

<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
Education Board	5 March 2015
<b>Subject:</b> Education Strategy Update Report	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Community and Children's Services	<b>For Information</b>

### Summary

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.

A report including the full Education Strategy Development Plan will be submitted bi-annually.

### 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 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. Year 12 students from The City Academy Hackney (TCAH) and City of London Academy Islington (COLAI) attended City of London School for Girls' (CLSG) Higher Education Evening on 4 February, providing them with an opportunity to speak to university lecturers and admissions tutors from a number of the UK's top institutions, across a wide range of subject areas.
- b. The safeguarding training programme for governors at City schools is underway. Three sessions in February and March will help governors gain a deeper understanding of the relevant policies, legislation, and best practice. Further sessions will be offered in the Summer Term.
- c. On 6 February the City hosted a reception in the Old Library to celebrate COLAI's best ever exam results – 70% of students achieved the highest grades of 5 A\*-C passes including English and maths at GCSE; and almost 50% of A Level entrants secured an A\*-B grade.
- d. TCAH hosted its first information evening regarding Higher Education for sixth form students, supported by CLSG.

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

- a. At the inaugural meeting of Directors of Sixth Form a number of areas were identified where further collaboration could benefit the family of schools, including: A Level retention, 'Oxbridge' applications, careers days, a workshop on academic writing, pastoral care, and a continuation of the A Level subject workshops.
- b. The Headteachers' Forum met in January and discussed the on-going collaboration programme, future collaboration opportunities, how to achieve Progress 8 (lead by the TCAH's Principal), and received a presentation from "Place2Be" who provide therapeutic and mental health services within schools.
- c. The Chairmen of Governors' Forum met in February and received updates on the collaboration programme, the Education Board's work, validated exam results and league tables, school expansions, DBS requirements, and discussed how Chairmen of Governors can carry out effective skills assessments of their Boards.
- d. On Monday 9 February students from TCAH, COLAI and CLSG took part in a dragons den style event hosted by Mansion House.

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

- a. Open Spaces Department is currently reviewing its learning services and developing an 'Outcomes Framework'. The outcomes are linked to high level impacts developed for the learning programme which aim to 'make a

positive impact on the communities who use, or border, the City's open spaces through learning activities'. As part of the review, they are also looking at the delivery of services, and investigating ways of increasing efficiency and expected reach, as well as increasing sustainability.

- b. The whole of year 7 (240 pupils) from City of London Academy Southwark (COLAS) took 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.
- c. Students from the COLAI and COLAS visited the Old Bailey for a tour led by Charles Henty and the Recorder of London, a meeting with one of the judges and the Witness Service. An Evening Standard reporter also attended and wrote an article about the visit.
- d. Creative Learning
  - Continued development of the East London and City Culture Partnership (ELCCP) across 8 East London Boroughs. Three strands of activity are underway:
    - i. Creative Learning putting ELCCP principles into practice working with the 8 music hubs/Boroughs – a multi-artform plan has been developed for delivery over the 14/15 academic year, including 4 Catalyst Programmes (Guildhall Student engagement in East London, New York Philharmonic Family Concert, a Jazz Learning strategy and an East London showcase).
    - ii. Strategy Task Group – an initial meeting has been held with strategic representatives from East London Boroughs to help develop a broader framework for extending the partnership beyond music hubs and incorporating the wider cultural education ecology (to enable joint planning and stop duplication).
    - iii. Cultural organisations – a small group of key partners are being identified to work with us, beginning with our resident orchestra (LSO) and Associates.
  - Young Orchestra for London – 350 applicants for this project attended a series of workshops. The final orchestra of 100 young musicians has been selected to form an ensemble with representation from every London Borough, as well as a wide range of abilities and experience.
  - Pop up Performances – In December 360 pupils in Redbridge Primary schools experienced an interactive performance inspired by the work of Alan Lomax.
- e. The Sports and Community Development offer is open to all City schools and includes:
  - Opportunities to participate in the Virgin London Mini Marathon.
  - Primary School Swimming Gala at Golden Lane Sport & Fitness.

- Primary School Mini Netball Tournament at Golden Lane Sport & Fitness.
- Invites to the London Youth Games Cross Country event at Hampstead Heath (Secondary schools).
- Academies can use Golden Lane Sport & Fitness and Sports Development for work experience placements. Lewisham council certified the centre as an established work place provider. The first work experience placement took place in December with a student from COLAS.
- Students are invited to attend the Fit for Sport holiday programme at Golden Lane Sport & Fitness.
- Games Force Events Award - City students can enrol and gain the Sports Leaders UK Level 1 in Sports Volunteering.
- Bespoke programmes have also been developed for City of London School for Boys, CLSG, Sir John Cass's Foundation Primary School (SJC), and COLAS.

f. The Lord Mayor will host Year 6 Visits to Mansion House for Redriff Primary on 12 June 2015 and SJC on 19 October 2015

6. Strategic Objective 4: To promote an effective transition from education to employment

- a. The 'Inspiring City Role Models' programme, which is run by the national education charity Future First and funded by the City of London Corporation, encourages City workers who went to school in City fringe boroughs to sign up to alumni networks at their old school and act as mentors, work experience providers, and career and education role models to provide a gateway into the City for current students.
- b. Officers are currently liaising with the Chair of the Apprenticeships Ambassadors Network to identify a suitable date in June/July to hold a high-level roundtable discussion, chaired by the Lord Mayor and attended by a cross-section of senior city business representatives, on how city businesses could be encouraged to take on apprentices in greater numbers. Officers are undertaking some fact finding in this area including a survey of city businesses on attitudes to and awareness of apprenticeships.
- c. The Nominations Working Group has recommended two individuals to fill the remaining external representative posts on the Education Board. Both candidates have relevant expertise in promoting the transition from education to employment.
- d. On 4 March Year 9 and 10 students can attend Barber-Surgeons Hall for Livery Schools Link's annual showcase event. Students will have the opportunity to meet people from a wide range of careers, to broaden their employment horizons, speak with apprentices in the Livery Companies Apprenticeship Scheme.

7. Strategic Objective 5: To explore opportunities to expand the City's education portfolio and influence on education throughout London
  - a. The EFA interview for the free school applications took place on 5 February.
  - b. On 25 February the Lord Mayor hosted a debate for the City & Guilds Group on the theme of Skills for the UK's Economic Competitiveness, Prosperity and Growth. Chaired by Andrew Neil, the panellists included: Nick Boles MP (Minister of State for Skills and Equalities), Baroness Sal Brinton (Liberal Democrat President), Rt. Hon. Liam Byrne MP (Shadow Universities, Science and Skills Minister) John Cridland (CBI Director General), and Frances O'Grady (TUC General Secretary).

### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

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

### **Appendices**

None.

### **Background paper**

City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013–15.

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