

Pickering Community Junior School



Agreement for 'Formal Collaboration'

<u>Pickering Community Junior School</u> and <u>Pickering Community Infant and Nursery School</u>

Pickering Community Junior School and Pickering Community Infant and Nursery School work in a formal collaborative partnership to serve the town of Pickering and the surrounding area.

This partnership exists to improve outcomes for the young people of the area. Its formation builds on a history of successful, informal collaborative working between the two schools.

This agreement transfers no powers away from the governing body of either school concerned, nor will it alter any individual school's ethos.

The collaboration agreement is made in the first instance for one year, commencing on 1st September 2021. The agreement will be reviewed by the Strategic Board at the start of each academic year.

AIMS

The partnership's overarching aim is:

"To improve outcomes for the pupils of our schools."

The partnership will aim to achieve this by:

- * using close collaboration between the schools to provide a wider range of educational opportunities to pupils
- * Improving transition arrangements between schools by closer joint working and recognition of the inclusive 3-11 provision across the cluster
- * Improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils, for example those eligible for the Pupil Premium grant and those with special educational needs, by early identification and cross-phase support and by sharing SEND expertise
- * Improving the support and training opportunities available to staff at all levels, and to governors by networking and joint training
- * Taking advantage of economies of scale that may be available to the two schools.

Governance and Management

The schools agree to set up the Pickering Community Joint Strategic Board (PCJSB) The PCJSB will consist of the Headteachers and two nominated governors from each school (to include the Chairs of each governing body), ensuring an appropriate range of skills are represented by governors.

The PCJSB will meet at least twice a year. At the first meeting a protocol for working arrangements will be agreed. The protocol will be reviewed annually. This protocol will include matters such as confidentiality and communication.

The functions of the PCJSB are:

- * To set overall aims and targets for the group and to monitor progress against them
- * To secure an appropriate development plan and to monitor progress against it
- * To support meetings of the Headteachers and working groups
- * To make recommendations for action to the governing bodies of the individual schools.

Powers of the PCJSB

The PCJSB has no legal powers; any decision requiring approval at governor level would need to be taken back for approval to the boards of governors of the individual schools. Any approach from another school wishing to join the partnership will be discussed at the next meeting of the PCJSB.

Shared Staff

It is not possible for the group of schools to employ staff directly.

It is possible to make an agreement to share a member of staff employed by one school with the others in the group in return for reimbursement of costs. This is subject to the agreement of the employee.

Administrative Support

A clerk for the PCJSB will be appointed prior to each meeting in order to provide administrative support. They will ensure that minutes are produced, distributed and filed for all meetings.

The chair:

- * Ensures that dates for each meeting and joint events are circulated
- * Sends out invitations to meetings and joint events
- * Compiles and sends out agendas for meetings

Working Groups

Working groups will be set up in response to a particular issue, or to meet the requirements of specific objectives detailed in the development plan.

Appendix 1

Examples of practical applications of collaboration for discussion. Ideas can be added at future meetings.

- * Collaborative events such as World Book Day and Sing Up Day
- * Shared diary dates
- * A joint School Council meeting once a year
- * Mutual support for admin officers (as well as teaching staff) and possibly emergency cover
- * Shared discussion and agreement regarding procurement of services
- * Shared SENDCo across both schools
- * Governor who sits on both governing bodies