

Supporting Community School and Cluster Working



Governors' Wales
Conference
June 16th 2007.

What is a School?

Think in terms of:

- TIME

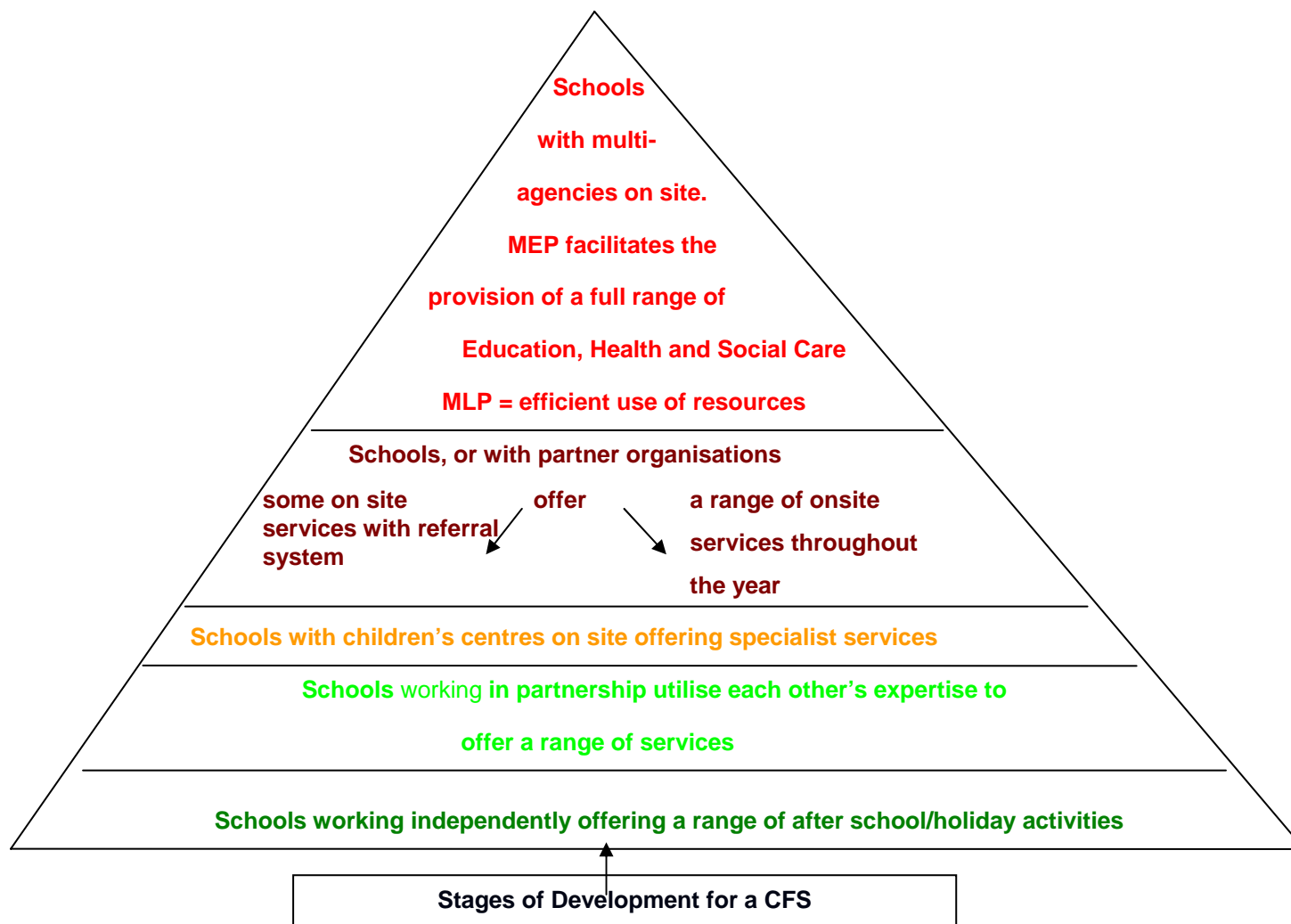
