

Autumn Term Governance Briefing

Thursday 10th December 2020, 6.00 pm

via Zoom

Autumn Term Governance Briefing: Agenda

- **Sheffield Education Strategy**
- **Covid-19 Update**
- **Learn Sheffield Update**



Sheffield Education & Skills Strategy: Education Strategy Consultation

Autumn Governance Briefing
Thursday 10th December 2020



Introduction: Cllr Abtisam Mohamed (SCC Cabinet Lead: Education & Skills)

- This commitment of Sheffield City Council to education and skills.
- The significance of the strategy – especially in the light of Covid.
- The need to strengthen the links between settings and their communities.



SECTION A – FOREWORD, EXECUTIVE SUMMARY & INTRODUCTION

FOREWORD

By Cllr Abtisam Mohamed (Cabinet Lead – Education & Skills)

We believe that the greatest asset of our city is its people, and the foundation of our ambition to deliver a successful inclusive economy and a great quality of life for the people of Sheffield is our education system. The Sheffield Education and Skills Strategy is a key component of Sheffield City Council's strategic corporate priorities.

All of the stakeholders involved in the development of this plan recognise the value of early intervention, and therefore the importance of early years, and believe that no school can be truly successful unless it is highly inclusive. The decision to bring together education and skills in this strategy is a clear recognition that a strong post-16 offer is essential if Sheffield's young people are to reach their potential.

"We will seek the endorsement and commitment of partners to the final strategy and then do all that we can to realise the ambitions set out in our shared document."

Without a strong education and skills sector, Sheffield cannot overcome the challenges it faces. Covid-19 has exposed the structural inequalities that exist in Sheffield as it has across the country and the world. This strategy comes at a crucial time and our ambition is demonstrated by the civic investment that we are committing to it.

I am delighted to bring forward this strategy for consultation and look forward to the feedback from all stakeholders, which will help to shape the final document. We will seek the endorsement and commitment of partners to the final strategy and then do all that we can to realise the ambitions set out in our shared document.

"The greatest asset of our city is its people, and the foundation of our ambition to deliver a successful inclusive economy and a great quality of life for the people of Sheffield is our education system."



**Introduction:
John Macilwraith
(SCC Executive Director: People Portfolio)**

- Strategy builds on our sector-led school improvement model.
- Inclusion is fundamental.
- Portfolio is being restructured to support the delivery of the strategy.
- Seeking to connect key strategies to which impact on the life chances of children and young people.



1. OUR VISION

Improving the life chances of children and young people in Sheffield.

Our city-wide strategy focuses sharply on improving outcomes: raising the attainment of all pupils, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds, and those that are vulnerable to underachievement. We will achieve this through:

- Equity to create equality
- Inclusion in effective teaching and learning
- Improving pupils as learners
- Partnership and collaboration driving improvement

Our vision is that the city's education strategy and activity focus on pupils, and the things that improve their learning outcomes rather than arbitrary measurements of education institutions.

We continue to believe that the purpose of education is to enhance the life chances of children and young people. Therefore, a great early years setting, school, academy or college must ensure that it develops the achievement and readiness of its students, so that they are ready for life.

This document seeks to connect key strategies to ensure that education, skills, early years and inclusion objectives are aligned. In this way education will be connected to other civic priorities (for example youth services).

“ We must do all we can to ensure that learning is transferred to life, improving the sustainability of the education we offer all our pupils
-Sheffield Headteacher ”



Sheffield Education Strategy Consultation

- This work has been delayed by the pandemic and options for how it has been developed have been restricted.

Sheffield Education & Skills Strategy

A VISION FOR 2030



SHEFFIELD EDUCATION & SKILLS STRATEGY A VISION FOR 2030

EDUCATION STRATEGY – DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

CONTENTS

- A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, INTRODUCTION & FOREWORD
- B. STRATEGIC APPROACH
- C. EVALUATION
- D. PRIORITIES
- E. COVID-19
- F. APPENDICES & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- Work builds on the Sheffield Priorities document but Sheffield hasn't had an Education Strategy for a substantial period of time.

