

Committee:	Date:	Item no.
Community and Children's Services Education Board	14 November 2014 4 December 2014	
Subject: Education of Primary Aged Children in the City of London	Public	
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information	
<u>Summary</u>		
<p>This report is to update Members on the education of primary aged children resident in the City of London.</p> <p>Attached to this report as Appendix 1 is the <i>Primary Education in the City of London Annual Report 2014</i>, which reports on the quality of provision, attainment, attendance and admissions for the majority of primary aged City children attending schools in Islington and the City.</p> <p>The key findings for Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years Foundation Stage outcomes improved between 2012/13 and 2013/14 with children performing well above the national benchmark. • In the phonics screening check outcomes for Year 1 children fell in 2013/14, below all other comparators. • Key Stage 1 outcomes dipped slightly in reading and mathematics. • Key Stage 2 outcomes for Level 4 and above in reading, writing and mathematics combined were at 93%, a slight dip compared with 2012/13. • Key Stage 2 outcomes at Level 5 and above declined, except in writing which improved, with reading now below all other comparators. <p>The key findings for all City resident children educated in the City and Islington schools are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Stage 1 outcomes at Level 2 in writing and mathematics were 100%, with a slight decline in reading. • Key Stage 2 outcomes at Level 4 were 100% in all areas. • Key Stage 2 outcomes at Level 5 in reading at Prior Weston were 100%. • All City children made at least two levels of progress in all areas. <p>Attached as Appendix 2 is a document for information explaining the National Curriculum, Key Stages and expected levels of attainment.</p> <p>This report will help to inform the Education Strategy for the City, and informs Members, governors and wider partners about the education performance of children at Sir John Cass's Foundation and Prior Weston primary schools.</p> <p>Recommendation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Members note the content of the <i>Primary Education in the City of London Annual Report 2014</i>. 		

Main Report

Background

1. This is the second Primary Education in the City of London Annual Report reported to this committee. In previous years the educational attainment of children attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School has been reported to the Corporate Parenting Group.
2. Although Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School has been judged as 'outstanding' in the previous two Ofsted inspections, the majority of primary aged children resident in the City attend schools in Islington, mainly Prior Weston Primary School, a school twice judged 'satisfactory' in previous inspections but subsequently judged as 'good' in its last Ofsted inspection in 2012. In order to support the outcomes of children attending Prior Weston, the Department has funded opportunities to raise attainment across areas of the curriculum within the school.

Current Position

3. Attached to this report as Appendix 1 is the *Primary Education in the City of London Annual Report 2014*. This is the second of what is intended to be a regular report which looks at how well the education service in the City is performing and meeting our aspirations for children and young people's educational outcomes. It is important to note that the numbers of children in some of these analyses are often very small, particularly when the outturns are split into sub-groups of individual year groups. In a small cohort a small change in numbers can lead to a large change in a percentage outturn. One should exercise caution when making comparisons on outturns based on small numbers of children.
4. The main findings of the report are:
 - Our one maintained primary school, Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School, has been judged 'outstanding' in its last two Ofsted inspections.
 - Early Years Foundation Stage outcomes improved between 2012/13 and 2013/14 with children performing well above the national benchmark.
 - In the phonics screening check, outcomes for Year 1 children fell in 2013/14, below all other comparators.
 - Key Stage 1 outcomes dipped slightly in reading and mathematics for children attending Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School. However, 100% of City children achieved Level 2 in writing and mathematics.
 - 100% of City children achieved Level 4 outcomes in all areas at Key Stage 2, the expected level of attainment, in the 2013/14 academic year.
 - Key Stage 2 outcomes at Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School at Level 5 and above declined, except in writing which improved, with reading now below all other comparators.

5. With the exception of mathematics outcomes at Level 5, there have been improved outcomes for City children attending school at Prior Weston in all areas. Despite the ‘health warning’ in paragraph 3 above on making comparisons on outturns based on small numbers, the Department has been in conversations with Sir John Cass’s Foundation Primary School to improve outcomes above Level 4 at Key Stage 2, and has resourced a project to target higher achievement in this area for the 2014/15 academic year.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

6. The City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013–2015, which encompasses all the education interests in the City, states: “*The City will ensure that every child resident in the City has access to high quality education that enables them to reach their academic and personal potential.*” The attached document demonstrates the support and the progress that the City is making in achieving this.

Implications

7. The City has a number of local authority statutory duties regarding education such as championing pupil and parent choice, securing a wide range of education options for parents and families, ensuring there are sufficient high-quality school places, coordinating fair admissions including for SEND, and promoting social justice by supporting vulnerable children.

Conclusion

8. *Primary Education in the City of London Annual Report 2014* is the second report which looks at how well the education service in the City is performing and meeting our aspirations for children and young people’s educational outcomes. It shows that progress has continued to be made, particularly for City children attending school in Islington. The report is one of the ways of informing Members, governors and wider partners about education performance in the City, and will help to inform the City’s Education Strategy as it continues to develop.

Background Papers

Education of primary aged children committee report, Community and Children’s Services Committee, 11 October 2013

City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013–2015 (10 October 2013)

Appendices

Appendix 1: *Primary Education in the City of London Annual Report 2014*

Appendix 2: *Education overview for children aged up to 16*

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