

Committee(s)	Dated:
Education Board	21 May 2015
Subject: Education Strategy Update Report	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information

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) An ISI inspection of CLFS took place in the first week of May, with a team of nine inspectors completing their task on Friday 1st May. During their

visit, inspectors met staff and pupils and observed several lessons; they looked at virtually every aspect of the School's life during the inspection. At the end of the inspection, the Headmaster, Chair of Governors and senior staff were given preliminary feedback which was overwhelmingly positive in every aspect. The inspectors were pleased to receive a large number of completed surveys from parents and pupils and every member of the inspection team commented on the enthusiasm, and courtesy of the pupils and the pride which they take in their school.

- b) The Education Strategy Adviser has carried out an analysis of the predicted 2015 examination results which will be reported to the Education Board at its meeting on 21 May 2015.
- c) COLAS were celebrating after being named the national schools under 17 Basketball Champions. The team won their final against Charnwood Academy (Leicester) who are an elite Basketball Academy and the final took place on 9 May at the University of East London Sportsdock.
- d) TCAH band "The Young Brasscals" has got into the National Music Festival and will be performing in Birmingham Town Hall on 10 July 2015

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

- a) CLSB organised a Neuroscience event to give Year 10 students a taste of current scientific research. The event took place in the Livery Hall on 5 May and was attended by the three City independent schools, students from TCAH and COLAS, and pupils from the Paddington Academy and a school from Walthamstow.
- b) Students from CLSG's Prep school held a "takeover day" at the Guildhall Art Gallery on 30 April and are now planning future activities based in the Art Gallery and the Museum of London.
- c) The Headteachers' Forum and Chairmen of Governors' Forum will meet in June and receive updates on collaboration activities planned for the summer term, a proposal on clerking arrangements, and will discuss the academic information that the City schools provide to the Education Board.

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

- a) The Learning and Engagement Forum
A combined bid from LMA, MoL and the Barbican for 'Hard Education' has been submitted to A New Direction's Cultural Education Challenge fund. The consultation and scoping work for the project is about to begin and Coda Consultants Ltd have been commissioned to carry out the work – this will be complete by the end of July.

b) The Barbican

- i. Around the current gallery exhibition Magnificent Obsessions the Barbican has been trialling a new model of schools engagement. A private viewing attracted over 30 teachers based in east London and introduced the exhibition and ways in which it could be incorporated into schools work. A schools focussed tour and resources have been developed to be delivered by Gallery hosts and front of house staff – the first schools who have booked for this have given overwhelmingly positive feedback and the Barbican aim to develop and build on this model for future exhibitions.
- ii. During the Barbican's New York Philharmonic residency in March a range of learning projects took place. An interactive digital installation 'build your own orchestra' enabled visitors to manipulate video and sound recordings of the orchestra and engaged hundreds of visitors across the five days. A family day took over the foyers with free workshops and performances, prior to a stunning family performance in the concert hall which incorporated live and recorded puppetry, video and performance. Musicians from the Barbican's Future Band ensemble collaborated with young people from New York – exchanging musical postcards over a period of several months culminating in performances of their brand new collaborative compositions.

c) Open Spaces

- i. The Open Spaces Department has responded to the new national curriculum through developing and delivering a new programme of education sessions across the City's open spaces. They are currently delivering learning to schools and the public in 17 London boroughs (over half of the London boroughs) through the Open Spaces' schools and events programmes. Open Spaces have developed a new framework for learning (play, education and volunteering) work focusing on five areas of impact: understanding, confidence, involvement, wellbeing and connection. They have broken their impact areas down into measurable outcomes which they will start to evaluate across their programmes and services in the coming year to understand their true impact on London through learning.

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

- a) A proposed decision-making process for new ideas for employability initiatives, plus assessment criteria and guidelines for which types of idea the process would cover is being considered by P&R committee on 28 May. The proposals do not restrict new ideas for activity coming forward or reviews existing activity already underway but the intention is to put in

place a common process to systematically assess the range of ideas that come forward.

7. Strategic Objective 5: To explore opportunities to expand the City's education portfolio and influence on education throughout London
 - a) The Islington and Southwark free school project boards held productive meetings. Following these meetings the first DfE deadline was met when the initial marketing plan, governance plan, recruitment plan, admissions policy and procedures for managing conflicts of interest were submitted to the Department. The project boards will meet monthly and the programme board, which held its first meeting on 6 May, will meet quarterly.
 - b) We are in discussions with Livery Schools Link about holding the annual livery careers showcase in Guildhall in Spring 2016. The event aims to benefit students in London in terms of widening their horizons towards employment, as well as being an excellent opportunity for Livery Companies to demonstrate the role they play in modern society. Discussions also continue with the Educators about holding a major education lecture.

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.

Background paper

City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013–15.

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