

Committee(s) Education Board	Dated: 05/02/2024
Subject: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning and Skills Update	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/A
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
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Summary

This report updates Members on recent events and activities delivered across the three strategies overseen by the Education Board: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning, and Skills. A calendar of meetings, forums and events for the 2023-24 academic year is included in **Appendix 1**.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the update on events and activities across the three strategy areas.
- Note the calendar of forums and events over the 2023-24 academic year in **Appendix 1**.

Main Report

Background

1. The Education Board has oversight of three strategies: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning, and Skills (2019-23).

Current Position

2. Lord Mayor's Silent Ceremony

On Friday 10 November 2023, ten pupils from City of London Academy Highgate Hill and City of London Academy Shoreditch Park attended the Silent Ceremony for the new Lord Mayor, Michael Mainelli. The pupils were able to go into the Great Hall and experience the whole ceremony. Once finished, they waited outside to see The Lord Mayor leave the Great Hall and watch the trumpeters play.

3. Chess Training Workshops

On the afternoon of Tuesday 23 January and Thursday 1 February 2024, pupils from the Family of Schools joined online to take part in the annual Chess Training Workshops in collaboration with Chess in Schools and Communities (CSC).

CSC has kindly provided ChessKid accounts for each participant - an online platform that allows children to learn through instructional videos, interactive lessons, and by playing other children from across the world. The system is designed for use by children of KS2 and early KS3 and has many features to ensure online safety.

4. London Compact 2030 – Bridge The Gap

On the morning of Tuesday 30 January 2024 at the Guildhall, the annual City Schools Conference took place. The conference this year, delivered by CoLAT, aims to

- recruit diverse local talent
- explore new ways of addressing recruitment challenges
- improve the life chances of disadvantaged young Londoners.

5. Environmental and Outdoor Learning

At the Education Board Dinner in May 2023, the Royal Commonwealth Society agreed to donate trees to commemorate the Coronation. These trees are the *Betula Papyrifera* and match those in Westminster Abbey.

Four trees have now been delivered to King Edward School Witley, City of London School, Redriff Primary School and Christ's Hospital School. There are an additional two trees currently awaiting delivery to Freeman's School and The City Academy Hackney.

Upcoming

6. Chess Tournament.

This year's annual Chess Tournament, in collaboration with Chess in Schools and Communities (CSC), will take place at Guildhall on Thursday 22 February 2024. Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form schools from within our Family of Schools are invited to enter a team of up to 15 players. The tournament is aimed at those pupils who are new to competitive chess but have an enthusiasm to improve and play against new players.

The morning of the event will consist of coaching sessions and other chess activities delivered by CSC tutors. The tournament will then start from midday where every competitor will play six games of chess. There will be trophies for the schools with the highest team scores and medals for the pupils with the highest individual scores.

7. Maths Challenge.

On Thursday 8 February 2024, in collaboration with Christ Hospital School, Year 5 pupils from all over London are invited to Guildhall for a morning of challenging maths. The young mathematicians will participate in different mathematical tasks gaining points as they go along. At each of the stations, they will have opportunities to solve puzzles using calculators, pentominoes, playing cards, tangrams, dominoes. The final round brings all the mathematicians together where they are tasked with lateral thinking questions which brings the event to an exciting conclusion.

8. London Careers Festival.

The London Careers Festival 2024 will build on the success of previous years by offering a blended approach to careers education, with an in-person festival at the Guildhall the week beginning 26 February and a virtual fair the week beginning 4 March. The programme of events has been carefully curated to offer pupils and teachers the chance to explore a wide range of careers and skills development opportunities, to take part in practical career-focused activities, and to hear directly from experts and businesses. Find more information on: www.londoncareersfestival.org.uk

9. Environmental and Outdoor Learning.

There will be a tree planting ceremony held at King Edward's Witley to establish the tree in the grounds and to celebrate the role that tree-planting plays in tackling climate change, inviting Caroline Haines CC and the Rt. Hon Andrew Wigmore to speak at the event.

Three schools came to Guildhall to showcase their projects at the reception of the inaugural Natural Environment Board Dinner on 29th January 2024. King Edwards School Witley, City of London Academy Southwark, and City Academy Hackney attended, showcasing the various student-led outdoor learning and environmental initiatives happening across the schools respectively. There was a dance performed by pupils from City of London School and City of London School for Girls.

The Environmental and Outdoor Learning Network has agreed to collaborate on a pilot initiative named Global Social Leaders. The initiative aims to cultivate a global movement of socially conscious young leaders who are well-equipped to lead positive social change. With a bespoke focus on the UN sustainability goal of climate action, the programme will bring pupils together from across the Family of Schools to take part in a nature challenge launch event, before supporting pupils to take part in long-term team projects aimed at tackling climate change. Pupils from participating schools will then come together at a cross-school celebration event to showcase the various projects that have been delivered in schools. The Environmental and Outdoor Learning Network will be working towards securing funding for this via the City Premium Grant when it reopens in April 2024, with a view to beginning projects during the Academic Year 2024/25.

Options

N/A

Key Data

N/A

Corporate & Strategic Implications

N/A. This report is for information only.

Conclusion

Members of the Education Board have been updated on recent events and activities across their three strategy areas as well as upcoming events and activities over the 2023-24 academic year.

Appendix 1 – Calendar of Forums and Events over the 2023-24 Academic Year

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