

KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

BOARD: CABINET	DATE: 30 th July 2008
STATUS OF REPORT: PUBLIC	
CABINET PORTFOLIO: Children & Young People	
AREA COMMITTEES/WARDS AFFECTED:	
TITLE: Studio Schools – final proposal to Lord Adonis, DCSF	
WHY IS IT COMING HERE? / WHAT DECISION IS REQUIRED? Final proposal following invitation to bid from Lord Adonis	
IS THIS AN URGENT ACTION APPROVED BY CHAIR OF SCRUTINY? No	
WHAT ARE THE KEY POINTS? Report is attached	
OFFICER ADVICE To continue Cabinet support for the Studio School initiative	
PORTFOLIO HOLDER'S RECOMMENDATION The Portfolio Holder supports the Officer's recommendation.	
CONSULTEES AND THEIR RESPONSES N/A	
CONTACT OFFICER AND RELEVANT PAPERS Alison O'Sullivan, Director for Children & Young People Tel: 860 5242 Email: alison.o'sullivan@kirklees.gov.uk Joan Young, Headteacher, Rawthorpe High School Email : youngj@rawthorpe.org Denis Grainger, Principal Improvement Manager 14-19 Email: denis.grainger@kirklees.gov.uk Steve Morris, Studio School Consultant Tel: 07791 701 793 Email: steve1morris@gmail.com	

STUDIO SCHOOL PROPOSAL

Overview

	<p>The Studio School transforms learning – a real partnership of business and education</p> <p>Kirklees Local Authority and its partners are committed to the development of a Studio School as a key element of our 14-19 provision. The Studio School will have an innovative enterprise based curriculum, offer effective and exciting progression routes from 14-19 and have a Creative and Media specialist focus. Kirklees pioneered the concept of the Creative Town. Its European Urban Pilot Project 1997-2000 ‘Huddersfield : The Creative Town Initiative’ was the first in the U.K to place creativity at the heart of regeneration. The Studio School builds on this tradition and reflects Kirklees Council’s continuing ambition for Huddersfield to use creativity and the creative business sector to boost learning, employment and enterprise development throughout the district. Learners will benefit from an enterprise and skills focused curriculum with guaranteed accreditation throughout – from GCSE, the Creative and Media Diploma and other vocational qualifications. Work placements with business partners will be central to the Studio School offer. This will be ‘real work’ – real commissions from employer partners and others.</p> <p>The involvement of employers in the Studio Schools Partnership is a major strength of our Studio School proposal. For over a year the group have been meeting regularly, planning for an interim pilot in Sept 2008 and developing this proposal for a full pilot for Sept 2009.</p> <p>Studio School partners are :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirklees LA : Learning, Culture & Leisure, Economic Development Service • Rawthorpe High School – new (April 08) hard federation of secondary, junior and infant schools to create a 3-16 Learning Campus. Specialist Creative Arts school • University of Huddersfield : base for a new Creative Arts centre • The Media Centre – base for 60 small media / creative businesses • The Textile Centre of Excellence : high profile centre for training, business development, Design incubator for textile design and manufacture • Beaumont Street Studios – commercial recording studios / media and related skills training organisation • Lawrence Batley Theatre
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- Compact Education Business Services
- Business Link Yorkshire
- The Enterprise Foundation : Kirklees : new business start up and support
- The Young Foundation

In addition, a group of local industrialists – led by Bill Macbeth MD of the Textile Training Group – have been meeting to both offer support and to set up a **Creative Commissioning Agency** which will commission work from the Studio School. This group is keen to support the 2008 small pilot and a 2009 full pilot. Members of this group include the MD of Inhouse Marketing, the MD of the Code Blue Group, the MD of Ask Marketing Consultants Ltd, the MD of Interactive Solutions, the MD of Spark of Madness Ltd, the Chairman of Babyway International Ltd – all key figures in local Creative & Media industries. A Partner from Eaton Smith Solicitors brings legal expertise to the group. Barry Sheerman MP has attended some of these meetings. The new Creative Commissioning Agency will be the conduit for employers to commission work with the Studio School. There will be a synergy between commissioned work and the Creative and Media curriculum offer. Planning meetings between Agency members and the school staff delivering a pilot Studio School curriculum in Sept 08 have already taken place with detailed planning underway on the curriculum / enterprise interface. Our wide and well developed partnerships give the Studio School a very secure employer team.