○ Consultation Timeline

Education Strategy

Consultation (final development stage –
online form plus bespoke sessions)

3 December 2020 – 7 January 2021

Skills Strategy

Development & Consultation

November & December 2020

Education & Skills Strategy

- Consultation Amends
- Document combined
- SCC Sign Off Process

January / February 2021

- SCC Cabinet (17 February 2021)

- Feedback will be regularly reviewed throughout the consultation.
- Amendments will be developed through the process as well as on conclusion.
- Consultation feedback will be important and influential.
- Timeline ensures that the new strategy is in place so that as we emerge from Covid restrictions we are ready to:
 - put in place a programme for September 2021 based on our initial priorities.
 - undertake the key next stage of determining (co-constructing) our medium and longer term priorities.

○ Consultation Questions

Consultation is split into three parts:

1. Our Vision
2. Our 9 Priorities
3. Have your say on the 9 Priorities

Comment on the strategic approach

Consultation closes: Thursday 7 January



<https://wh1.snapsurveys.com/s.asp?k=160647718413>

- Very important that the sector contributes to the consultation.
- We recognise that this isn't an easy time to find time for this but waiting until post pandemic would effectively delay the full implementation to September 2022.
- A clear sector voice is very influential and this is a big opportunity.
- SCC are making a commitment to education here at a time when most places are moving in a different direction.

○ Consultation Part 1: The Vision

Consider:

- Foreword (p2)
- Executive Summary (p3/4)
- Introduction (p5/6)
- Vision (p8) – specific questions

Our Vision

Please read our vision on **page 8** of the draft strategy.

	Yes	No	Not sure
Does our vision clearly describe what we aim to achieve?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does our vision reflect what you think we should be working towards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please add any further comments about our vision in the box below.

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- Ambitious strategy focused on improving life chances.
- Building on our sector-led model but with additional civic investment.
- Recognises our progress / strengths but also the need for a step-change to match ambition.
- Initial priorities set out – plan to follow Covid by reflecting on medium term priorities.
- Sets out a way of working – system culture & research-led approach (note Innovation Hub).
- Seeking to connect key strategies and align them (note governance proposal).

○ Consultation Part 2: Our 9 Priorities

Consider:

- Section D - Priorities (p27/28)

The consultation asks people to identify their top three priorities from this list.

- The 9 initial priorities are inter-related.
- Interesting to see which priorities people identify and if there are patterns (choices by different cohorts of respondents).
- We will work with the sector and other stakeholders to identify the medium and long term priorities as we emerge from Covid restrictions.

Our 9 Priorities

Our 9 priorities listed below are interrelated. All these priorities are of equal importance but to help us see where we should focus first, we are asking you to help us rank them.

Please indicate which would be your **top 3** priorities by placing numbers 1, 2 and 3 against them. (Leave the other 6 boxes blank.)

- Covid-19 Recovery** - seeking to close the gaps that have widened and continue to widen during the pandemic
- Curriculum** - supporting schools and other settings to develop the right curriculum for their community so that the life chances of every learner are enhanced
- Disadvantage** - supporting and challenging schools and academies to identify and overcome barriers for disadvantaged learners so that persistent gaps are closed
- Early Years** - recognising the impact of high quality early learning on children's life chances and ensuring that all settings are supported and challenged to develop effective plans for improvement
- Inclusion** - ensuring that intervention is effective and at the earliest possible stage for all pupils: in schools, in localities, and in the city
- Innovation Hub** - ensuring that our shared understanding of challenges and our strategic plans to overcome them are always research-informed
- Leadership** - equipping leaders with the tools to succeed in their own settings and as civic leaders within effective partnerships
- School Improvement** - developing our ambitious and collaborative sector-led partnership to improve school and pupil outcomes
- SEND** - supporting and challenging schools and academies to accurately self-evaluate SEND provision and develop effective plans for improvement

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- **Consultation Part 3:
Have your say on the 9 priorities**

Consider:

- Section D - Priorities (p27/28)

The consultation asks people to select the ones they wish to comment on and then provides the opportunity on each one they have selected..

