

<b>Item No.</b> 9	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 6 July 2022	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Corporate Parenting Committee
<b>Report title:</b>		Annual Virtual Headteacher's Report	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Nina Dohel, Director of Education	

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Corporate Parenting Committee note the Virtual Headteacher's Report for Southwark looked after children.
2. That the Corporate Parenting Committee feed back any comments on Southwark looked after children's education for consideration by the Virtual School Headteacher.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. As the Corporate Parent for Southwark's looked after children, Southwark Council has a responsibility to ensure that the children within our care have the best possible chance of accomplishing high educational achievements.
4. The role of the the Virtual School Headteacher is to ensure that the educational achievement of children looked after by the authority is seen as a priority by everyone who has responsibilities for promoting their welfare. This includes ensuring that all have access to the best education provision, monitoring children's progress and ensuring swift action is taken in time of change and crisis to meet the child's educational needs.
5. Statutory guidance on 'Promoting the education of looked after children and previously looked after children' (Department for Education, 2018) requires Virtual School Headteachers to produce an annual report and to report regularly on the attainment, progress and school attendance of looked-after children through the authority's corporate parenting structures.
6. The Virtual Headteacher's report outlines the educational progress, attainment and attendance of Southwark's children in care in the 2020-21 school year. The report indicates key priorities for the Virtual School and provides an overview of pupil premium looked after children (LAC) spend.

## KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. The Virtual Headteacher's report is attached as Appendix 1.

## **Community, equalities (including socio-economic) and health impacts**

### **Community impact statement**

6. This education of looked after children is an important aspect of their care, and the work described in the report is expected to make an impact on the future life chances and opportunities for this part of the community.
7. The decision to note this report has been judged to have no or a very small impact on local people and communities.

### **Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement**

8. This paper applies to all children and young people in care of LB Southwark and includes details of the ethnic breakdown of this cohort as well as their Special Educational Needs.

### **Health impact statement**

9. This paper considers the education of children and young people in care of LB Southwark. Good education outcomes are closely correlated with positive health and well being.

### **Climate change implications**

10. There are no overt implications regarding climate change

### **Resource implications**

11. There are no resource implications of this report, which is provided for information.

### **Legal implications**

12. There are no additional legal implications at this time.

### **Financial implications**

13. This paper is for information only. There are no financial implications attached

### **Consultation**

14. The annual report includes case studies which aim to reflect the direct experiences of children and young people in care of LB Southwark

## **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

### **Director of Law and Governance**

15. Not applicable.

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

16. Not applicable.

### **Other officers**

17. Not applicable.

## **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

<b>Background Papers</b>	<b>Held At</b>	<b>Contact</b>
None		

## **APPENDICES**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>
Appendix 1	Virtual Headteacher's report

## **AUDIT TRAIL**

<b>Lead Officer</b>	David Quirke-Thornton, Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services	
<b>Report Author</b>	Usha Singh, Virtual School Headteacher	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	27 June 2022	
<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 Governance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>		27 June 2022