- MANAGEMENT

- FUNDING

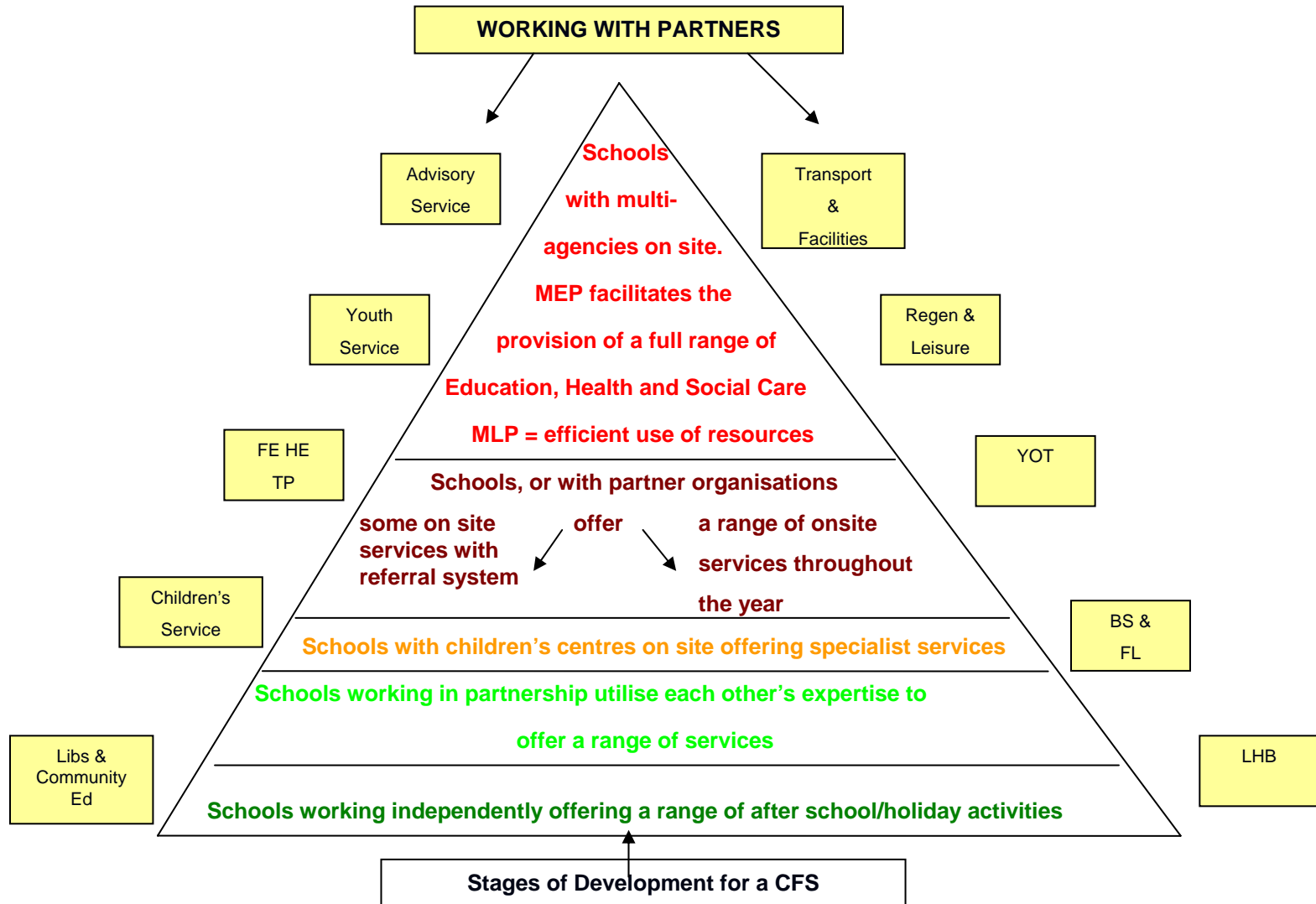


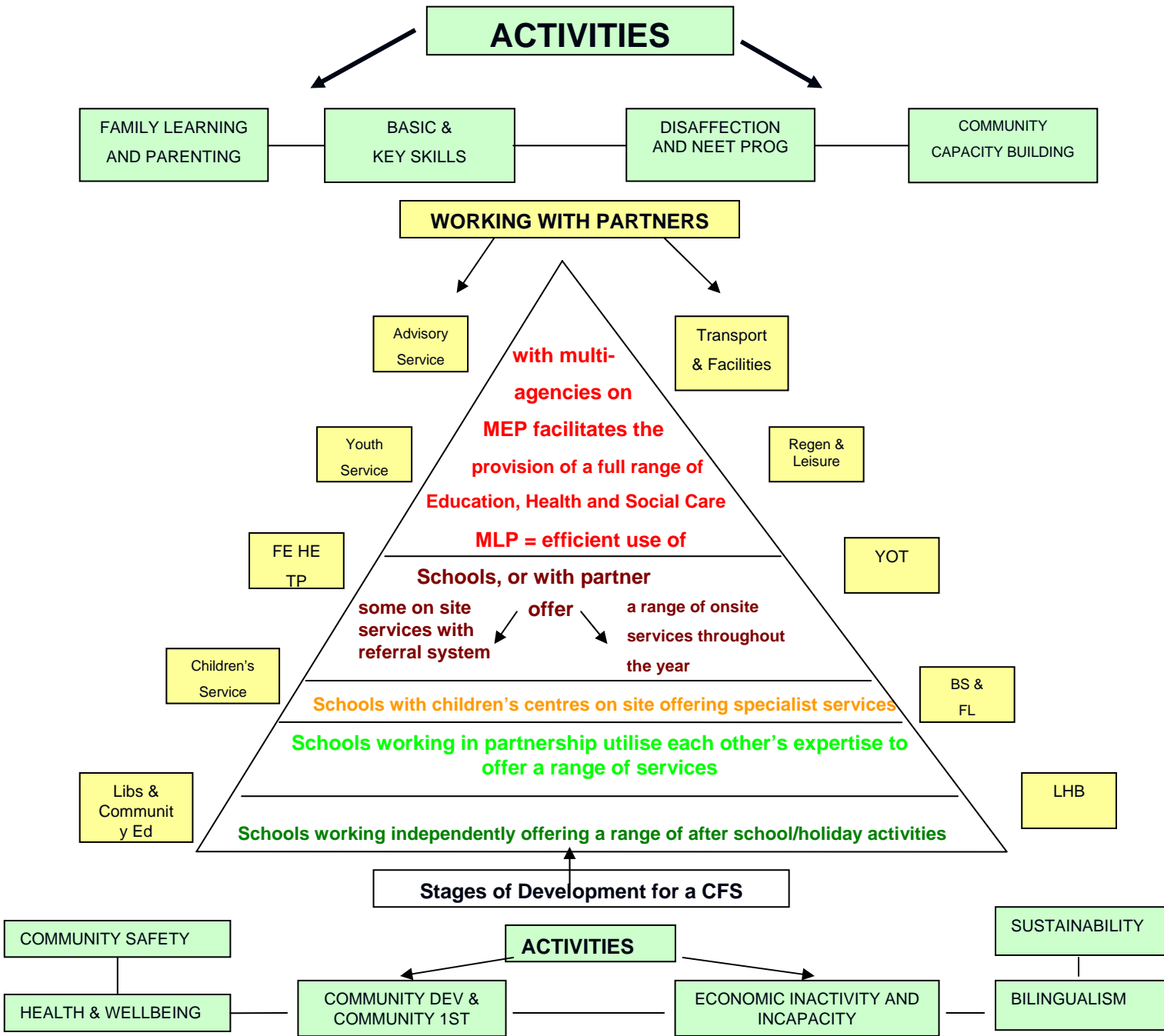
- There is **no blueprint** for the types of activities that schools can provide, or how they might be organised
- Working with partners schools can develop **as little or as much provision as they think suitable** for their own community
- **Experimentation is good**