This section gives you the opportunity to comment further on any or all of the 9 priorities.

Which, if any, of the 9 priorities would you like to comment on? Please tick all that apply.

- I don't want to comment on any of the 9 priorities
- COVID-19 Recovery
- Curriculum
- Disadvantage
- Early Years
- Inclusion
- Innovation Hub
- Leadership
- School Improvement
- SEND

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- This provides an opportunity to comment on the initial identified priorities.
- It will be interesting to see whether respondents indicate priorities that they expect to feature in the medium term priorities identified later.
- Also the patterns of comments from different cohorts of respondent.

- **Consultation Part 3:**
Have your say on the 9 priorities

COVID-19 Recovery – seeking to close the gaps that have widened and continue to widen during the pandemic

Curriculum development – supporting schools and other settings to develop the right curriculum for their community so that the life chances of every learner are enhanced

Disadvantage – supporting and challenging schools and academies to identify and overcome barriers for disadvantaged learners so that persistent gaps are closed

Early Years – recognising the impact of high quality early learning on children’s life chances and ensuring that all settings are supported and challenged to develop effective plans for improvement

Inclusion – ensuring that intervention is effective and at the earliest possible stage for all pupils, in schools, in localities, and in the city

- **Consultation Part 3:**
Have your say on the 9 priorities

Innovation Hub – ensuring that our shared understanding of challenges and our strategic plans to overcome them are always research-informed

Leadership – equipping leaders with the tools to succeed in their own settings and as civic leaders within effective partnerships

School Improvement – developing our ambitious and collaborative sector-led partnership to improve school and pupil outcomes

SEND – supporting and challenging schools and academies to accurately self-evaluate SEND provision and develop effective plans for improvement.

- Note the scope of the priorities here (e.g. SEND here is restricted to the school improvement aspect for example).
- These initial priorities will be developed into the funded offer to schools in the summer term of 2021 to start in September 2021.

- **Consultation Part 3:
Comment on the strategic approach**

Consider:

- **Section B – Strategic Approach**
Including:
 - Improvement Model (p9)
 - System Culture (p13)
 - Logic Model: theory of change (p14-15)
 - Strategic Governance (p20)
- **Section C – Evaluation (p21-26)**
- **Section E – Covid-19 (p29-30)**

- The free text box for further comments offers an opportunity to make any comments on the remainder of the strategy – which sets out how we plan to work.
- Whilst we can't set out exact priorities for a ten year period we can set out how we will approach identifying priorities, strategic planning and evaluating the impact.

Please use the box below to add any further comments about the draft strategy.

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Summary:
Andrew Jones
(SCC Interim Director: Education & Skills)



- This is real consultation – Covid has meant that we are seeking views on a document rather than as we are developing it – so it will change as a result of the feedback.
- The strategy is ambitious and it is a strong document – your feedback will improve it and we will have a strategy that we can all unite behind.
- It is a difficult time to consult but it is the right decision to do this now – so that we it is in place as we emerge from Covid and so that we are ready for September 2021.
- Very few places will be doing this kind of strategic thinking and work at this time – it does reflect the strength of our model that this can happen.



Covid Update

Learn Sheffield Update

Thursday 10th December 2020

COVID Update

Sheffield rate has continued to decline and is 131 today (Peak 500+, Month ago 412, last meeting 291 mid-Nov). This is the impact of restrictions but decline has slowed. Hospitalisation declining regionally and mortality starting to decline nationally but the level remains high.

North East & Yorkshire



Sheffield

Find out more about the [restrictions in your area](#)

131 cases per 100,000 people in the latest week 29 Nov-5 Dec. The average area in England had 128.

