

## First Partnership meeting - 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015

### Introductions

The meeting opened with both parties reaffirming the principles of the Education Partnership. This included that both parties would agree to open and honest discussions and that when required confidentiality is key to developing positive working relationships. It was also reiterated that a single partnership meeting with representation from all unions is desired.

### Key issues

The key issues facing the Education Department were discussed.

#### ***Standards:***

It is important we learn what the barriers are facing teachers and the extent to which these prevent teachers engaging in the work they are good at and are trained to do. The types of questions to be answered include:

- What is the current state of the workforce? E.g. capacity to deliver change
- How can we manage planning, teaching and assessment more effectively?
- How can we reduce bureaucracy (paperwork) for teachers? E.g. expectations, provide choice to staff if they wish to work long hours

To do this it is suggested we look to the responses from previous surveys undertaken by the department. It is also suggested a new survey is commissioned to ask the teaching profession about their current roles and the state of the profession.

A survey could also be extended to include:

- Seeking the views of the student body and parents;
- Gaining insightful information from teacher focus groups;
- To use research as a key element of the forthcoming education staff conference.

#### ***The Curriculum:***

The Jersey Curriculum is currently being written and it is planned this will be made available to the teaching profession in the summer term 2015 and launched at the education staff conference. When the draft has been completed the Jersey Curriculum document will be shared with the Education Partnership for review.

#### ***Autonomy:***

The Education Partnership would like to understand the rationale for providing autonomy to schools. The following questions to be answered include:

- How will greater freedoms in schools help to raise standards?
- How will greater autonomy / freedoms in schools affect the class teacher and senior leader in schools?

***Family Focussed Working:***

The Education Partnership would like to know how the system can become more robust to ensure multi-agency working.

**Practical arrangements for the Partnership to consider**

Structure of meetings

- It was agreed the Education Partnership would meet every half term. The principle of alternating meetings between Jersey and UK to be established.
- Both ESC and the NASUWT will have the opportunity to bring in external stakeholders to provide information and context, but the decision making process rests with the partners on the Education Partnership.
- By popular consent it was agreed a colleague from the States of Jersey would chair the meeting.
- Findings from the Education Partnership would be shared with colleagues at the ECC meetings.

Communications

It was agreed that a brand for the Social Partnership would be developed and the NASUWT team would discuss this with their graphic designer team and liaise with ESC.

Ministerial Briefing

Following the Education Partnership meeting the Ministerial Team will be provided with feedback.