

<b>Committee(s):</b> Education Board (For Decision) Community and Children’s Services Committee (For Information) Policy and Resources Committee (For Decision) Court of Common Council	<b>Dated:</b> 17/06/2024 20/09/2024 26/09/2024  10/10/2024
<b>Subject:</b> Education Strategy Update	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diverse Engaged Communities</li> <li>• Providing Excellent Services</li> <li>• Leading Sustainable Environment</li> </ul>
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	<b>N</b>
<b>If so, how much?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Community and Children’s Services	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Dr Deborah Bell, Strategic Director of Education and Skills <a href="mailto:deborah.bell@cityoflondon.gov.uk">deborah.bell@cityoflondon.gov.uk</a>	

### Summary

This report updates Members on final development work for the 2024-29 Education Strategy. The report:

- Advises Members that Education Board approved the Education Strategy 2024-29 on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024.
- Requests approval of the document content (not it’s design), so that the Education Strategy can progress to the next phase of delivery.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to approve the Education Strategy 2024-29.

# Main Report

## Background

1. As noted in the February 2023 meeting of the Education Board, the Education, Cultural & Creative Learning and Skills Strategies 2019-23 expired at the end of the 2023 calendar year. As this fell in the middle of an academic year, to minimise disruption to ongoing activity, the Education Strategy Unit (ESU), with the approval of Education Board Members, continued to deliver against these strategies until the end of the 2023/24 academic year.
2. Development of the new strategic framework has been delivered through multiple workstreams. The ESU conducted desk research which looked at three areas: (1) An analysis of the previous strategies; (2) A review of the current and near-future education landscape; (3) Identifying opportunities within the Corporation.
3. In parallel to this, extensive stakeholder engagement took place. In all, 121 people were engaged from groups including: teachers, headteachers, multi-academy trust CEOs, governors, education charities, education researchers, employers, arts & culture professionals, skills development specialists, the City of London Family of Schools (FoS), local authority officers, Members of the Education Board and Livery Companies & Guild Members.
4. Additionally, over 350 pupils across the Family of Schools were engaged via a pupil survey, and a small group of parents from the Family of Schools were engaged through a bespoke research project developed in collaboration with Brunel University.
5. After distilling the combined findings of the landscape research and stakeholder engagement, seven areas emerged as options for the priorities which are central to the new Education Strategy. These were, 'Educational Excellence'; 'Health, Safety & Wellbeing'; 'Equity, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)'; 'Personal Development'; 'Employability'; 'Culture, Sport, Creativity & The Arts'; 'Technology'.
6. At the February 2024 meeting of the Education Board, Members decided that the new strategy should be structured around five explicit priority areas, these being:

Educational Excellence  
Health, Safety & Wellbeing  
Personal Development  
Employability  
Culture, Sport, Creativity & The Arts

Alongside this, Education Board Members decided that Equity, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI), Environmental and Outdoor Learning, and Technology should exist as overarching themes that run through all activity in all areas. Inclusion of those with additional and special education needs is also a key feature.

7. At the April 2024 meeting of the Education Board, Members reviewed and approved the proposed lists of actions and outcomes associated with each priority area. Members were also updated on elements of preparatory work being developed to support delivery against the new priorities.
8. The Education Strategy was brought to the Community and Children's Services Committee on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2024 for information.

### **Current Position**

9. The start of the document now features a foreword from the Chair of the Education Board and the 'Introduction' section has been updated to better illustrate 'golden threads' to the Corporate Plan 2024-2029. Particular attention has been paid to both the Equity, Equality, Diversity & Inclusion, and Environmental & Outdoor Learning sections which have been further expanded. The 'Context' section has also been updated to reference Technology more explicitly. Inclusion of those with additional and special educational needs has been strengthened.
10. To illustrate the fact that the City Corporation is already delivering work that aligns with the new priority areas, examples of existing activity have been included in each priority section's introduction. Additionally, the actions and outcomes listed in each priority section have been adjusted in line with input from the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Education Board.
11. Finally, over-arching measures have now been included in each priority section. These measures have been developed in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair of the Education Board, the Strategic Director of Education and Skills, and the Corporate Strategy & Performance Team.

### **Options**

12. To approve the draft Education Strategy which reflects aspects of educational delivery that the City of London Corporation can realistically and ambitiously deliver without interfering with the operational delivery of schooling which is the remit of City of London Academy Trust, The Aldgate School, CLS, CLSG, CLFS and CLJS.
13. Not to approve and return to the Education Board and ESU for further work which would render the City of London Corporation without an Education Strategy for the start of the academic year 2024-25.

### **Proposals**

14. With the development process for this piece of work now complete and approved by the Education Board, the Education Strategy Unit requests approval of this document from the Policy and Resources Committee, and then move into the production and delivery phase for the new academic year.

## **Conclusion**

15. This report has highlighted the work which has taken place to develop the 2024-29 Education Strategy and asks Members to approve the draft so that the work can progress to the next phase.

## **Strategic Implications**

16. Strategic Implications - This work is aligned with and will contribute to the outcomes of the City Corporation's Corporate Plan 2024-29, specifically 'Providing Excellent Services', 'Diverse Engaged Communities' and 'Leading Sustainable Environment'.

## **Financial Implications**

17. None, existing approved resources will continue to be deployed.

## **Resource Implications**

18. None, existing approved resources will continue to be deployed.

## **Legal Implications**

19. None

## **Risk Implications**

20. None

## **Equalities Implications**

21. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been undertaken.

## **Climate Implications**

22. None

## **Security Implications**

23. None

## **Appendices**

- **Appendix 1:** Education Strategy 2024-29 Full Draft - August 2024

