

<b>Item No.</b> 8.	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 12 December 2017	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Cabinet
<b>Report title:</b>		Southwark School Standards Report 2017	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>		Councillor Victoria Mills, Children and Schools	

## **FOREWORD BY COUNCILLOR VICTORIA MILLS, CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND SCHOOLS**

We believe in giving all our young people the best start in life. We know that what we learn and discover at school can profoundly influence what we are able to achieve later in life, and that a great education is a key to unlock each and every child's full potential. Making sure that all Southwark's schools support but also challenge our young people is at the very heart of all that we do. We are proud of our schools. They are above the national average in all external examination areas and 89% are judged as being good or outstanding by Ofsted.

This report sets out information on school standards and related areas in Southwark. It includes school results in external assessments as well as investigating the attainment of Looked After Children, and the attainment of children from a range of different pupil groups in Southwark. It challenges the council and our schools to ensure that high quality teaching is reaching and benefiting all our children. The report also sets out our schools' records on attendance and exclusions and sets out the recognition of teachers and governors through our awards programme. The council's Primary and Secondary Place Planning Strategy sets out extensive details of our work to ensure there is a local primary school place for every child, and we meet the demand for secondary school places. However, this report highlights the progress made over recent years to make sure parents and young people feel they can express and secure a genuine preference when applying for a school place.

We remain ambitious for our children and our schools. Our aim is that at every age, at every stage of assessment, and across all pupil groups, Southwark young people are outperforming their peers nationally, across London and against our statistical neighbours. Our children and young people deserve the very best and that's what we will always aim for.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That cabinet note the 'Best start in life - Southwark school standards report 2017' attached at Appendix 1.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2. Members requested a report on school standards in Southwark be produced that would set out information covering attainment across the borough. The attached report at Appendix 1 contains information on educational achievement ranging from Early Years Foundation Stage (5 years old), through

to A-levels. The report also contains data on post-16 not in education, employment or training (NEET) performance; the achievement of different groups, including Looked After Children; information on attendance and exclusion and school admissions.

### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

3. The key issues for consideration are included in the report at Appendix 1 - 'Best start in life – Southwark school standards report 2017'.
4. The 2017 data contained within this report is provisional. The Department for Education will provide validated results in December for primary phase and January for secondary phase.
5. We will update the report as required as soon as the validated results are published.

### **Policy implications**

6. The report at Appendix 1 is fully aligned to local planning and policy frameworks including the Council Plan, and Children and Young People's Plan 2016-18. These outline the council's continued commitment to meeting the demand for primary and secondary school places and supporting schools to be good or outstanding, with children and young people able to achieve their full potential.

### **Community impact statement**

7. The impact on communities of the issues and recommendation within the school standards report has been considered in line with Southwark's Approach to Equality. Generally the recommendations will have a positive impact on communities through the commitment to meeting the demand for primary and secondary school places and continuing to drive up standards across our schools.
8. The school standards report at Appendix 1 includes detailed information on the attainment of different pupil groups by race and ethnicity, disability, gender, age and disadvantage identified through pupil premium funding and/or eligibility for free school meals (including deprivation, adopted from care and children looked after). The report also includes information on what Southwark council intends to improve.

### **Resource implications**

9. There are no resource implications resulting from the recommendations in this report. The continued delivery of universal education services and statutory functions, including early years, school improvement, school admissions and youth services, specialist education and special educational needs services will continue to be provided via the existing education budget as set out in the council's Policy and Resources Strategy 2015-16 to 2017-18.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

