

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL

1 November 2012



Alternative Complementary Education (ACE)

The educational landscape: ACE overview

The Alternative Complementary Education Service (A.C.E.) was officially set up as a new Provision on the 1st January 2011. Its ethos is that education is the key route out of poverty and that by increasing self-esteem we will increase aspiration. The aims of the service are to meet the needs of our students to produce; successful learners, confident and healthy individuals and responsible citizens, enabling a successful return to an appropriate school or college. The service incorporates all ages between 4 and 18 and is primarily meets the needs of students outside mainstream education in Plymouth.

The service was formerly made up of a series of different PRUs, the Plymouth Hospital School, and the Centre for Young Parents and the Outreach Service. The previous units had not run well for some time and the Hospital School and Centre for Young parents had undergone criticism from its own Ofsted inspection in 2010. These different units have now officially closed and are merged under the one URN number for ACE. As a result the service has had a radical restructure to ensure better outcomes for Plymouth's children with additional needs. Since September 2010 there have been two formal staffing reviews with two rounds of redundancies as the service becomes more efficient and streamlined. The service restructure was complete by August 31st 2011, when the last of the staff who have been made redundant left, ready for the new academic year beginning 1st September 2011.

Running concurrent with the staffing restructure was the Sites and Building Efficiency Plan, started also by the new Head in September 2010. The plan rationalized sites in order that staff and students feel more of a community and fellowship and sites are managed in a more financially prudent manner thus allowing for better resourcing and also the creation of a wider qualification provision and wider individualized pathways for KS4 and beyond which will include construction, fashion and textiles as well as health, beauty and hairdressing. Since September 2010 the new Head has appointed a deputy head teacher (also from an outstanding PRU) who started January 2011 and formed a new senior leadership team, who has also been in post since January 2011.

Management committee governance

Regulations require local authorities to establish management committees to run pupil referral units in their area and make provision for the constitution (including composition) and procedures of management committees¹.

In terms of the composition of management committees, they must contain at least 7, but no more than 20 members. The structure is outlined in the table below. The regulations cited in paragraph 13 provide more information about who may be eligible in the different categories.

Parent members	At least one, but no more than one-fifth of the total committee.
Staff members	At least one, but no more than one-third of the total committee.
Local authority-appointed members	At least one, but no more than one-third of the total committee.
Sponsor members	At least one, but no more than two.
Community members	Must outnumber all of the other members.

Changes were made to the regulations in 2012², both to the definition of ‘community members’ (to include a specific reference to representatives of schools; and to specify that local authority employees, other than persons employed by the local authority to work in a school maintained by the local authority, cannot be community members) and to state that when appointing a community member the management committee (or local authority when appointing its first members) should first seek to appoint a representative of a school.

ACE has an executive committee made up of local head teachers, stake holders such as healthcare professionals, parents and retired local business people as well as local authority delegates. Underneath the executive committee sit three sub committees which inform the executive on specific matters relating to the monitoring and progress of the service. These committees are as follows;

Early years, primary and health and welfare

Secondary

High profile vulnerable users

Each of the sub committees also has extended no executive membership of staff, stakeholders and other interested and relevant parties.

The committee system, set up in October 2011, has been well attended and is a rigorous body of individuals who are truly interested in securing the best outcomes possible for Plymouth’s most vulnerable young people.

ACE Breadth of Provision at end of academic year 2011-12

Phase	Base	Pupils on roll	Pupils per year	FTE (equivalent) pupils	
Primary	Ford	18	30	15	some children part time for reintegration
Mixed (4 – 18)	Level 12 Derriford	10	50	6	NHS, part time pupils due to illness
Mixed (4 – 13)	Terraces	8	50	4	NHS, two part time groups of 4 pupils
Secondary (11 – 18)	Plym Bridge Unit	12	40	12	NHS, 12 bed residential CAMHS unit
Secondary	Dover Road	35	40	24	Some part time pupils due to reintegration and medical need
Secondary	Outreach Tuition	15	25	12	5 + hours per week plus travel
Secondary	AYP	15	16	12	Some part time pupils
Nursery	ACE babies	9	16	6	16 max places but generally 6 on roll
Secondary	Bretonside	150	180	150	Complex alternative provision (hot seats)
Secondary	Seclusion unit	8	25	8	Complex alternative provision (hot seats)
Secondary	wrap-around	4	4	4	Complex package provision for SEN
Secondary	not-school /NISAI	12	10	10	Home or off-site computer based learning
Mixed(4 – 16)	HEV	130	170	4	4 visits per year
TOTAL		422	656	267	
		number of young people being educated or monitored by ACE (July 2012)	number of pupils in year	full time equivalence of pupils (July 12) ACE,	

