

# Integrated Alternative Provision Strategy - Update

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### What is Alternative Provision and where are we in Hackney

### A statutory system wide and moral responsibility

- 1) A group of providers/schools delivering education for excluded children and children missing education
- 2) A multi-site service of collaborative providers integrated with schools with children and families Team around the child
- 3) An Inclusion driver Intensive care; Hub and spokes
- 4) Centres of excellence, research and training hubs operating as a key part of an inclusive education, health and social care community



### Why change : Context, Challenges, opportunities

#### **National picture**

- New <u>legislation and research</u> in relation to the purpose and expectations of alternative provision as part of the system
- Policy changes due to overwhelming evidence regarding the need for more options and different approaches
- Suspensions for physical assault, threatening behaviour and verbal abuse increasing exponentially.
- But -The most common reason and a worrying additional trend for temporary suspension is **persistent disruptive behaviour**. Increased 2021-23 by 20%
- Profound impact on families, systems, Headteachers, teachers, system wide staff teams impacting retention and the health and wellbeing of education staff.
- Spiralling mental health issues SEND -and the need for new ideas, strategies locally and nationally

#### The Hackney picture

- A clear appetite for a revised AP hub and spoke service locally: led by the LA -utilising current opportunities and good quality providers within the local area
- High level of permanent exclusions and EHCPs compared to similar Local Authorities
- <u>With a limited number of flexible, affordable clear</u> options currently open to families. Children and schools
- A costly commissioning strategy with an over use of independent providers.
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- Clear potential for a revised AP policy and commissioning strategy which builds upon local expertise across the education and voluntary sectors
- An appetite and need for a revised quality framework for AP which captures expectations and the latest related to good practice models

# <u>7 Fast facts</u> - what headteachers, families and young people are saying (1)

- 1. Schools, parents and agencies require **more accessible and affordable support/provision** for children and families who may otherwise be pushed out of the education system
- 2. Expectations clarified by **new legislation** in the form of a SEND AP national improvement plan and a revised LA SEND AP OFSTED framework - We need to utilise this vehicle to harness improvement cohesion and change. (OFSTED - due in Hackney early 2024)
- An exponentially growing number of children in schools and alternative provision have complex and or diagnosed SEND (81%- 95%). AP has to be more flexible, agile and sophisticated. (Responsible Inclusion)
- Across the UK, the main areas of SEND identified in Alternative Provision includes complex SEMH (social and emotional mental health) and/or Autism (communication and interaction needs). This pattern is reflected in Hackney.



# <u>7 Fast facts</u> - what headteachers, families and young people are saying (2)

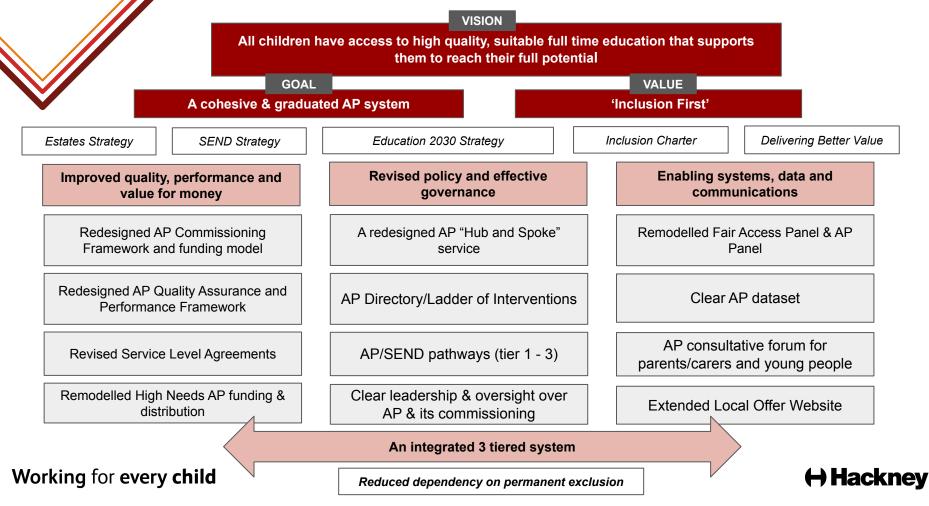
5. A significant rise in the number of **children missing education** (CME) in mainstream and/or requiring alternative provision. A continued rise in the number of children in Hackney with emotionally based school avoidance and requiring alternative provision schooling.

6. Only 4% of excluded children attending PRUs/AP achieve a GCSE in both English and Maths. This compares to 64% (2022) in Mainstream secondary schools. **Local and national appetite for AP/PRU service transformation and redesign.** 

7. There is the <u>opportunity</u> to integrate the latest teacher training/research via a new alternative provision tool kit into our schools to ease inclusion and enable social inclusion during challenging times. (Children's mental health hub funding).



### Alternative Provision Strategy - Principles and ideas



## Draft timelines for implementation

Oct - Dec 2023 Internal governance **Dec - April 2024** Wider engagement events & workshops **Pre- April 2024** Strategy & Funding Model Consultation May - Sept 2024 Implementation Phase 1 September 2024 Implementation Phase 2

### Governance

- Fortnightly Working Group established
- Weekly review meetings with AD SEND & Head of Safeguarding
- Monthly check ins with Director of Education & AD School Improvement
- SEND AP partnership group now reconfigured into Inclusion partnership (Oct 23)

#### Working for every child

### Consultation

- Working with Parent & Carer System Lead (**Oct 23**)
- Behaviour & Wellbeing Group (Oct 23)
- SLT (Nov 23)
- Primary Headteacher briefing (Nov 23)
- Secondary Headteacher briefings (Nov 23 & Jan 24)
- Scrutiny Commission (Nov 23)
- Health & Social Care
- Strategy Workshops (Jan March 24)

