

|  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| <b>Committee(s)</b><br>Education Board   | <b>Dated:</b><br>19/11/2020 |
| <b>Subject:</b><br>Education Activities Update   | Public                      |
| <b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>  | 3, 8, 9 & 10                |
| <b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>   | N                           |
| <b>If so, how much?</b>  | N/A                         |
| <b>What is the source of Funding?</b>  | N/A                         |
| <b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>  | N/A                         |
| <b>Report of:</b><br>Director of Community and Children's Services   | For Information             |
| <b>Report author(s):</b><br>Catherine McGovern, Business Administration and Events Apprentice<br>Daniel McGrady, Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills) |                             |

### 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 2020/21 academic year is included in **Appendix 1**.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Note the update on Autumn events and activities across the three strategy areas;
- Note the calendar of forums and events over the 2020/21 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

#### Education

2. Chair of Governors' Forum – 15 September 2020  
The first Chair of Governors' Forum of the new academic year took place on 15 September 2020 and was well attended. Chairs of Governors used the opportunity to share experiences of reopening following the school closures of over the Spring and Summer 2020.
3. Headteachers' Forum – 17 September 2020

The first Headteachers' Forum of the new academic year took place on 17 September 2020 and was well attended. The Forum covered the latest statutory guidance for schools reopening and start-of-year updates from each of the Family of Schools.

4. Risk Assurance Training (virtual) – 23 September 2020, 9-10:30am

On 23 September 2020, school leadership teams, governors, and cultural learning venues attended a training course on risk assessment and risk assurance delivered by the Head of Health and Safety at the City Corporation. The training focused on the consideration of risk in decision-making and the appropriate methods and tools to effectively manage risk and provide risk assurance. The training session was accessed by over 80 people.

5. Family of Schools Partnership Forum – 29 September 2020, 8:30-10am

Representatives from each of the Family of Schools attended a Partnership Forum focusing on school-to-school partnership working and upcoming collaboration opportunities across the City's independent schools and academies. The meeting was also an opportunity for cross-phase collaboration from the Sixth Form offer through to primary and early years. The first meeting focused on building on the existing partnerships between schools as well as the vision for cross-school partnership working, including what excellent partnership working looks like and the development of a future action plan. The Forum will be coordinated by the Partnership Director of the City of London School and City of London School for Girls and aligns well the cultural partnerships developed through the Cultural and Creative Learning Forum and the business/industry partnerships developed through the Skills Forum.

6. Family of Schools Black History Month Activities

The City of London Family of Schools have been celebrating Black History Month through a variety of ways including through culture and creativity, engagement with the community, engagement with parents, resources, inspirational talks, literature, discussions, newsletters, assemblies and lessons. Two featured examples include:

- The City of London Academy Southwark (CoLAS) conducted a socially distanced assembly on their AstroTurf in celebration of Black History Month. One student spoke on behalf of the student body about the need to learn from the past in order to create a better future. Another student read his own poem linked to race and identity in modern London. Finally, a third student sang a rendition of 'Amazing Grace' and 'Something Inside so Strong'. The event was symbolic of how passionate, driven and articulate the school community are on the topic of celebrating diversity.
- The City of London Primary Academy Islington (CoLPAI) has been addressing the topic of racism through inspiring stories, role models and engaging parents in their children's learning. Teachers have also shared their own stories of influential black figures who have inspired them across literature, art, music, STEM and sports.

7. City Schools' Conference (virtual) – 3 November 2020

The annual City Schools' Conference was held virtually and focused 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 was a practical and interactive meeting focused on implementable strategies and

approaches. The conference was well attended with 58 attendees representing school leaders, middle and curriculum leaders and partner organisations including Culture Mile Learning and business and research partners.

8. School Performance Scrutiny Meetings – Wednesday 4 November 2020  
The Standards Scrutiny Meetings are an important aspect of the Accountability Framework to ensure exceptional education is delivered through the City Corporation's sponsored academies. An update on the Scrutiny Meetings is submitted as a separate item in the 19 November 2019 agenda.

