

CONFIDENT CHOICES



DECEMBER 2019

NEWSLETTER

INTRODUCTORY CONFERENCE

This was a great day. We believe that the number of schools represented at the conference on 4th October was the greatest number of attendees for a Lincolnshire careers event in the last 10 years. 36 schools and 54 people attended. There was a clear explanation of the benefits of the Confident Choices framework, both in theory and in practice.

The presentation from Ellis Potter was a model of how to plan for initial cluster work and the examples of possible benefits were stimulating. Paul Martin's presentation about Advancing Access was new to most people and showed another cluster possibility. The Boston cluster have already booked Paul to do some joint training.

The afternoon session was led by Complete Careers and John Ambrose ensured excellent sharing of ideas and resources as well as providing a national update.

There was a very positive atmosphere generated at the conference which makes us optimistic about next steps. Those of us on the Steering Group recognise our responsibility to help maintain the momentum generated. We are confident that the school clusters will do so as well.

STEERING GROUP

The steering group meets most months and is working hard to ensure that support for school clusters remains at the centre of all we do. We are seeking to:

- Improve the information available to schools
- Ensure coherence in the careers programme offers to schools
- Provide a calendar of support to schools, lead schools and clusters
- Act as an advocacy group for the importance of careers work in schools

The current members are:

John Ambrose Complete Careers, representing commercial partners
Andy Chisholm Director, LTSA, representing Lincolnshire Teaching Schools Together
Clare Hughes Skills Manager of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Education Partnership
Ellis Potter Senior Area Engagement Officer, LinchHigher
Matt Spoors Locality Lead Education Advisor, Lincolnshire County Council
Richard Trow Headteacher, and **Tracey Taylor**, Careers Leader, Priory City of Lincoln Academy
Matthew Van Lier Headteacher, and **Elaine Dutton**, Careers Leader, Haven High Academy
Facilitated by **Richard Hughes**, Project Leader

THE LEAD SCHOOLS GROUP

The lead schools recently met at Skegness Academy - their second meeting this term. The meeting shared cluster progress, which was encouraging. Far more schools are joining clusters than we had expected at this stage - a nice problem to have! We also discussed issues surrounding work experience and Ofsted. As a result, we are looking at organising a work experience health and safety/risk assessment offer for all Lincolnshire schools. We are also seeking to organise an Ofsted update conference.

We were reminded that Lead Schools are expected to lead clusters for two years, after which a change of leadership is recommended. That is in only 18 months, so a succession plan is important.



WELCOME

Welcome to the first Confident Choices newsletter. We are thrilled at the progress we have made in writing and implementing a new careers framework for Lincolnshire and grateful for all the goodwill and hard work we have seen so far.

The newsletter is intended to keep schools and partners informed about actions, events and resources organised by Confident Choices. It will also be enjoyable to recognise and celebrate our joint successes. It will be only be successful in these aims if you share what is going on in clusters and tell us if the content is helpful. Please let us have both pictures and text. You can email Richard Hughes, the editor, directly, or via the admin.support at LTSA.

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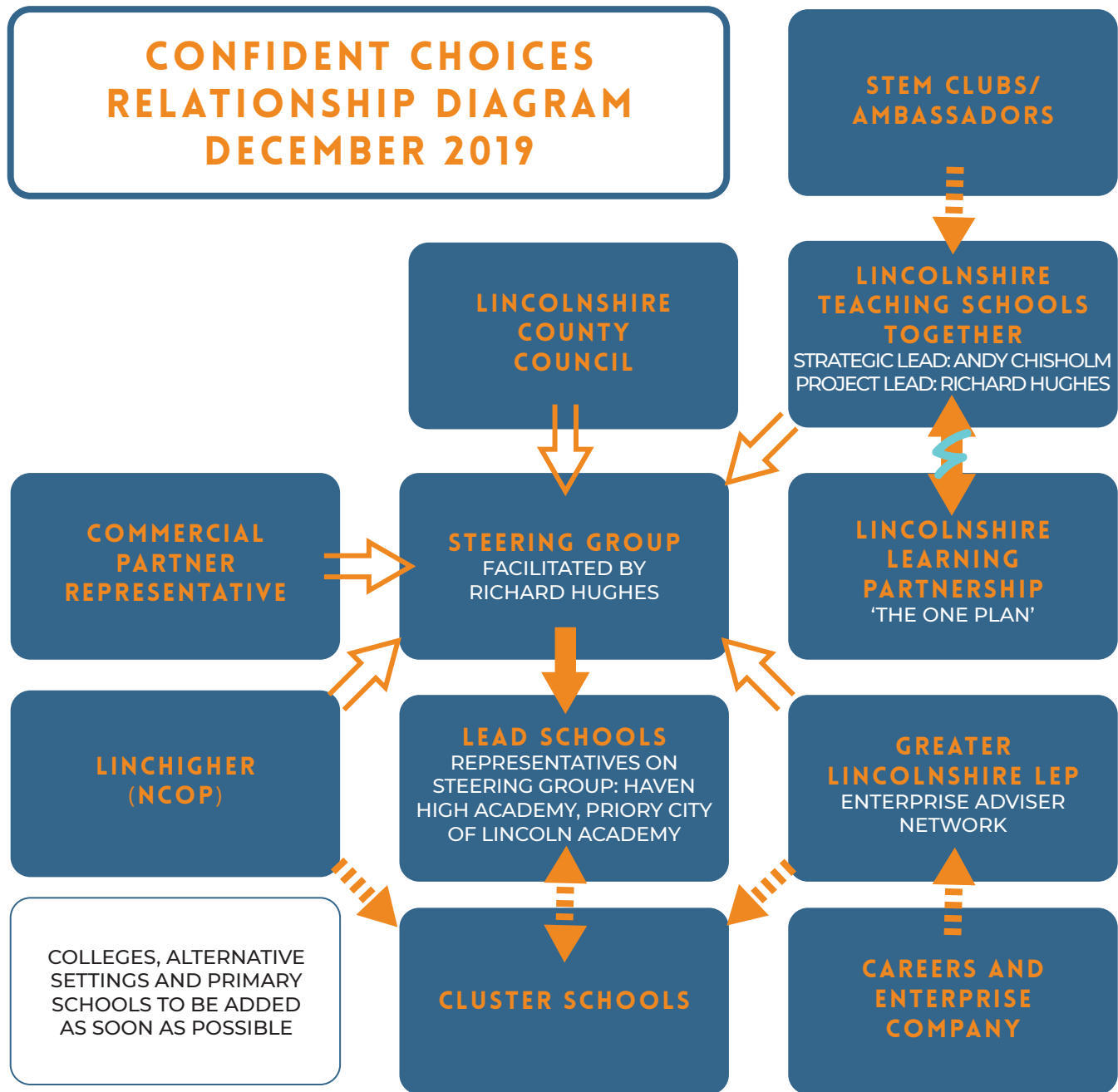
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CONFIDENT CHOICES NEXT STEPS

We have nearly 50 schools already engaged with the framework at one level or another. Our next steps are:

- Deeper engagement and more benefits for these schools
- All secondary schools to benefit from Enterprise Adviser Network membership and from LincHigher support
- Engagement from the handful of secondary schools not yet involved
- Extension of the framework to other educational settings, colleges and primary schools

We recognise this is a big agenda, but we believe it is both possible and urgent.



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CONFIDENT CHOICES CALENDAR

January, February

22nd January - Lead Schools Meeting, University Academy Holbeach, 9am

24th January – Steering Group Meeting, The Keyworth Centre, Lincoln, 9am

We would like to feature other Confident Choices events in our calendar. Please let us know about any that are upcoming.