The Agency has offered the interim pilot (Sept 08) a first commission for £10,000 to carry out some investigative and presentational work around the perception from young people of the value of apprenticeships in the creative textiles field – an area that has experienced some difficulties in recruiting young apprentices.

Seventeen students (Year 10 in Sept 08) have been recruited at Rawthorpe High School to begin the interim pilot in September 2008 – developing curriculum models for a Studio School. They will work on the Creative & Media Diploma, achieve early entry in GCSE English, Maths and Science and begin to work on an enterprise focused curriculum with significant work placements with Studio School partners. This student group are all potentially high achievers. There have been very supportive discussions with parents prior to the formation of the group.

Local context

How the Studio School would help to drive up standards in areas of poor educational attainment

The Studio School will drive up 14-19 standards

The Studio School will be based in the Rawthorpe area of Huddersfield that still requires significant regeneration. Its location is in a concentration of areas ranked in the 10% most deprived nationally. Its proposed catchment area of South Kirklees includes a high number (20) of lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs). Eleven of these LSOAs are in the 5% most deprived nationally.

NEETS data is :

<u>2007</u>	<u>Kirklees</u>	<u>South Kirklees</u>
	6.34%	5.45%

<u>Rawthorpe High</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
	16.00%	3.30%	10.53%

The significantly underperforming group – consistent across both school key stages – are White Boys.

The three schools making up The Learning Campus have each, over the last five years, been subject to an Ofsted category. The most recent Ofsted inspections now rate each school as at least Good in all areas. High school 2007 CVA is 102.0 (KS2-3), 988.6 (KS3-4) and 973.7 (KS2-4). School performance at both key stages is significantly higher than FFTD estimates.

Other South Kirklees schools potentially identifying students for a 2009 Studio School cohort include :

Almondbury HS – specialist MFL.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 28% (2007)
Fartown HS – specialist Science.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 37%
All Saints Catholic College – specialist Humanities.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 28%
Honley HS – specialist Science.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 60%
King James’s School – specialist Science.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 64%
Moor End TC – specialist Technology.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 28%
Newsome HS – specialist Sports.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 29%
Royds Hall HS – specialist Science.	GCSE 5A-C inc E&M 36%

	<p>None of these have a Creative Arts specialism. Four of these schools are 2008 National Challenge.</p> <p>All Studio School students will achieve at the end of KS4 qualifications in : English, Maths, Science (GCSE 'C+'); Functional Skills (English ,Maths & ICT); ECDL ICT; Creative & Media Diploma (Level 2)</p> <p>This 100% target will be maintained for each Studio School cohort. Post 16, the principal qualification will be the Creative & Media Diploma at Level 3. Again, the target will be 100% gaining Level 3.</p> <p>Attendance at the Studio School will equip students with crucial experience and qualifications that will enable them to progress in a variety of ways, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment in a creative business, with opportunities for continuing education and training, such as: • Creative Apprenticeships: developed by the Creative & Cultural Skills Council in partnership with industry. For applicants with Level 2 or 3 qualifications, providing 1 or 2 year programme of further study (e.g. FE) and paid work experience, with potential for permanent employment. Certificate in Cultural Practice and National Award available. • Foundation Degrees: For level 3 applicants - 2 years average higher level academic study and work place learning via a range of delivery methods and credits • Full degrees via University <p>In addition, there will be qualitative outputs in terms of : teamwork, independent learning, attendance and punctuality, communication and presentation skills, enterprise skills.</p>
<p>The relationship between the proposed Studio School and wider 14-19 provision, including the relationship between the curriculum offer at the proposed Studio School with diploma lines offered elsewhere</p>	<p>The Studio School will be a centre of excellence for diploma delivery.</p> <p>Kirklees schools, local FE colleges and work based learning providers have, for the last three years, been operating as Collegiates. Each collegiate has a common Key Stage 4 timetable for one day per week with students travelling between institutions to access a wide range of Level 1 and 2 mainly vocationally focused courses. The Collegiates also support a significant Level 1 and Level 2 work based learning provision. Our Diploma applications have developed from the Collegiates model. Our wide and successful experience in this area has been a catalyst for the inclusion in our provision of a Studio School which will develop as a test bed centre of excellence for delivery of the Creative & Media Diploma, offering significant outreach support</p>

