

Committee:	Dated:
Community and Children's Services Committee	07/02/2020
Subject: Education Performance for City Primary Pupils 2019	Public
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
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Summary

This annual report provides information on the educational outcomes for primary aged children who live in the City of London. The purpose of the report is to keep Members informed about education performance of these pupils.

The data used to compile this report is from a range of sources. Comparisons have been made between the performance of City of London resident children attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, Prior Weston Primary School and City of London Primary Islington (COLPI). This data is also compared with the inner London and national performance outcomes, so Members get a London and national perspective on the outcomes for City primary pupils. The analysis is for the last full academic year 2018/19, and includes some trends from 2013/14, where the data remains relevant and available.

The small size of the City of London's school and residential population means the education statistics for the City can fluctuate from year to year, more than other local authorities with bigger populations. It is very important to note that the number of children in some of the analyses are often very small. In a small cohort a slight change in numbers can make a large change as a percentage.

This report covers the period before changes to the National Curriculum and the Children and Families Act 2014. Commentary is provided in the report to guide Members where relevant.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. This report provides information for the 2018/19 academic year and focuses on the progress of pupils who are residents of the City of London and who attend the primary schools with the highest number of City of London residents: Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, Prior Weston Primary School, and City of London Primary Islington.
2. In October 2019 we were aware of 91 schools that City of London resident children attended. This includes primary and secondary aged pupils in maintained and independent schools and those pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Education outcomes in 2018/19

3. The percentage of City of London children reaching the 'Good Level of Development' benchmark in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) was the highest of any local authority in England at 85.1%. The percentage in London was 74.1 and 71.8 nationally.
4. Phonics screening check outcomes for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School in Year 1 were ranked first or second out of all 152 English local authorities.
5. Key Stage 1 results for the percentage reaching the expected standard for 2018/19 for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School are in the highest percentile out of all 152 local authorities in England for all three core subjects.
6. Key Stage 2 results show that the percentage of pupils at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School reaching the expected grade for reading, writing and mathematics combined, at 82%, put the City of London Corporation in first place out of every local authority in England. The percentage reaching the higher level for this measure (29%) means that the City of London was first place when ranked against local authorities in England for 2018/19.
7. The annual report (Appendix 1) provides a more detailed analyses of the education performance outcomes for City children.

Free School Meals

8. The report also presents an analysis of the number of children entitled to free school meals who attend Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School. Since 2013, the rate of eligibility has been on a continued downward trend for those entitled to and taking up free school meals. The

cohort of children entitled to free school meals has been about one-ninth of the children on school roll and lower than the rates for England and Inner London.

9. Pupil premium is additional funding element for maintained schools in England. It is designed to help disadvantaged pupils of all abilities perform better and close the gap between them and their peers. Children on free school meals are entitled to pupil premium. In the academic year 2018/19, 15.8% of statutory aged pupils on roll at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School had funded 'pupil premium' status in October 2019.

Children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

10. The proportion of children with SEND at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School has increased in recent years. The percentage of pupils with SEND support varies from year to year due to the small size of the school.
11. The proportion of pupils with SEND support has risen from 10.3% in 2014/15 to 17.5% in 2018/19. The proportion of pupils with an EHCP has reduced in this period and was 1.8% in 2018/19.

School Attendance

12. In 2017/18, the rate of absence for all three terms for the City of London, was 3.2%, the second lowest rate for England. The rate was about average for those recorded by the City over the previous four years.
13. Persistent absence for 2017/18 data for three terms was 3.3%. The City of London had the lowest rate of persistent absenteeism in England. The Inner London rate for 2017/18 was (8.9%).

Corporate & Strategic Implications

14. The results demonstrate that children in the City of London have the opportunity to receive outstanding teaching and learning opportunities that help to meet the City of London's Children and Young People's Plan objectives of improving educational outcomes for all children.

Financial Implications

15. There are no funding implications associated with this report.

Conclusion

16. The educational outcomes for City of London children, as presented in this report, demonstrate the continued high-quality level of education and learning opportunities for City of London children. The one maintained primary school in the City is ranked in the top performing schools in the country.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – *Primary Education in The City of London, Annual Report 2019*

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