

Committee	Dated:
Education Board	24/09/2020
Subject: Education Activities Update	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
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Summary

This report updates Members on summer events and activities across the three strategies overseen by the Education Board: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning, and Skills. A calendar of forums and events for 2020/21 academic year (2020/21) is included in **Appendix 1**.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the update on summer events and activities across the three strategy areas;
- Note the calendar of forums and events over the 2020/21 academic year in **Appendix 1**.
- Note the interim report of the City of London Academies Trust Summer Programme in **Appendix 2**.

Main Report

Education

1. City of London Academies Trust – Summer Provision

In July 2020, the Town Clerk in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Education Board, approved the provision of £70K from the COVID-19 Contingency Fund to support City of London Academies Trust (CoLAT) to deliver a 10-day summer catch-up programme to be delivered over August 2020. The programme would focus on addressing learning gaps in English and Maths for pupils in Years 6 and 10 to support transitions into secondary school and GCSEs respectively. CoLAT were asked to submit an interim evaluation report in September with the headline outcomes and a more detailed evaluation report to be submitted in December analysing the impact of the programmes. The interim report is included in **Appendix 2**. The headlines are:

- The programme was targeted at pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium.
- Projects were delivered at each academy with Year 10 and 5 cohorts. Each academy provided a bespoke menu of activities, but all of the projects provided both academic and pastoral support, including support with trauma and anxiety.
- Health and safety precautions related to COVID-19 were taken at each of the sites.
- Overall, a total of 345 pupils and six sixth formers attended the programme for at least 90% of the sessions. This equates to approximately 41% of the invited eligible cohort.
- Of the Pupil Premium cohort, the attendance was slightly higher, with an average 42% of disadvantaged pupils attending more than 90% of the sessions.

- Lower than anticipated rates of attendance could be attributed to the circumstances and emotions of families and children surrounding COVID-19 and the summer heatwave.
- A more detailed evaluation comparing the results of the cohort who attended the provision with similar pupils who did not will be provided to the Education Board for their December 2020 meeting.

Skills

2. London Careers Festival Summer Resources

LCF 2020 had a particular focus on achieving long-term impact. One of the ways in which this has been achieved is by providing ongoing access to resources and opportunities which schools, pupils, parents and other interested individuals can access, free of charge, via the London Careers Festival website throughout the year. Directly following the festival, the website was updated to include a 'Summer 2020' page which lists a number of relevant opportunities for pupils including a competition, summer workshops, a career exploration quiz, summer school opportunities, activities designed to improve pupils' numeracy skills and more. These opportunities come from a variety of organisations including Microsoft, Financial Times, SACU Student, Faith United, Investment20/20 and others. Further information on all available summer opportunities available on the LCF website can be accessed here:

www.londoncareersfestival.org.uk/summer-2020/

Cultural & Creative Learning

3. Culture Mile Learning – Online Mentoring

Due to cultural venue closures, Culture Mile Learning (CML) were unable to run the summer work experience programme face-to-face and so adapted the project into an online mentoring programme run over Zoom. CML recruited a group of young people who are soon to be leaving care in Islington and identified their career aspirations before matching them with relatable and inspirational mentors working in sectors they are interested in, including: jewellery design, video editing, screen printing, creative entrepreneurship and youth workshop facilitation. Over the summer and early autumn, 10 young people will have three sessions each with their mentor. They will learn about their mentor's job role and complete a work-based task which will highlight and develop the key fusion skills needed in that role. Though the initial sessions have taken place over Zoom for safeguarding and social-distancing reasons, several of the young people have already had offers of some kind of real-world opportunities including being a runner on video shoots, a placement with a screen printing studio, and a placement at the Goldsmiths' Centre.

4. Culture Mile Play Packs

Since May, Culture Mile and learning partners have been designing and distributing creative Play Packs for families. These packs contain creative activities inspired by cultural organisations and art materials including chalks, string, and coloured paper and are designed to children and parents' fusion skills. The Play Packs have been a way to sustain cultural engagement for vulnerable families over the period of venue closures. So far over 9,000 packs have been distributed across London via food banks and charitable organisations to families most in need, including those without access to computers or the internet. The feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive and has highlighted the joy

they have brought to families during these stressful and unprecedented times. Electronic versions can be viewed here: www.culturemile.london/playpacks

Upcoming activities

5. Risk Assurance Training (virtual) – 23 September 2020, 9-10:30am
Training course for school leadership teams, governors, and cultural learning venues on risk assessment and risk assurance delivered by Head of Health and Safety at the City Corporation. The training will focus on the consideration of risk in decision-making and the appropriate methods and tools to effectively manage risk and provide risk assurance.
6. Fusion Cities 2 (virtual) – 9 October 2020
Following the success of Fusion Cities 1 in June 2019 which convened cities and organisations of international best practice in fusion skills to identify the challenges, Fusion Cities 2 will be delivered as a virtual event focused on system-wide transformation through cross-sector collaboration and partnership development. The event will feature a range of high-profile speakers sharing their perspective on fusion skills and their experience of fusion skills development across education, the arts, work and lifelong learning. These will be complemented by parallel sessions facilitated by subject-matter experts which will encourage sharing of methods and approaches and foster new relationships so that organisational/local change can enhance system/global change. The event involves active participation and experiential learning.
7. City Schools' Conference (virtual) – 3 November 2020
The annual City Schools' Conference will be held virtually and will focus on Retain (keeping hold of the things which improved or progressed during school closures), Recovery (addressing gaps in education and wellbeing as a result of school closures) and Reform (using the lessons learnt to reflect on the future of education and skills development). As with previous years, the conference will be a practical and interactive meeting focused on implementable strategies and approaches.
8. The calendar of forums and events over the 2020/21 academic year is included in **Appendix 1**. The calendar reflects the plans for a continued online provision of events and forums over the Autumn Term, with plans for face-to-face provision from January 2021. The Education Strategy Unit and partners will remain alert to Government announcements which may affect these plans and adjust accordingly.

Appendices

- **Appendix 1** – Calendar of Forums and Events over the 2020/21 Academic Year
- **Appendix 2** – CoLAT Summer Provision 2020, Interim Report

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