ACE Roll at 20th Oct 2012

ON ROLL (WITH HEV)	180 (308)
MALE	103
FEMALE	77
HEALTH & WELFARE	85
BRETON SIDE	81
NOT SCHOOL	6
FORD	6
GUESTS	2
(HEV)	128
SOLEY REGISTERED WITH ACE	90
RECEPTION	2
YEAR 1	2
YEAR 2	3
YEAR 3	5
YEAR 4	4
YEAR 6	4
YEAR 7	2
YEAR 8	14
YEAR 9	26
YEAR 10	37
YEAR 11	74
YEAR 12	3
YEAR 13	4
DERRIFORD	23
PLYMBRIDGE	12
DOVER ROAD	23
OUTREACH	15
FSSU	12
WRAP	2
AYP	6
TERRACES	6
FORD	6
not SCHOOL	6
BRETON SIDE	67
GUESTS	2

Current ACE provision tracking data for high profile vulnerable users at 20th Oct 2012

Statemented students

Name	Year	Need	Progress
	Year 10	ASD	attendance
	Year 10	ASD	
	Year 10	ASD	
	Year 10	ASD	transition
	Year 10	BESD	social
	Year 10	BESD	
	Year 10	ASD	transition
	Year 11	MLD	
	Year 11	BESD	attendance
	Year 11	BESD	
	Year 11	BESD	
	Year 11	ASD	
	Year 11	Other	
	Year 11	ASD	engagement
	Year 2	BESD	
	Year 2	BESD	
	Year 3	BESD	
	Year 4	BESD	
	Year 4	ASD	attendance
	Year 8	Other	
	Year 8	BESD	transition
	Year 9	ASD	
	Year 9	ASD	
	Year 9	ASD	

Total: 24 students

KS1/2: 5 students

KS3: 5 students

KS4: 14 students

**Students undergoing statutory
assessment**

Name	Year	Need	Progress
	Year 10	BESD	out of city
	Year 9	ASD	attendance
	Year 10	BESD	engagement
	Year 11	ASD	engagement
	Year 9	ASD	
	Year 9	BESD	
	Year 8	BESD	ill
	Year 8	BESD	
	Year 8	other	attendance

Total : 9 Students

KS3: 5 students

KS4: 4 students

LAC

Name	Year	Progress
	Year 6	
	Year 11	out of city
	Year 10	out of city
	Year 11	
	Year 11	engagement
	Year 11	attendance
	Year 11	attendance
	Year 11	attendance
	Year 3	
	Year 9	
	Year 11	engagement

**Total: 11
students**

KS1/2: 2 students

KS3: 1 student

KS4: 8 students

YOS

Name	Year	
	10	
	11	
	11	engagement
	10	out of city
	11	out of city
	11	engagement
	11	
	10	engagement
	10	engagement
	10	ill
	11	
	10	engagement
	11	engagement
	11	engagement
	10	engagement
	10	

Total: 16 students (all KS4)

**Pupils are 'RAG' rated on progress with brief explanation of issue, e.g. Illness, currently put out of city, etc.*

Elective Home Education Visiting (HEV)

ACE has provided a full time teacher to carry out the visits and organise the meetings and newsletter. She is an experienced person with a high level of safeguarding knowledge. The Assistant head monitors and oversees this area of work. Safeguarding remains a priority consideration when visits are made.

There are 128 pupils on the HEV list. 27 children have moved off list to join a school, 21 joined the list this term.

All families are visited or monitored at least once per year and many request visits more often as they like the level of support offered. Some families exercise their legal right to refuse visits but provide written evidence of education.

Termly coffee mornings or drop in sessions are held to help HE parents and children meet and ask for further advice and help

Termly Newsletter is circulated to all families

20 plus young people are being registered to take GCSE and A level exams via ACE

Health and Welfare Provision

Dover Road, the base for children with medical conditions at Estover, has been re-arranged to take three classes of pupils from the original design in 2011 for two classes. This is to accommodate ever rising numbers at KS4.

Outreach Home Tutoring continues to be provided for Plymouth Young People who are so ill they cannot leave their homes. This is done in close partnership with the pupil's main school.

Plym Bridge House now has an extended curriculum to include, English, Maths, Science, PE, Art, Life skills and personal development. Specific areas of study are supported by ACE staff as needed for the sixth form age young people. A highlight for the Summer Term was a regatta and water-sports day held by ACE for these very vulnerable and ill pupils.

AYP has been included into the ACE family and staff and students are now working and following ACE systems and monitoring to improve outcomes and widen the offer made to the young parents.

Level 12 at Derriford Hospital continues to have ACE teachers and a teaching assistant to provide education for in-patient children and young people from all over the South West and often further afield.