	<p>to schools and colleges.</p> <p>The 2008 interim pilot is operating the Creative & Media Diploma at Level 2 for September 2008. Detailed curriculum / qualification planning is underway to achieve this. No other South Kirklees high school is offering this diploma this year. There are two Creative & Media offers in North Kirklees based at Batley Girls High School of 20 places and at Westborough High School. Neither of these is within reasonable travelling distance of the Learning Campus or partners.</p> <p>Throughout 2008 and for a full 2009 pilot the Studio School at Rawthorpe will be sharing expertise with other schools and ensuring a wider diploma roll out through : increasing the Studio School cohort / offering outreach support.</p>
<p>Admissions and entry process to the proposed Studio School</p>	<p>The Studio School will have inclusive entry processes.</p> <p>A Studio School needs a common, clear application process that is in line with the LA Code of Practice. The intake limit will be 60 students per year. A PAN (Pupil Admission Number) of 300 will be implemented.</p> <p>Admissions criteria include :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predicted capacity to gain Level 2 including English and Maths by 16 • Commitment to follow the Creative & Media diploma • Commitment to work placement with Creative & Media industries • Ability to work effectively in a team • Commitment to independent learning including fast tracking where appropriate • <u>Guaranteed minimum</u> 10% of places for students currently not in mainstream provision but able to meet other criteria • <u>Guaranteed entry</u> for Children in Care meeting the criteria. <p>Entry will be from recommendation from partner schools followed by informal interview with students and parents / carers to ensure criteria are met. If there is oversubscription the order of preference will be : 1) children in care, 2) students outside of mainstream provision, 3) students from the Rawthorpe catchment, 4) others.</p> <p>The LA will, if needed, use Powers to Innovate to ensure sufficient flexibility in admissions arrangements in the short term.</p>

<p>Pupil place planning within your area and the consequent impact of the proposed Studio School on surplus places, on rolls and profiles of schools from which students will be drawn, and the implications for any pre-existing BSF scope</p>	<p>The Studio School will complement existing and future school provision. Rawthorpe High School is operating at about 50% of capacity with over 300 surplus places. On the Campus as a whole only two out of the current three school buildings are needed – even with some growth as the 3-16 Campus develops. In local high schools there is a high – but not uniform – pattern of surplus places. In the three high schools in the Almondbury / Rawthorpe area the actuals are (Almondbury HS 24.5% surplus, King James’s 6.7%, Rawthorpe 47% : area average 28%). Projections to 2012/3 are consistent with these figures with a maximum 5% difference except Almondbury High School – projected to rise to 39.5% by 2012/3.</p> <p>Kirklees is in Wave 6 BSF for schools in the North. All schools in this Wave are too geographically distant from The Studio School – travelling time to the base or partner industry bases would too great. For South Kirklees no Wave has yet been allocated – on currently known timescales this could be post 2014. BSF plans for South Kirklees will rationalise provision currently served by Almondbury High, King James’s and Rawthorpe High (soon to be the Nether Hall Learning Campus). The school partners in the Studio School are clear that there are no guarantees of future provision on the Rawthorpe site. A Studio School on the Rawthorpe Junior site would, at the time of BSF implementation, be serving a wide group of schools and could be sustainable on a stand alone basis.</p>
<p>Initial views on the Studio School proposal from other secondary heads in the area and the local LSC</p>	<p>The Studio School is a partnership with local high school feeders, enabling mutual benefits. All secondary heads and college principals have been briefed in detail about the planning for a Creative & Media Studio School on the Rawthorpe site. The model discussed was the original format developed by The Young Foundation. After Sept 2008 there need to be further detailed discussions with the adjacent South Kirklees high schools regarding admissions issues for 2009. The combination of high quality education, training and employment opportunities will benefit students in these schools with an interest in developing a Creative and Media focus from 14-19 and is expected to attract sufficient numbers for a viable Studio School.</p>

