

Southwark Schools Scrutiny in a day

9th March 2017, Noon – 5.00pm, ARK Globe Academy, Harper Road, London, SE1 6AG

On March 9th 2017 Southwark Council's Education and Children's Services scrutiny committee will be holding a 'scrutiny in a day' event, hosted by Globe Academy, in Walworth. You are invited to hear from community leaders and educational practitioners, and add your voice to the topics we will be discussing. We will be shining the scrutiny spotlight on the issues that matter most to our local residents: school governance, ensuring we secure great outcomes for all our young people post 16, and education funding.

The event is being organised by Southwark Council's Education and Children's services scrutiny committee, which is comprised of local councillors and education representatives, including headteachers, local diocese representatives and parent governors. Our role is to both scrutinise the council executive and contribute to policy development, in the council and beyond. The afternoon will be addressing three issues:

1. **School governance and involvement of parents:** change has been such a major feature of schools policy over the past few years and judging by the proposals in the recent 'Schools that Work for Everyone' consultation that trend is set to continue. There are now a number of different schools structures: Council maintained Academy schools, Multi- Academy Trusts, and free schools, with recent proposals to change the role of parent governors. How can we ensure that local parents and the community understand and can continue to input into schools, and support the work of our many great headteachers?
2. **Securing great outcomes for all our young people post 16:** most of our young people do well at exams, and the event will hear from some excellent providers of employment support and apprenticeships, but what more can we do to ensure there is a good post 16 offer, for a 100% of young people? Young people, educators, the council and business leaders have all identified the importance of really good work experience, excellent training, and high quality apprenticeships. We will explore how this can be achieved by working together.
3. **School Funding:** London schools are expected to be hit particularly hard by both changes to direct school funding and the predicted demise of local authority grants to provide school services. Cuts to schools could be up to 20%. Many Southwark schools are doing very well, with 75.5% of all secondary school pupils achieving five or more A*- C grades at GCSEs in 2016 and above average scores for both Progress 8 and Attainment 8. However, can we maintain this if resources go down?

The event will include presentations by local headteachers, council cabinet leads, local employers, Higher Education providers, young people, apprentices, parent governors and voluntary organisations. It is open to parents, teachers, community leaders and anybody with a stake in education in Southwark.

The Scrutiny in a Day will result in a published report, with recommendations, that will be sent to the council cabinet, local schools and other stakeholders. For more information please contact scrutiny project manager on julie.timbrell@southwark.gov.uk or 0207 525 0514.

We hope you can join us, please register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/southwark-schools-scrutiny-in-a-day-tickets-31687653625>

Best wishes

Cllr Jasmine Ali

Chair, Education and Children's services scrutiny committee