767

cases in the latest week 29 Nov-5 Dec

-250

compared with the previous week

26,410

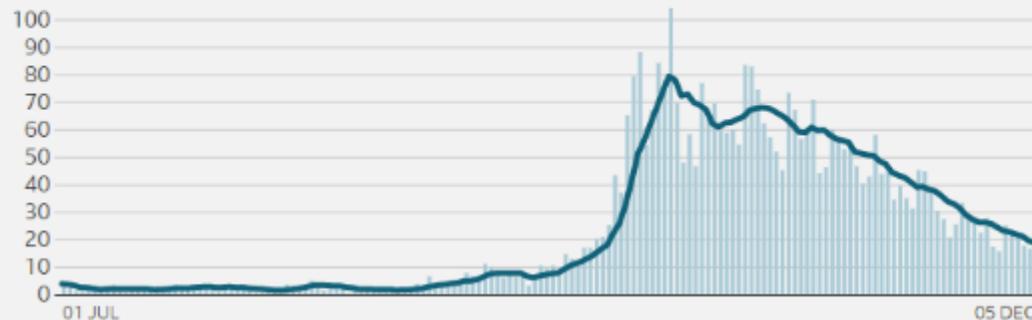
total cases to 9 Dec

796

coronavirus-related deaths registered to 27 Nov

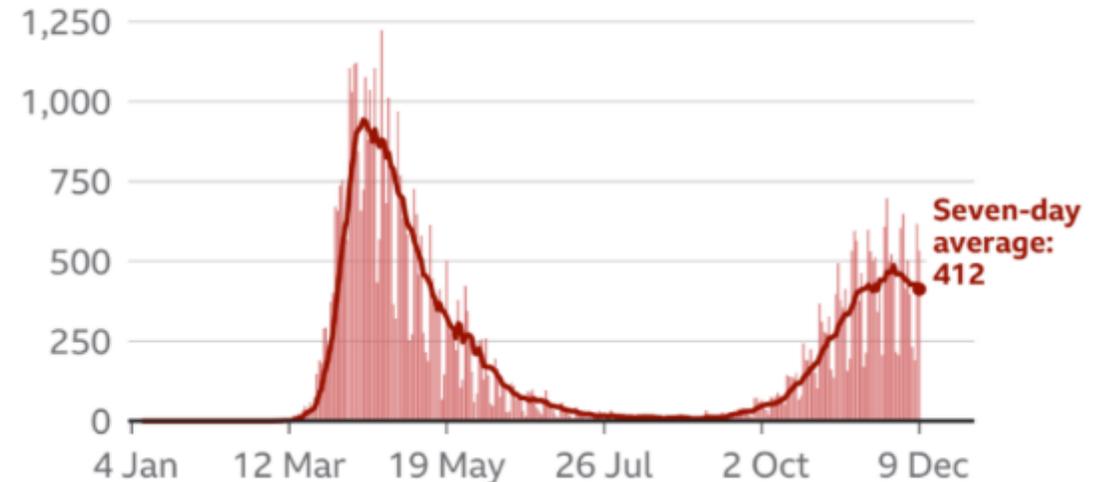
How the case rate has changed in your area

