

DEVELOPING NEW APPROACHES TO WHOLE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

CONTEXT

- Cheshire East ‘Performs Well’ (Ofsted) in terms of attainment – increased risk in terms of rates of progress.
- 2010-11 Annual Performance Stocktake – ‘Good to Great’ – concerns in the rates of closing the gap for our more vulnerable learners.
- Changing National agenda – DFE, NCSL – new floor standards and emphasis on school to school support – moving from a concept into reality.
- Revised role of Local Authority towards commissioner of services – clear move away from ‘Reliance Model’.

INTEGRATION OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT SERVICES TO ADDRESS ‘UNDERPERFORMANCE’

CONCERNS:

- ARE OUR SCHOOLS READY FOR A REVISED OFSTED FRAMEWORK WITH A REAL FOCUS ON PROGRESS & VULNERABLE GROUPS?
- x PRIMARY SCHOOLS CURRENTLY IN AN OFSTED CATEGORY – 4-5 SEEN AS HIGH RISK AND DUE AN INSPECTION.
- ARE SCHOOLS FULLY EMBRACING THE NATIONAL AGENDA AROUND TEACHING SCHOOLS AND THEIR FUTURE ROLE.
- ESTABLISHING TRUE PARTNERSHIP WORKING WITH CLEARLY DEFINED ROLES & EXPECTED OUTCOMES.
- WORKING WITHIN AN OFSTED FRAMEWORK WHICH DOES NOT HAVE A ‘SATISFACTORY JUDGEMENT’:
 - "capacity to improve is unlikely to be adequate if the school is in receipt of extensive external support simply to produce satisfactory results
 - has not resolved the areas for improvement at its previous inspection
 - has outcomes which are no better than satisfactory and which were satisfactory at the last inspection, demonstrating that improvement is too slow.