CARMARTHENSHIRE COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOLS - FAMILIES OF SCHOOLS INCLUDING MULTI-AGENCY GROUPS



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COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOLS' DEVELOPMENTS

TIME-LINE

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graph TD; A[TIME-LINE] --- B[2003  
6 SECONDARY  
2 PRIMARY  
SCHOOLS]; A --- C[2006  
AS 2003 PLUS  
1 CLUSTER  
1 FAMILY]; A --- D[?]
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2003

6 SECONDARY
2 PRIMARY
SCHOOLS

2006

AS 2003 PLUS
1 CLUSTER
1 FAMILY

?

POSITIVE FEATURES

- Participation of the school in the community
- Staff development
- Extended day for pupils with wide range of activities
- New experiences and skills for pupils and the community
- Meeting the needs of vulnerable students
- Participation of students from neighbouring schools in third session of the day
- School facilities used extensively
- Quiet areas for pupils to work
- Staff working in different roles
- Promoting responsible behaviour and motivation to pupils and staff
- Social development of pupils
- Raising standards

The Way Forward

- Include CFS in the delivery of L A Community Education courses
- Co-ordination of a County wide partnership
- Expand the Ownzone concept
- Provide opportunities to enhance skills including accreditation
- Involve other organisations county and area wide
- Continuation of CFS funding
- Improved partnership with Leisure services
- Services of a CFS officer
- Continue to develop partnership working
- Involvement of Youth workers in a sensitive way with young people
- Used as a tool to facilitate transition
- Develop the concept on an area basis
- Multi agencies to be involved
- Extend to deliver life- long learning opportunities
- Involve the voluntary sector to provide services and access funding

Issues

- Reaching all members of the community
- Sustainability
- Clarity on roles of the Governing Body
- Guidance on health and safety matters HR issues
- Ensure that agreements with providers are delivered
- Removing competition
- Integrated transport systems

**Single Education
Plan**
STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

**Developing comprehensive
and sustainable
formal and informal learning
opportunities.**

**Working in partnership to
improve the capacity of local
communities to
sustain learning opportunities
for themselves.**