■ Daily cases per 100,000 people ■ Seven-day average



Daily deaths remain high

UK daily reported deaths with coronavirus



COVID Update



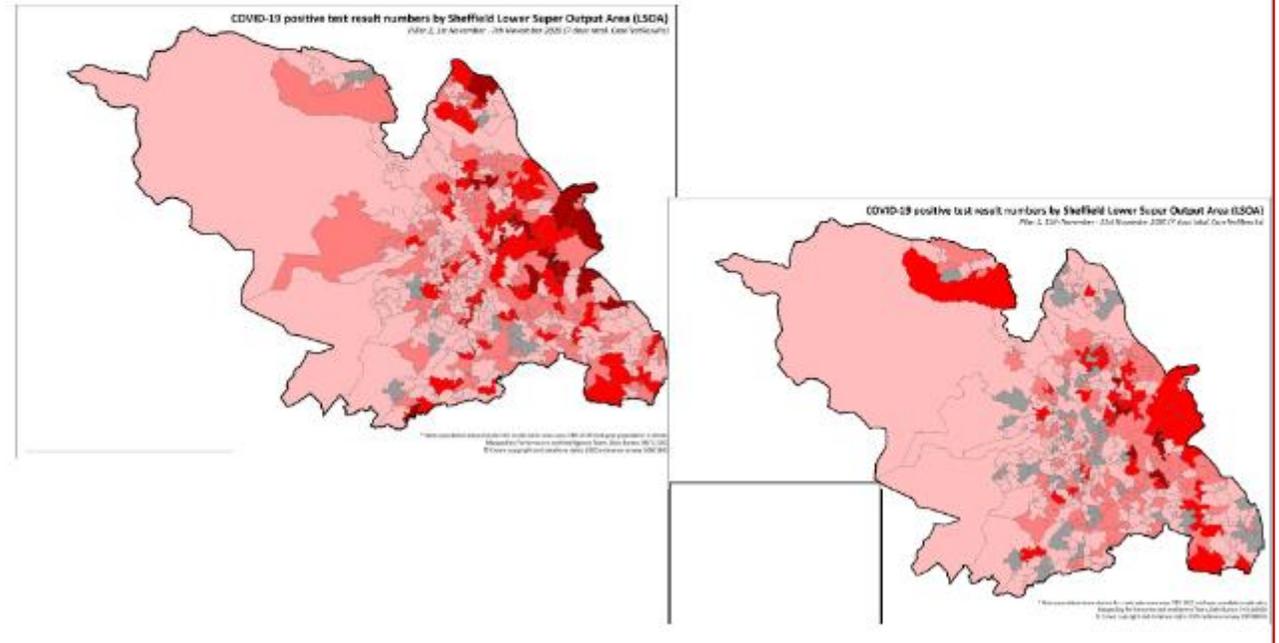
Public Health Briefing (Monday 30 November)

- https://youtu.be/hQp_52ZaetU

(slides shared by email with school leaders)

- Review of Sheffield tier 3 status – key date 16 December.
- Plan for next education briefing early in the new year.
- Also considering some more localised briefings (which would need clear protocols).

Still principally household transmission
Across the city.
E of Sheffield becoming a concern (same
pattern as we saw before)



COVID Update

- School cases are falling at the moment (i.e. lower numbers, quieter weekends, etc.) but where schools do have cases they are sometimes more complex.
- This may help with the contact tracing situation following the end of term (i.e. the numbers are lower than October half term) - if it continues to fall then the impact on settings will be reduced.
- Response to the DfE announcement this week that settings could take Friday 18 December as a training day is varied across the city. Some settings are changing their plans but others are choosing not to given the late notice.
- Looking ahead to next term – it is worth noting that whilst numbers have declined the base is much higher than it was at the end of the summer (circa 45 cases per hundred thousand in August) when it grew to more than 500 in a month. The impact of students returning will be lower but Jan/Feb is generally more challenging than Sept/Oct. The longer term outlook is obviously much brighter but spring term likely to be tough.

Learn Sheffield Update



- Governance Training is under way – attendance has been notably higher online than it has been previously face to face. This is learning for the future to discuss after Covid.

- Funded Programmes and Opportunities shared just before half term – recruitment almost complete ahead of launch meetings (generally in the new year) for each programme.



- Leader Briefing is now also in the form of an online newsletter (presentations linked or embedded) – this also seems to be better than the previous approach. Perhaps the post-Covid question is ‘When is there a reason to meet in person?’



Learn Sheffield Update

- Laptops for Kids campaign – settings are completing the expression of interest form (<https://bit.ly/34X9eWr>). Numbers of donated laptops are growing.
- The December Opportunities Bulletin has been shared. They continue to be on the website (<https://www.learnsheffield.co.uk/Documents/Opportunities-Bulletins>) but are now online newsletters rather than PDF documents.
- Eat Smart Sheffield have shared [Packed Lunch Guidance](#) this term.
- Racial Equity programme (<https://www.learnsheffield.co.uk/Training-and-Events/Racial-Equity>) includes a conference next term (26 & 28 January) followed by six supervision sessions to support settings work in this area.



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