

NEON NORTH DSA UPDATE (7TH Feb 2018)

No Policy Changes specific to DSA

There are no DSA specific policy changes for 2018/19. All of the changes do affect DSA students but only as part of their main eligibility e.g. Stateless Persons, Dental Hygiene/Dental Therapy etc.

DFE Research

DfE have recently undertaken NMH research where they asked the sector for feedback on the following:

- ***Whether the qualification and professional membership requirements for specific Non-Medical Help roles remain accurate, appropriate, and relevant to the specific role, as well as whether additional qualifications or memberships are apposite;***
- ***The accuracy of specific role descriptors and whether these correctly describe the support function (including whether any new role descriptors are required); and***
- ***Whether the hourly cost bandings for specific roles are correct or whether these need to be changed.***

DfE are currently collating the results so we don't have any idea of them and what changes (if any) will be made (delegates may have contributed as this was circulated widely through the sector)

UCAS Hub Now Live! (Email received from UCAS after meeting at NEON South)

Last year, you helped us to put together some information and advice for estranged students who were thinking of applying to university, and I'm now delighted to announce that the UCAS estrangement hub has just gone live on our website.

You can reach it at <https://www.ucas.com/estranged-students>.

Many thanks for your invaluable help in the development of this resource – we hope you think it a useful and comprehensive set of resources to help support this under-represented group of students.

We will be publicising the launch of these resources widely over the next few days and, of course, continue to ensure its visibility during the year to aid those who have already applied to university and may be wondering about the next steps to take. If you could help us to spread the word about the hub to any interested parties, especially to any students who might find it useful, we would very much appreciate your ongoing help

Graham Tranter – retires at the end of March – news tbc regarding role/replacement

Educating the North, Driving ambition across the powerhouse – request to circulate

Northern Powerhouse Partnership has been working hard in recent months with much help from those like you alongside fellow civic leaders, businesses and teachers – which culminated yesterday with the launch of our 'Educating the North' report. See it [here](#).

The report contains 14 recommendations that we believe if acted on could make a lasting and meaningful impact on the life chances of those growing up here in the North today. These include;

- An initial £300m increase in government funding for disadvantaged areas across the North, creating place-based funds integrated with other services such as health visitors and voluntary sector providers, ensuring every child is school-ready by age five.

- Reform Pupil Premium to better target funding for disadvantage by allocating more to pupils eligible for free school meals throughout their schooling, addressing the most entrenched barriers to social mobility.
- A longer-term government commitment to Opportunity Areas – a Northern Powerhouse Schools Improvement Board to be established, drawing together existing funding with a dedicated 10-year fund to allow for further Opportunity Areas in the North. In particular, this needs to urgently address the lack of Opportunity Areas in the North East.
- Simplify the Northern Regional Schools Commissioners areas to establish three: North West, Yorkshire and North East & Cumbria, working within frameworks and plans set by the Northern Powerhouse Schools Improvement Board. These would make the final decision on regional funding streams for school improvement, challenging poor performance in Multi Academy Trusts, re-allocating schools to those with capability and identifying schools that need rebuilding.
- Every Northern business to mentor or otherwise meaningfully reach out on careers and enterprise skills to at least the same number of young people as they have employees, from the age of 11. This would see 900,000 young people given experience of work. We already have examples of Northern businesses exceeding this commitment with Manchester Airport Group reaching 10,000 young people from their 2,500 colleagues.

What are our next steps?

We will need your help if we are to be successful in getting these recommendations implemented.

1. Please follow us on twitter @NP_partnership and tweet using our Hashtag #EducatingtheNorth
2. Share our report with your contacts
3. Pledge at northernpowerhousepartnership.co.uk [here](#) to support young people by mentoring or otherwise meaningful engaging them – and encourage others to as well.