### **Director of Law and Democracy**

10. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Cabinet on Southwark school standards in 2017.
11. The council is the relevant authority tasked with carrying out functions in relation to education and childcare in Southwark.
12. The council has a number of general duties in relation to the provision of education, including a duty to contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community, by securing that efficient primary, secondary and further education are available to meet the needs of the population of the area. Cabinet will note that the council itself maintains the significant majority of the schools discussed in the report; however the council's ability to develop new school proposals is now significantly restricted, and legislation enables existing maintained schools to convert to academy status which are outside of the council's ownership and control.
13. In respect of people aged under 20 (or over 20 if the council maintains an Education, Health and Care Plan for them), the council must also exercise its education and training functions with a view to promoting high standards, ensuring fair access to opportunities for education and training, and promoting the fulfilment of learning potential by every person to whom this duty applies.
14. More generally, in respect of the well-being of children, the council is under a duty to make arrangements to promote cooperation between the council and relevant partners to promote the well-being of children in the authority's area. The council is also under a duty to improve the well-being of young children and reduce inequalities between them. "Well-being" in this context relates to education and training, amongst other things.
15. As such, the preparation of a school standards report is something that can be said to be incidental to the council's functions in these areas.
16. In 2016 the Education and Inspections Act 2006 was amended. The Act makes provision for intervention by the local authority and/or the Secretary of State in relation to "schools causing concern". New section 60B of the Act extends these intervention powers to certain schools that are deemed to be "coasting". The definition of "coasting" schools is set out in the Coasting Schools (England) Regulations 2017. This document confirms that a maintained primary school or primary academy school will be coasting if, in the three school years from commencing 2013-14, fewer than 85% of its pupils achieve the expected standard across reading, writing and mathematics and pupils do not make sufficient progress, both as measured by national key stage 2 statistics. Secondary schools will be coasting if, in the three school years from commencing 2013/14, fewer than 60% of its pupils achieve the expected attainment standard and pupils do not make sufficient progress, both as measured by national key stage 4 statistics.
17. The inspection of schools is a function of the Chief Inspector of Schools. The assessment data for Key Stages 1 and 2, referred to in the report, arises from tests that schools are under a duty to administer; they must also report the results of those tests.

18. The Academies Act 2010 was also amended earlier this year to confer a duty on the Secretary of State to make an academy order in respect of a school found, after inspection, to require significant improvement or special measures.
19. Besides these more general duties, the council has a number of more specific functions in relation to education. Of particular relevance to the subject matter of the report are: the duty to exercise council functions with a view to promoting the effective participation by young people aged 16-18 in education or training; a duty to promote the educational achievement of children looked after by the council; a duty to make arrangements (so far as it is possible) to identify children in Southwark who are of compulsory school age but are not registered with a school and are not receiving suitable alternative education; and powers to instigate legal proceedings for non-school attendance.
20. When making its decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that Cabinet have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and other prohibited conduct and advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not. Information about the consideration given to equalities issues is set out in the Community Impact Statement.

#### **Strategic Director of Finance and Governance**

21. The strategic director of finance and governance notes the recommendations in this report which sets out information on school standards including school results in external assessments, attendance and exclusions from school, admissions, the attainment of Looked After Children, and the attainment of children from different pupil groups in Southwark.
22. The financial implications are outlined in the body of the report and highlight that funding is identified via existing education budget as set out in the council's Policy and Resources Strategy 2015-16 to 2017-18.

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At
Performance tables for school level and national 2014 KS2; GCSE and A Level attainment	Department for Education (DfE) website
<b>Web link:</b> <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/">http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/</a>	
School level and national pre 2014 KS2; GCSE and A level attainment	DfE website
<b>Web link:</b> <a href="http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/archive/index.shtml">http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance/archive/index.shtml</a>	
Local authority level and national KS1 and phonics attainments 2015	DfE website
<b>Web link (please copy and paste into your browser):</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/phonics-screening-check-and-key-stage-1-assessments-england-2015">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/phonics-screening-check-and-key-stage-1-assessments-england-2015</a>	
Local authority level and national KS2 data	DfE website
<b>Web link :</b> <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-curriculum-assesments-at-key-stage-2-2015-provisional">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-curriculum-assesments-at-key-stage-2-2015-provisional</a>	

## APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Best start in life – Southwark School Standards report 2017 (circulated separately)

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Victoria Mills, Children and Schools		
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Nina Dohel, Director of Education		
<b>Report Author</b>	Terry Segarty, Head of Standards 0-19		
<b>Version</b>	Final		
<b>Dated</b>	21 November 2017		
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No		
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>			
<b>Officer Title</b>		<b>Comments sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Director of Law and Democracy		Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance		Yes	Yes
<b>Cabinet Member</b>		Yes	Yes
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>			1 December 2017