

Foreword

All schools in Leeds must be good, improving and inclusive... places where every child and every young person can be successful and high achieving whatever it takes. We have a statutory responsibility to keep all our provisions under review and as our school population falls, the School Organisation Plan provides us with a framework for managing the school estate and ensuring that we secure best value.

We recognise that schools are critically important to their communities and that there is a strong relationship between our drive to raise standards for all young people and community cohesion, regeneration, equality and health and wellbeing. If we are going to continue to address the declining primary and secondary populations here in Leeds, we need to work with all our partners to connect around our primary schools, which increasingly need to extend their provision and play a crucial role in their communities. We also need to work to develop more flexible secondary and post-16 provision in partnership with further and higher education and the world of work.

We must continue to look for ways of developing inclusion to ensure that we place the learner at the centre of everything we do and ensure that every child, wherever possible, is educated within the community with their peers.

This plan looks at how we can continue to address these issues and ensure that every child and every young person reaches their potential and is happy, safe and secure.



Cllr Keith Wakefield
Leader
Leeds City Council



Chris Edwards
Chief Executive
Education Leeds

School Organisation Committee

The School Organisation Committee (SOC) met on 2 December 2003 and approved the School Organisation Plan, subject to minor alterations to page 15 which have now been incorporated into the plan and also subject to the following:

The SOC notes that the data referred to in the plan reflects the position as of July 2003 if no changes were made. The data are a measurement of the position at the time. The statistical appendix is a record of data about schools at the time the draft plan was prepared in July 2003. A small part only of the data are projections relating to each of those schools. The projections assume the status quo based on the position in July 2003. Whilst the information is still valid, current and accurate, it can now be refined to reflect the anticipated effect of decisions made by the SOC and Local Education Authority (LEA) on statutory proposals since July 2003. The LEA has agreed to bring a report to the SOC in February 2004, showing revised projections to take account of the decisions that have been made.

The SOC notes that no decision has been made with regard to a Young People's College. References in the plan to a Young People's College cannot, therefore, be used as a firm basis for decisions on secondary school numbers for 2004-2008 until the position is resolved.

The SOC notes that the LEA is committed to developing facilities to deliver 14-19 learning programmes, "Every Child Matters" considerations and the use of extended schools in accordance with government policies, and that these and other developments should begin to characterise the provision of secondary education in Leeds by 2006/8.

The LEA will keep the SOC informed of any new strategies which may effect consideration by the SOC of statutory proposals.