**Investing in
families of
community focused
schools**

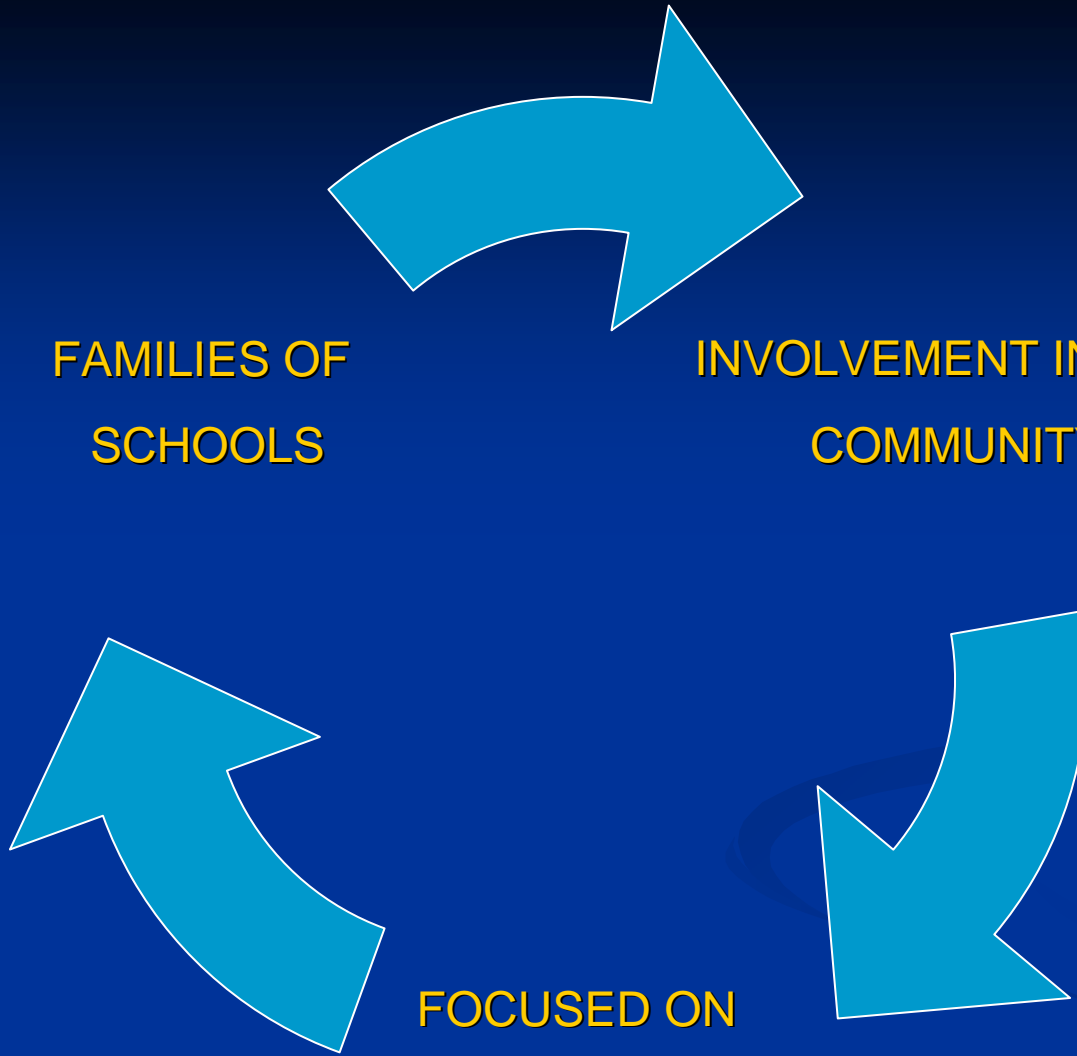
STRATEGY FOR MOVING FORWARD

- FAMILIES OF SCHOOLS
- FUNDING ISSUES

FAMILIES OF
SCHOOLS

INVOLVEMENT IN THE
COMMUNITY

FOCUSED ON
LEARNING



COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOLS' DEVELOPMENTS

TIME-LINE

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graph TD; A[TIME-LINE] --- B[2003]; A --- C[2006]; A --- D[2007]; B --- B1[6 SECONDARY]; B --- B2[2 PRIMARY]; B --- B3[SCHOOLS]; C --- C1[AS 2003 PLUS]; C --- C2[1 CLUSTER]; C --- C3[1 FAMILY]; D --- D1[1 CLUSTER]; D --- D2[13 FAMILIES];
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2003