	<p>There have also been positive and supportive discussions with our regional LSC. There are current ongoing discussions with LSC about potential capital contributions from the 16-19 capital fund.</p>
<p>The relationship between Studio Schools and forms of alternative provision, particularly those catering to students who may not be motivated by a traditional curriculum</p>	<p>The Studio School engages positively with the ‘hard to reach’ A Studio School is not a Pupil Referral Unit. This is not the intention in Kirklees and is certainly not supported by our partners. However, the Studio School experience could be wholly appropriate for students currently disengaged with needs not met by more traditional curriculum structures and at risk of becoming NEET. The Studio School will be supportive of and align with alternative KS4 provisions. For this reason the admissions criteria specify an entry entitlement for at least 10% of the cohort for students not currently in mainstream provision – often arising from exclusion or attendance issues. There are also opportunities for outreach with alternative provisions.</p>

The Studio School

<p>An assessment of the educational and financial viability of the Studio School, i.e. the breadth of the curriculum offer and an indication of the likely pupil numbers</p>	<p>The Studio School is educationally and financially sustainable The Studio School is planned to deliver a radically different educational experience – one that is experiential, innovative and risk taking. Young people entering the interim pilot this year are excited and thrilled by the Studio School curriculum offer. They will be developing a wide range of Creative and Media skills working in small rotating teams, with each team leading in a skill area around each commission : meeting a design brief, presentations, graphic design, ICT, financial accounting, communicating with clients, quality control are all examples.</p> <p>Employers would not value a Studio School that only operated for 38 school weeks per year. Opening sessions need to both wider ranging and more flexible. Rawthorpe High Schools current full service extended status will be a useful springboard in developing opening days and hours that meet both</p>
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educational and commercial needs. Potential students would need to recognise and accept longer / different session times. Pre 16 attendance requirements need to be met. Teacher and support staff union secretaries have been briefed and positively support the Studio School development.

The Creative & Media Diploma at Level 2 with progression to Level 3 is at the centre of The Studio School curriculum offer. All students will also be expected to follow GCSE English, Maths, Science, an ICT qualification and Enterprise Education. Significant elements of GCSE courses will be delivered through Enterprise Units using employer skills and expertise wherever feasible. Delivery models and material for this are being developed. This curriculum also acts as a safety net for any student not wishing to progress through the Studio School post 16. Fast tracking some GCSE students at the end of Year 10 will free up additional time for Enterprise and work placements. Work placements will be 'real work', organised in discrete blocks with students rotating functions e.g account management, research, materials design and production, finance and business development.

Within the proposed pilot from 2009, based on a 'school within a school' model, direct comparison of student performance, attendance, motivation and achievement can be carried out through usual attainment measures and other more rounded evaluation processes with the students at Rawthorpe High School not within the Studio School acting as a control group for these evaluation purposes.

Projected numbers

Minimum anticipated development :

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Rawthorpe	17	20	20	20	20
Other		30	30	40	50
Total		70	120	180	250

Figures of 300+ would be achieved in 2013 using this model. However, it may be useful to have an additional 'special' entry at 16+. This would enable the 300 target to be reached earlier. This development could bring in an additional group of students in 2010 (another 40 making the 2010 figure 160 with the 300 target being reached by 2012).

