

Committee:	Date:
Education Board	21 May 2015
Subject: Quality Assurance and Accountability Framework	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Summary	
<p>This report provides the Education Board with a proposed accountability framework to support the City Academies to achieve year on year improvement in educational attainment and standards of teaching and learning. In the case of the independent schools, the Education Board will receive exam results and public reports and discuss with the Chairmen of the Boards of Governors and Town Clerk what further support the Education Unit can provide.</p>	
Recommendation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members are asked to note this report and approve the accountability framework that it sets out. 	

Main Report

Background

1. This report provides the Education Board with a proposed accountability framework to support the City Academies to achieve year on year improvement in educational attainment and standards of teaching and learning to ensure that it meets its responsibility as a sponsor.
2. The framework excludes the City's independent schools whose performances are reviewed separately by their respective Board of Governors. However there is still merit in sharing these performance results with the Education Board to encourage discussions with the Chairmen of the Boards of Governors and Town Clerk what further support the Education Unit could provide.

Quality Assurance and Accountability Framework

3. The Education Strategy includes a commitment to establish an improvement and accountability framework to support the City Academies to achieve year on year improvement in educational attainment and standards of teaching and learning.
4. The improvement and accountability framework will also be a mechanism for the early identification of any signs of underperformance to enable timely and effective intervention and action. The framework needs to be proportionate, reasonable and appropriate to ensure that the City is able to support and

challenge its Academies appropriately, and flexible enough to include any additional Academies that may join the City family.

5. The framework for clearer accountability, challenge and support will be developed in partnership with Academies and their governing bodies, co-sponsors and relevant local authority representatives to establish a shared view of how to promote improvement, including arrangements for early identification and action to address any signs of underperformance.
6. The Education Unit will report to the Education Board on the performance of the City Academies on Attainment and Progress Measures annually and on the progress towards improvement targets termly.
7. Analysis of the public examinations at GCSE and A level, shall take place annually and a report be provided to the Board for the October meeting. This information is collated from that provided by the Academies and that published about the Academies. The report should show the 3 year trends. Discussion will take place with each Academy individually on their data. Chairmen of Governors will be assisted to use this in their target setting for the Academy.
8. A further report will be produced in the spring term following publication of the validated results as shown in Raise on Line and the Data Dashboard by the Department of Education. This data will give a detailed comparison against schools locally and nationally on a number of measures. In addition, City Academies will be asked to provide their predicted grades so that they can be considered by the Education Board at its December meeting.
9. The Education Unit will gather the information from Academies under the Ofsted Framework headings:
 - Attainment and Progress
 - Quality of Teaching
 - Leadership (including governance)
 - Behaviour (including Attendance, Safety and Exclusions)
10. The Inspection Framework sets out clearly the standards to be attained and each school should have its own self-evaluation against these standards. The Education Unit will require Headteachers to provide a copy of the current analysis.
11. It is expected that each of the City Academies have well-established arrangements for external challenge and support from local authority or other school improvement providers and there is no intention to change arrangements that are working well. City Academies will be asked to outline their arrangements and agree how the outcomes of challenge and support

activity will be reported as part of the accountability framework. The Education Unit will receive copies of reports on the standards observed at the Academy by any external agencies. If an Academy has no external moderation of standards in place we will require them to commission a 'health check mini inspection'.

12. Visits will be made termly to the Academies by the Education Advisor to discuss the standards and improvement strategies in place to ensure that all Academies are progressing towards the 'Outstanding' quality mark.

13. In addition the Education Unit will collect information on the following areas:

- Curriculum development
- Summary of term's activities
- Work experience and links with business
- Enrichment opportunities
- Use of City's open spaces and cultural institutions
- Participation in City schools' activities and events

14. Termly reports to Governing Bodies usually include these aspects. In order to reduce the administrative burden on Headteachers a copy of the Academies report to the Governing Body should be sent to the Education Unit. This should limit requests for information from Academies. This information will then be collated and a summary reported to the Education Board.

15. Reports will be collected towards the end of each term and the first report will be produced for the January meeting of the Education Board and updated termly thereafter.

Background paper

City of London Corporation Education Strategy 2013 – 2015

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