Leadership for narrowing the gap initiative: Final group report

Thank you for your involvement in the Leadership for narrowing the gap initiative to date. The initiative is intended to support leadership learning and provide an opportunity for groups of leaders to improve their leadership for narrowing the gap. The Leadership for narrowing the gap initiative has been in existence for 2 years and this phase offers groups the opportunity to reflect and review progress.

We require each group to complete and submit this final evaluation report. The Information from the reports will contribute to what is known nationally about effective leadership for narrowing the gap and help other leaders facing similar challenges. The final report will be published in Autumn 2010.

Your completed report will help provide us with a clear overview of your groups' project. We would also like to share your learning with other leaders. Please use the questions below to structure your report, using the guidance supplied by the National College and our colleagues at CUREE. Include any supporting evidence you have in this report, or if necessary attach as an appendix.

<u>Completed reports should be submitted to narrowingthegap@nationalcollege.org.uk by</u>

Group project overview

Name of group leader: Submitted by: Local Authority:

Aim(s) of the project (quidance of 50-100 words)

- What precise problem/s or issue/s did your project set out to tackle?
- What gap did you intend to narrow?
- What were your leadership areas/ priorities
- If this has not changed we welcome the initial detail provided in your action plan

Scale and scope of the project (guidance of 100 – 150 words)

- A very brief description of
 - o the numbers and types of schools and other agencies,
 - o leaders, staff and learners involved,
 - o *indication of phase(s), and*
 - o geographic location

Summary of main outcomes:

What were the headline outcomes/findings, particularly in relation to leadership and improved outcomes for vulnerable young people? ($quidance\ of\ 100-150\ words$) E.q.

- School leaders across our partnership benefited from working collaboratively by involving parents more effectively to support the learning of the target group of vulnerable young people and other students.
- Teachers deployed a greater range of assessment and teaching and learning strategies which enhanced and personalised learning for young people.
- Young people's motivation and engagement in learning improved as a result of the programme.

REPORT BODY

Background and context (guidance of 150 – 200 words)

- How did the project start?
- What was the role of leaders in its initiation?
- Who was involved?
- What were the main development activities? How were leaders involved?
- What kind of changes were envisaged i.e. where were we and where did we want to get to?
- What were the leadership challenges in setting goals and securing ownership?

Processes and strategies (guidance of 500 – 600 words)

- Describe your leadership practice and strategies for narrowing the gap.
 - o How did your leadership evolve?
 - Who were you leading?
- What were the key points you made a difference as a leader (e.g. setting budgets, goals or putting the team together)? How did you capitalise on these key leverage points?
- How were the new teaching/learning strategies or other interventions implemented?
- What did you do for learners as a leader?
- Are there examples from the project which could be included as illustrations?

Findings/outcomes (guidance of 250 – 400 words)

- Unpack/illustrate the outcome headlines reported on the front page.
- What have you achieved as a group? What is the impact of your work on learners and other stakeholders?
- What is the impact on leadership?

Your methods (guidance of 200 - 300 words)

- How do you know? What evidence (e.g. meeting notes, review or consultation outcomes, project documentation, assessment or test data, learner, parent and/or teacher perception data, survey responses, photos, etc) is there to support the main findings reported earlier?
- What evidence did you have about pupils' and colleagues' starting points?
- How did you analyse this?
- What evidence helped you track progress?
- How did you capture and reflect on outcomes?

Conclusions (guidance of 100 – 150 words)

- What are the implications of your project for the way you/your school works now?
- What are the implications for your and others leadership?
- What were the key learning points?
- Has the project raised questions for further consideration?
- Are there any implications for your own or your colleagues' continued professional development?

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Suggestions for further information

- How has your work linked with what is already known about the issues involved in your project?
- Are their studies or reports from other projects you would recommend that would help others to find out more?
 Include website links.

Has the learning from the groups work been shared with others locally? Or do you have intentions to share with a wider audience?

Do you have plans to continue the project your group has been involved in and maintain the network of schools you have formed?