Learner entitlement

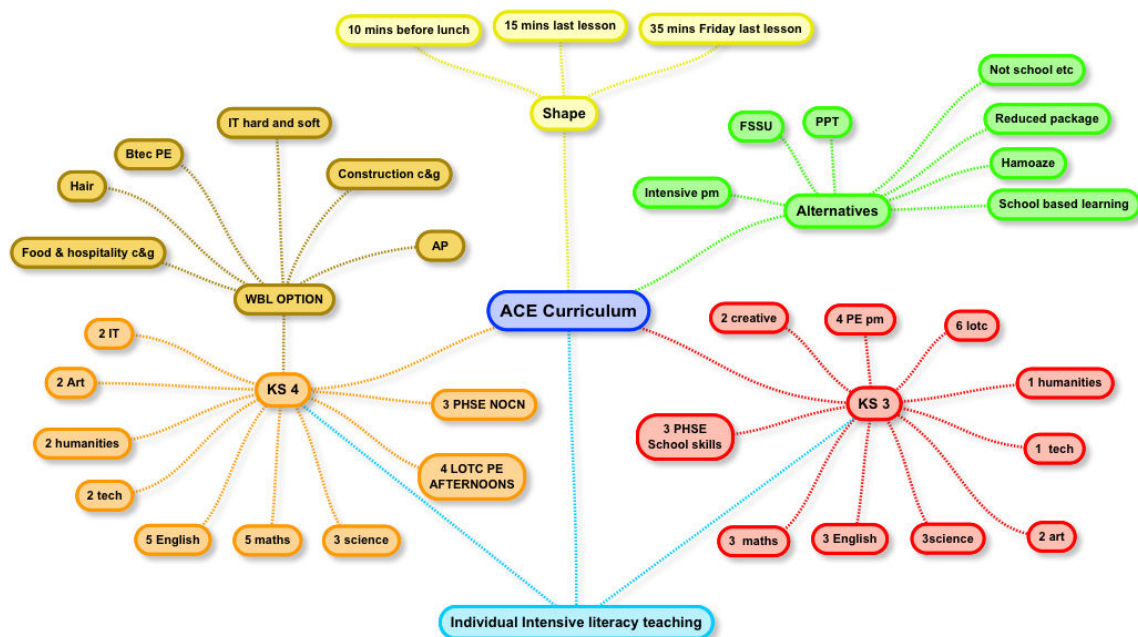
Hours offered

Secondary pupils	25.5 hours per week
Primary Pupils	25 hours per week
Pupils at hospital Floor 12 or on home tutoring due to ill health	5 hours minimum
Elective home education monitoring	legal minimum 1 contact per year, most get 4 visits or more, as per the ACE safeguarding policy

Any pupil on a reduced hours package is on a special learning plan reviewed every two weeks.

Secondary Curriculum

Every pupil has a personalized programme. All have access to a wide range of alternative lessons designed to engage and build learning and social competency. Emphasis is placed on literacy and numeracy. Subjects are taught by subject specialist teachers.



Primary curriculum

Thematic based learning with intensive literacy and numeracy

Topics last for one term to fit with the one term packages provided for these pupils.

Interface with mainstream delivery and FE/Training Provider offer

Secondary placements panel & Primary placement panel

Determines destination for pupils who are excluded or to be managed transferred, ACE acts as a destination and refers pupils who are ready for return to school.

Exceptional provision panel

Refers hard to place pupils to ACE and ACE takes complex cases to be discussed for further support.

SMAP & Matching panel

ACE takes pupils on respite and short term placement to support the process of placing SEN pupils. We also make many requests for statements which are then discussed by these panels

Wrap-around

ACE develops packages for complex SEN pupils who do not fit into mainstream or special school profiles, and would otherwise be educated out of the City.

Packages

ACE provides a wide range of short term packages to support pupils remaining in mainstream education from foundation stage to year eleven. These are targeted interventions. Schools approach ACE directly for this support. Pupils can spend some time in ACE and some in school or an alternative provider.

H&W support

Pupils with diagnosed medical conditions causing them to miss school can get support from our base at Dover Road or via outreach teaching at their home. Schools or medical professionals approach ACE directly for this support.

ACE also provides the education to pupils from all over the geographic area at Derriford Hospital, the Terraces and Plym Bridge House.

In all these cases ACE works along-side the mainstream or special school to gather the correct information via the Plymouth Information Passport; we then report back using the PIP if a new school is needed and our six weekly review document the ACE Pupil Learning Plan. The PLP includes all the assessment and progress data and information related to academic and social skills.

Providers

ACE uses a wide range of alternative providers. Including City College, Duchy College, Saltash College and many independent providers of work based training and other vocational opportunities.

HEV

ACE carries out monitoring, meetings, and support for home educated children. We aim to visit each family four times a year or more if they wish. Some families refuse visits and this is their right. We run a resource bank, parent drop in sessions, meetings and a news-letter for these families. We arrange exam entries and support when pupils return to schooling.

Priorities for the future

- a) ACE strategic plan 2012 – 15. Service to become a nationally recognised model of outstanding practice for LA PRU provision.
- b) New Inspection Framework and implications for future offer and quality assurance
- c) Funding issues
- d) 11-16 provision: methodology and implications for future entitlement e.g. around access to LA services for all schools
- e) Ensure the delivery model is fit for purpose as ACE service expands
- f) Post 16/RPA: methodology and implications for future entitlement e.g. around access to LA services
- g) Role of ACE as brokerage service
- h) Role of ACE in supporting the Children Missing Education agenda
- i) Role of ACE in supporting under achieving schools

Proposals

- 1. PLT to engage with ACE to develop specifications to develop a pre and post 16 entitlement
- 2. Protocols for access to be developed to support specifications

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