Financial viability

Revenue (pa) :

When entry is 300 students income would be :

KS4 (3100 per student)	100 x 3100	310,000
Post 16 (4000 per student)	200x 4000	800,000
Total		1,110,000

Earned Studio School income could offset some of this revenue funding request – it is not possible to be specific at this stage. In addition, there would be standards fund elements (approx 20,000+ per year for Key Stage 4). LA responsibility for post 16 financing from 2010 may be helpful here. At this point the Studio School would be financially sustainable.

The clear pressure points are in the years before the full working cohort is reached. This is the area in which DCSF or sponsor support is vital.

Funding available :

2009	From DSG : 217,000
2010	From DSG : 372,000
2011	From DSG : 621,000
Total revenue request (over three years)	

Funding needed :

Funding request @ 80% of DSG : 173,600
Funding request @ 40% of DSG : 148,000
Funding request @ 10% of DSG : 62,100
383,700

Funding a stand alone model – still with a commitment to deliver the GCSE core – is more problematic. A stand alone model would have very high teaching costs : at a minimum English, Maths and Science would have to be delivered (minimum costs for this likely to be 150,000). A 'school within a school' model can achieve significant economies of scale in this area and is our preferred model for the early years of a Studio School.

Capital :

Refurbishment of Junior School site to develop a Studio School : £600,000. We are currently engaged in discussions with regional LSC about a potential contribution from their capital fund towards this. These

	<p>discussions have not yet concluded. If LSC support is not available – and indications are more positive than this – we would request DCSF funding towards this one off capital cost.</p> <p>To facilitate the delivery of the unique model it will be important to develop a basic marketing, creative and production capability that will be relevant to local creative, media and digital businesses and which will complement their own ‘in house’ capabilities. This would engage local businesses in commissioning real, commercial assignments utilising the equipment, facilities and increasingly the skills of the Studio School students.</p> <p>Assignments are likely to focus upon services and products targeting younger consumers, with media concentrating on visual and moving images. The technical platform to support such an operation would be likely to include video and film image capturing and editing, digital printing, studio space, MAC PCs and software and possibly SPSS marketing research software.</p> <p>These one off costs for the technical platform would add £75,000 to the capital request. For success of an interim and a full pilot £150,000 of the capital request should be front loaded in 2008-9.</p>
<p>An outline of the proposed governance arrangements and relationship with a Studio Schools Trust</p>	<p>A Studio School will have Trust status.</p> <p>The Rawthorpe Learning Campus (to become the Nether Hall Learning Campus in Sept 2008) has a single federated Governing Body with a Principal in post. This is a hard federation of the infant, junior and high schools with new Articles of Government and a newly composed Governing Body. There is capacity to draw the Studio School (in a vacated part of the site) into this arrangement . Governance for any interim pilot phase could be achieved by the allocation of three governor places on the new federated Rawthorpe GB with a specific remit around the development of The Studio School. This would provide a strong local arrangement for accountability.</p> <p>In the longer term the Studio School needs to operate as a Trust – externally with the Studio Schools Trust and internally with the federated Learning Campus. A Trust for The Learning Campus (including Studio School) would need to address the denominational (CE) issues of the Infant School as a Trust can only have one sponsor – EDGE could be the sponsor of choice if this can be resolved. Possible resolution is through affiliate status for the Infant School.</p>

