW PAPER (JULY 2024)

Provision	Suggestions
SA- Daylesford	SA need to manage all these places as one. Schools cannot refer into individual provisions
SA Main site	
SA Orbital	
SA Mercury	As above- SEMH offer not shared, but it is needed in the borough
SA Saturn	National problem, but if cheaper to outsource continue to do this, or create more places at S.A
SA Saturn wait list	
Blackwater	See recommendation no. 9
Inclusion tutoring	Move this money into schools/ hubs
EHCP tutoring	
The elms	Not meeting need in regard to the fact it is not a revolving door
Triple Crown	Consider wider changes to this (tutoring/ SEMH/ commissioning places etc)
Refresh	Need further looking into
Cedars	Needs further looking into
SA Apollo	Needed from primary view point, but input needed as to what this should look like. Current offer still not transparent.

Other points to consider	Recommendation
Much discussion in the early meetings around the exact offer from the AP's, in particular S.A (Tier 1,2 and 3 offer not clear, equally miscommunication around the different pathways at S.A and the costings.) This	S.A tiers need to be incused in the commissioning SLA Refresh need further discussion

<p>has become much clearer as the group has met more and more information has become available to the group (thank you to Daria for this)</p> <p>Also, a lot of confusion around the refresh offer. This has not been discussed at length due to the groups mainly being secondary colleagues.</p>	
<p>As a result of the offer not being clear, some of the original purposes have not been discussed as length, as such more time would be valuable to allow these discussions to continue, in particular around, <i>Do secondary schools want a SISS High Needs Pathway? What does that look like?</i> I am however aware that another T&F group has covered this in some detail. Equally these 2 purposes <i>How would any changes impact on existing Alternative Provision providers? How do we move from one system to another?</i> Have not been discussed in any detail at all. Depending on the next steps for the T&F groups, I would suggest these are followed up over the next couple of months</p>	<p>Roll these purposes over to the next T&F agenda.</p>
<p>Top slicing/ L.A contribution towards S.A, schools would consider absorbing this £1,000 if the AP provision can meet some of the recommendations on page 1</p>	<p>Clarification of the time scale for the £1,000 top slicing- was this is time limited offer or permanent?</p>
<p>There is much frustration and potentially confusion around the role of Solihull Inclusion, SISS, single panel and the high needs pathway offer in relation to AP, who supports who and how?</p>	<p>These roles are explicit and clear to all schools</p>
<p>Although the tiers from S.A are now clear, (to those colleagues part of the Task and Finish group) it is still not part of the SLA when schools commission places. It is not part of the single panel offer.</p>	<p>Work on SLA Work on single panel 'offer', panel can recommend tier 1,2,3 Tiers transparent for all</p>
<p>Primary AP was barely discussed because of the frustrations about secondary, there was also a lack of Primary heads in this group</p>	<p>SSABB inclusion have agreed to pick this line of work up</p>
<p>For those students that attend Saturn centre how many students are then on rolled at S.A? If not, where do they go?</p>	<p>Transparency</p>

