

Committee(s) Education Board	Dated: 28/01/2021
Subject: Parental Engagement in Learning	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 8, 9 & 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author(s): Daniel McGrady, Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills)	

Summary

The Education Strategy 2019-23 commits to enabling pupils in the Family of Schools to flourish and thrive which includes working with parents and families to support parental engagement in learning. At their meeting on 24 September 2020, Members received an initial discussion paper on the evidence-base for parental engagement in learning as well as examples of current cross-Corporation projects focused on these outcomes. Members suggested that to move the discussion forward, some examples of effective approaches should be presented and discussed in a future meeting. Towards this aim, Professor Sonia Blandford, Founder and CEO of Achievement for All and Visiting Professor of the UCL Institute of Education, has been invited to attend the meeting on 28 January 2021 to share the approach of Achievement for All. Professor Blandford's presentation slides are attached in **Appendix 1**.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note that following an invitation from the Chair, Professor Sonia Blandford will share a presentation on Parent and Carer Engagement included in **Appendix 1**.

Main Report

Background

1. The Education Strategy 2019-23 commits to ensuring that pupils in the Family of Schools receive exceptional education to enable them to flourish and thrive. A key aim for achieving this is to support the Family of Schools to "use effective communication and feedback to ensure pupils and their families are partners in children's learning."¹ At the meeting on 24 September 2020, Members of the Education Board discussed a paper on the research around parental engagement in learning and the City Corporation's strategic and operational

¹ City of London Corporation, Education Strategy 2019-23, 2019
<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/assets/Services-DCCS/city-of-london-education-strategy-2019-23.pdf>

efforts to support and facilitate effective practice in this area. Members asked to see examples of effective practice and resolved to invite a further paper focused on practical approaches to support parents and carers in their children's learning.

Current Position

2. Achievement for All is a not-for-profit organisation that works in partnership with early years settings, schools and colleges to improve outcomes for children and young people². Professor Sonia Blandford is the Founder and CEO as well a Visiting Professor at the UCL Institute of Education.
3. The details of Achievement for All's approach to Parent and Carer Engagement is included in **Appendix 1**.
4. The examples provided by Achievement for All provide a useful discussion point for Members to consider the strategic and operational support they might offer to the Family of Schools to meet its strategic aims.

Proposals

N/A

Options

N/A

Key Data

N/A

Corporate & Strategic Implications

N/A. This report is for information only.

Conclusion

5. Members are asked to note the presentation by Professor Sonia Blandford, Founder and CEO of Achievement for All and Visiting Professor of the UCL Institute of Education, in **Appendix 1**.

Appendix 1 – Parent and Carer Engagement Presentation by Professor Sonia Blandford

Background paper – Parental Engagement in Learning Discussion Paper. Meeting of the Education Board, 24 September 2020

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² <https://afaeducation.org/about-us/>