Site and premises

<p>The availability and size of a site for the proposed Studio School, the capital investment needed to develop a Studio School and the availability of capital funding</p>	<p>The preferred site meets the needs of the Studio School The current preferred location for 2009 is part of the to be vacated Rawthorpe Junior School building. All partners have visited the site several times and are positive about this location, meeting the diverse needs of educational and commercial provision.. This would be the LA's main capital contribution to the Studio School. The site contains a performance hall, rehearsal rooms, a fully operational ICT suite, meeting rooms and workrooms, a kitchen and dining facility. The site is fully secure, has full disabled access and car parking. As importantly it is no more than two miles away from the Studio School employee partners – considerably simplifying travel to and from – for example – the University or The Media Centre. The site would be separate but shared with the Ethos Pupil Referral Unit – enabling the Studio School to meet its commitment to the 'hard to engage'. As a Studio School this site requires some refurbishment rather than rebuild. A request has gone out for detailed costings but is unlikely to be more than £600,000. The Junior School site is part of a PPP contract with Hochtief – an arrangement that would need to continue.</p>
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Business partnerships

<p>Information on the business partners who have expressed interest in working with the proposed Studio School</p>	<p>Kirklees Studio School is backed by a strong, high profile local partnership. A local partnership has been developing a workable model for a Creative and Media focused Studio School over the last year. The partnership team currently is :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirklees LA : Learning, Cultural & Leisure, Economic Development Service. • Nether Hall Learning Campus (from Sept 08) - a Specialist Creative Arts school • The University of Huddersfield – we have been working with the university's Enterprise team and with Student Liaison. The Studio School will engage with the newly opened Creative Arts faculty. • The Media Centre – the Media Centre, partly based in a new iconic building – is home to about sixty small businesses working in the creative and media field. The CEO of the Media Centre has been involved with the partnership for over a year. The Media Centre will be supporting extended work placements.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Textile Centre of Excellence – is leading in the development of the Creative Commissioning Agency. Has an international reputation in business development, textile design and manufacture. • Beaumont Street Studios – a long standing partnership member with significant experience of training young people in media production skills. • Lawrence Batley Theatre – an independent theatre based in Huddersfield used by amateur and professional theatre / performance groups. • Compact Education Business Services – linking employers and schools • Business Link Yorkshire – the publicly funded business support organisation in the region. Keenly supports the proposal and the innovative approach of the Studio School in developing the next generation of entrepreneurs. • The Enterprise Foundation : Kirklees – a group of local entrepreneurs initiated by Barry Sheerman MP to develop new business start up and new business support. • The Young Foundation <p>This group sees the Studio School as being a key component in the development of Huddersfield as a Creative Town and are committed to the Studio School as full partners.</p>
<p>Confirmation that they are content for the proposal to move forward and are aware of the implication for their working practices (need for appropriate supervision of students, workplace regulation etc)</p>	<p>This is a collaborative proposal developed jointly by the Kirklees Studio School Partnership. Many partners have a significant track record in meeting supervision and Health & Safety requirements for work experience students and are committed to exemplary work placement practices. All partners are very conscious of the pressures arising from commercial activity and the need for the Studio School to have ambitious, challenging and deliverable deadlines and targets.</p> <p>The Council and business partners are equally committed to the continued development of a successful Studio School in Kirklees.</p>

National vision	Elected members have tracked the Studio School development in Kirklees, supporting it at every stage. The partnership also has high profile national backing. We have benefited throughout from the support of The Young Foundation and we see this continuing in our relationship with a national Studio Schools Trust. All our partners are fully committed to the successful development and implementation of a successful Studio School – fully meeting the needs of our young people. This is an exciting initiative – with lessons learned able to be rolled out at a national level. We believe our proposal is affordable and ambitious offering good value for money. Our partnership is ready and prepared to take these challenges forward and to make a Kirklees Studio School a reality.
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Contacts :

Alison O’Sullivan
Director for Children & Young People
Kirklees LA
alison.o’sullivan@kirklees.gov.uk

Joan Young
Headteacher
Rawthorpe High School
youngj@rawthorpe.org

Denis Grainger
Principal Improvement Manager 14-19
Kirklees LA
denis.grainger@kirklees.gov.uk

Steve Morris
Studio School Consultant
steve1morris@gmail.com
07791 701 793