## **Skills**

9. Skills Forum  
The first Skills Forum of the new academic year took place on 6 October 2020 and was well attended. The Forum featured guests from Investment2020 and the Chartered Institute for Security and Investments sharing their work-related and skills development programmes, explored the evaluation of the London Careers Festival 2020 and started a key discussion on how school closures impacted pupils' and teachers' fusion skills.
10. Fusion Cities 2 (virtual) – 9 October 2020  
Fusion Cities 2 was delivered as a virtual event and focused on system-wide transformation through cross-sector collaboration and partnership development. The event was opened by the Lord Mayor, Alderman William Russell, the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan and HRH Princess Dana Firas of Jordan. The event featured a range of high-profile speakers and welcomed over 200 highly experienced professionals from a range of industries, sectors and countries to share their perspective on fusion skills and systematic change towards fusion skills development across education, the arts, work and lifelong learning and to incite action around Fusion Skills. The event involved active participation and experiential learning. A full evaluation report is being developed and will be submitted to the Education Board at their January 2021 meeting.

## **Cultural & Creative Learning**

11. Culture and Creative Learning Forum  
The first Culture and Creative Learning Forum of the academic year took place on 15 October 2020 and was well attended. In this meeting schools shared approaches and resources for celebrating Black History Month and heard about cultural learning projects and resources from St Paul's Cathedral, the Museum of London, Barbican-Guildhall Creative Learning and the City Corporation's Open Spaces Learning Team.
12. Culture Mile Learning - Fusion Prize Award Ceremony: 29 October 2020  
The Lord Mayor hosted the Fusion Prize Virtual Award Ceremony and announced Nate Agbetu and Ayo Fagbemi as winners of the £50,000 Fusion Prize. Their winning project, The Pattern, is an alternative curriculum for young people aged 18+ and no longer in full time education, to access the creative and cultural industries, addressing the barriers to access. Their programme will be created by and for fringe communities, including the Latinx community, the QTPOC (Queer, Transgender and Intersex People of Colour) space, Muslim Sisterhood and the UK Student Climate Network. The Fusion Prize shortlist also included digital badging for cultural activities, training for the growing profession of experience designers, a podcast for ex-offenders, and digital platform nurturing new kinds of artistic and journalistic talent and high calibre digital media training.

The Fusion Prize Team will be continuing to seek investment for these four finalist teams over the coming months.

## **Proposals**

### **Upcoming activities**

13. The Education Unit has transitioned its events and activities to online delivery in the Autumn and Spring Terms. It is currently unclear whether face-to-face delivery will be possible in the Summer Term 2021 and so the Education Unit are working with stakeholders to plan for virtual events and identifying those activities which would really be enriched by face-to-face provision as a priority for any face-to-face activity where possible.
14. Introduction to Safeguarding and Advanced Safeguarding Governors' Training (virtual) - 9 December 2020  
The Introduction to Safeguarding training will take place between 8:30-9:45am and the Advanced Safeguarding training will take place between 10-12pm. The training sessions will be delivered by an independent Safeguarding Consultant. Governors and Designated Safeguarding Leads who have not had training or where the training occurred more than two years ago should attend the appropriate session, with the Introduction to Safeguarding course being best for those governors new to safeguarding or requiring an update and the Advanced Safeguarding course being more suitable for those governors with existing experience in safeguarding roles or taking on additional safeguarding responsibilities such as safeguarding lead governors or staff taking on statutory safeguarding roles.
15. Due to the restrictions on face-to-face events, the Prefects' Dinner this year has been cancelled. The Education Unit are liaising with the Chamberlain's Court to identify if there are other privileges that the City can provide to prefects in the City Family of Schools to acknowledge their commitment.
16. The calendar of forums and events over the 2020/21 academic year is included in **Appendix 1.**

### **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 2020/21 academic year

**Appendix 1 – Calendar of Forums and Events over the 2020/21 Academic Year**

### **Catherine McGovern**

Business Administration and Events Apprentice

T: 020 7332 1864

E: [Catherine.McGovern@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.McGovern@cityoflondon.gov.uk)

**Daniel McGrady**

Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills)

T: 07935208179

E: [Daniel.McGrady@cityoflondon.gov.uk](mailto:Daniel.McGrady@cityoflondon.gov.uk)