6 SECONDARY
2 PRIMARY
SCHOOLS

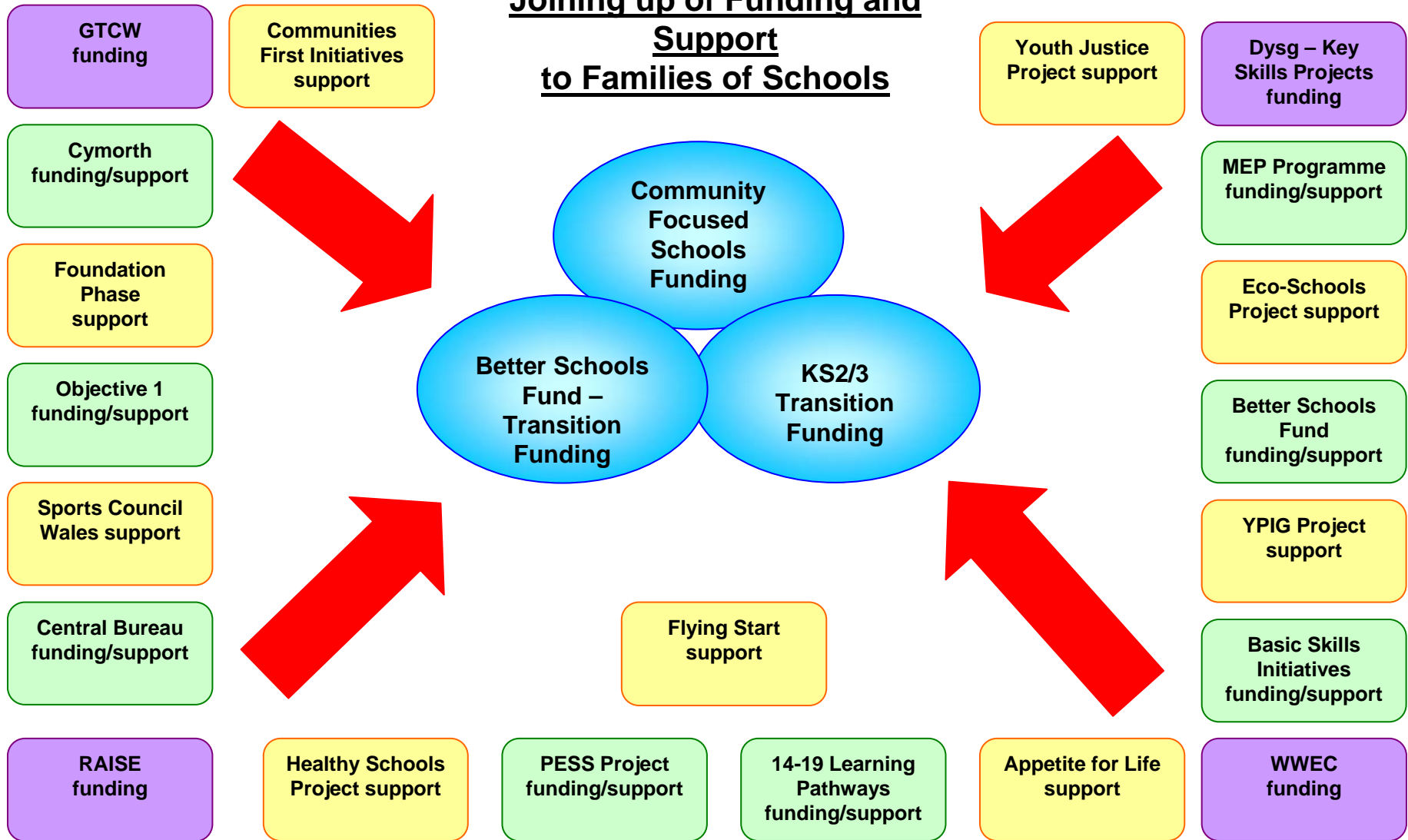
2006

AS 2003 PLUS
1 CLUSTER
1 FAMILY

2007

1 CLUSTER
13 FAMILIES

Joining up of Funding and Support to Families of Schools



KEY ELEMENTS IN ESTABLISHING COMMUNITY FOCUSED FAMILIES CARMARTHENSHIRE CRITERIA

- ESTABLISH A STEERING GROUP
- CREATE A SHARED FOCUS
- AUDIT EXISTING PROVISION
- DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN AND INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
- FOSTER PARTNERSHIP WORKING

KEY ELEMENTS CONTINUED

- INVOLVEMENT OF SCHOOL COUNCILS
- INCLUDE THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR
- ENGAGE YOUTH WORKERS
- ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES-WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

- SUPPORT FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY
- ACCOUNTABILITY TO WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT AND TO CARMARTHENSHIRE L. A.

HELPS

Key factors for success

- **At school and cluster level:**
 - Leadership
 - Supportive governors
 - Clear management and lines of communication
 - Curriculum flexibility
 - Personalised learning
 - Community involvement

Learning Focused Communities

- Only by involving whole communities will CFS become a reality. CFS is not an initiative or a project but a new way of thinking about how we provide learning opportunities for everyone.
- **It is essential that communities have ownership and understanding of what is happening.**
- This does not happen overnight and CFS development is part of a much broader shift in thinking with regard to learning and regeneration.
- There is huge potential for community regeneration and development and an opportunity to support the value given to learning in all its guises through CFS development.