

Committee	Dated:
Education Board	14 January 2016
Subject: Education Strategy Update Report	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information

Summary

This report provides Members of the Education Board with a summary of key developments in the delivery of the City of London Corporation Education Strategy. Each of the five strategic objectives of the Education Strategy is addressed (paragraphs 3 – 7) with examples of recent work and future activities.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to: note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013 – 2015 established five strategic objectives. Each objective is underpinned by a series of recommendations. Every recommendation identifies a key deliverable that the City Corporation is seeking to achieve and details specific actions that will facilitate this.

Current Position

2. The implementation of the Education Strategy is overseen by the Education Board. This report provides Members of the Education Board with a summary of key developments in the delivery of the Education Strategy. Each of the five strategic objectives of the Education Strategy is addressed (paragraphs 3 – 7) with examples of recent work and future activities.

Education Strategy Update

3. Strategic Objective 1: To promote and support excellent education and access to higher education
 - a) 17 governors attended training that was held on 3 December 2015 covering new legal and statutory responsibilities, accountability measures, and the Education Strategy.

- b) Safeguarding training for governors is scheduled for Tuesday 23 February (17:30 -19:00) and Wednesday 24 February (08:30 – 10:00). This opportunity has been circulated to governors at City schools and all Members of the Court of Common Council. Key topics to be covered include: safeguarding Priorities, Prevent, inspections and safeguarding, the role of the designated lead governor, the annual report on safeguarding, and safeguarding agenda items for board meetings.
- c) Following an ISI Integrated Inspection, which took place in late October 2015, King Edward's School, Witley has been graded as 'Excellent' in all nine categories.
- d) On 2 February 2016 the whole of Year 7 (c. 240 pupils) from City of London Academy (Southwark) will take part in "City Stories" a day of activities organised by the Museum of London, in collaboration with the Barbican and Tower Bridge, to help increase pupils' understanding of the history of the City.

4. Strategic Objective 2: To strive for excellence in the City schools

- a) City of London Academy, Islington hosted an event for Digital Day on 17 November 2015, where students from the City schools undertook digital challenges and found out about digital career opportunities.
- b) Exam scrutiny panel meetings were held in December 2015. The Chairmen and Principals from the City Corporation's three secondary academies presented their analysis of their examination results in summer 2015 and answered questions from the scrutiny panel.
- c) The City of London Academy (Southwark) and Redriff Primary School were successful in their application for the Maths Hub programme. The Maths Hub programme brings together mathematics education professionals in a collaborative national network of 35 hubs, each locally led by an outstanding school or college. Working across five boroughs (Southwark, Greenwich, Lewisham, Bexley and Bromley), the London SE hub is now in the process of assembling a group of strategic partners from neighbouring schools, colleges, universities, CPD providers, maths experts and employers and drawing up a plan of work, involving national collaborative and locally-designed projects, for the rest of this school year.

5. Strategic Objective 3: To inspire children through an enriched education and outreach opportunities

- a) The Learning and Engagement Forum met on 6 January 2016 and discussed a number of joint projects, including: the Headteachers' Conference, the School Visits Fund, the Great Fire website, and fundraising for forum initiatives.
- b) The Learning and Engagement Forum considered a proposal to develop the initial proposal for the Headteachers' Conference so that it

incorporates a wider campaign that can engage more schools. It was therefore agreed that in March there will be a 'soft launch' of a campaign to raise awareness in schools about the City's offer. This will be complimented by a number of targeted meetings and events to promote the City's offer directly to key stakeholders and will be followed by a full conference in September 2016.

6. Strategic Objective 4: To promote an effective transition from education to employment
 - a) Alderman Dr Andrew Parmley has accepted an invitation to become a member of the Apprenticeship Delivery Board. The Board has been created to advise on how best to expand the apprenticeship programme to deliver the Government's ambition of 3 million apprenticeships by 2020. Alderman Parmley will help to raise awareness of apprenticeships through events, speeches etc.
 - b) Apprenticeships in Law – preparations are underway for a round table discussion on 15 January 2016, where businesses will hear about opportunities for apprenticeships in the legal sector. The event, attended by law firms based in the City and wider London, will promote the new high level apprenticeships that are available for legal roles including: solicitor, legal executive, and paralegal.
 - c) Study into how the City can support youth employment in London – The Study Panel has made good progress over the last few months and will meet again on 20 January to finalise its recommendations and dissemination plans. The outcome of the Study will be launched at an event in March attended by businesses, livery companies and other partners keen to do more to support youth employment in London.
 - d) The 'Subjects in the City' programme has been extended to the end of this academic year. The programme will link a further 25 teachers at schools in neighbouring boroughs with expert employee volunteers from City businesses, giving context to the subjects they teach and making them relevant to the world of work. It supports teachers' professional development, enhancing their knowledge of the careers available in the City and their ability to give up-to-date information on career options to students.
 - e) Three Year 12 students from The City of London Academy (Southwark) undertook one-week work experience placements in December within the Community and Children's Services and Chamberlain's Departments. All of the students gave positive feedback, agreeing that they felt more informed about the world of work as a result of their placements. The Employee Volunteering team is now starting to recruit summer placement hosts for all three of the City Corporation's academies.
7. Strategic Objective 5: To explore opportunities to expand the City's education portfolio and influence on education throughout London

- a) Members will receive a verbal update on the free school programme at the January meeting of the Education Board.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

8. The Education Strategy complements and supports the City Corporation's corporate policies and objectives, as set out in the Corporate Plan 2013-2017.

Joshua Burton

Policy Officer

T: 020 7332 1432

E: joshua.burton@cityoflondon.gov.uk