

<b>Item No.</b> 9.	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 6 December 2022	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Cabinet
<b>Report title:</b>		Southwark Standards Report 2021-22	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>		Councillor Jasmine Ali, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People, Education and Refugees	

## **FOREWORD - COUNCILLOR JASMINE ALI, DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE, EDUCATION AND REFUGEES**

This annual school standards report marks an important part of the council's calendar. Each year the report has shown an improvement in school standards as we move at pace towards our goal of 100% outstanding schools in Southwark. At the time of writing we are at 98% Ofsted rated good and outstanding. I could not be more proud of this council's education team, our parents, the fantastic teachers and school staff in this borough, and our exceptional children and young people for making this happen.

Disruption to learning as a result of the Covid19 pandemic has meant that many of our children suffered disruption to their place and quality of learning. This has had a detrimental impact on our youngest pupils and our most disadvantaged pupils who have felt the greatest impact.

However, it is now clear that this is improving as Southwark's pupils performed strongly in their most recent assessments, in many cases better than pupils across the rest of London and always better than pupil performance nationally.

The report shows improvements in *early years*, *phonics* and right across all the *Key Stages of education indicators*. With pupils with special educational needs and or disabilities performing better than their London counterparts and nationally.

Children in our care show improvements in GCSE results with more pupils doing well at A Levels and more of our care experienced young people going to university.

A fuller account of the highlights can be found in my foreword in the attached report and of course in the reports contents.

I ask cabinet to read the report, recognise and champion the successful outcomes and join me in thanking all those involved in making education such a success in Southwark.

I also ask cabinet to acknowledge the challenges and

- Maintain our commitment for 100% of good or outstanding schools for all and at the same time to redouble our efforts to work closely with schools to close the attainment gap between children from disadvantaged backgrounds and their better-off counterparts.
- Work closely with schools to make sure that all Southwark children impacted by the pandemic are supported to catch up on missed education
- Ensure provision for our children and young people with special educational needs and or disabilities is appropriate, good value for money and wherever possible, is delivered here in Southwark.
- To support the effective and sensitive management of surplus capacity in schools as a result of falling school rolls.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Cabinet note the Southwark Standards Report 2021-22 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

2. The Southwark Standards Report is an annual report on the attainment of pupils in Southwark from the previous year.
3. It reports performance in examinations or formal assessment, where they have taken place and/ or the information is publicly available.
4. It also provides information about the context schools were operating in that year.

### **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

5. 2021-22 was the first undisrupted academic year in schools since the pandemic began.
6. It was also the first year since 2018-19 that formal examinations and assessments were held, and so comparisons and trends are not consistently available.
7. Given the disruption of the previous three years, performance across all phases has very pleasing. Outcomes at every stage are once again consistently above the national average and in many areas above the London average.

8. The data contained within this report is provisional – we expect to see validated data in early 2023.
9. At the end of the academic year, 2021-22, 97% of Southwark’s schools were rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, which is an exceptional result and performance we can be very proud of.

### **Policy framework implications**

10. This report has been produced in the context of Southwark’s Council plan and borough plan (see background documents below) and supports the council’s aspirations to give its children and young people a great start in life.

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

#### **Community impact statement**

11. There are no community impacts anticipated from this report.

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

12. We have anecdotal information that younger children and children from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds have been disproportionately affected by the disruptions to their schooling in the last three years. We have targeted many support interventions towards these groups of pupils accordingly.

#### **Health impact statement**

13. We do not anticipate any impact on physical or mental health from the production of this report.

#### **Climate change implications**

14. There should be no additional adverse effects on climate change due to this report.

#### **Resource implications**

15. There are no additional resource implications attached to this report, as it is a retrospective report on performance in our schools.

## **Consultation**

16. This report contains information provided by the different relevant officers leading on performance across the different phases of schooling and education in Southwark.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

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

17. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the cabinet on Southwark school standards in 2021/22.
18. The council is tasked with carrying out local authority functions in relation to education in Southwark.
19. The council accordingly 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 is available to meet the needs of the population of the area. Cabinet will note that the council itself maintains a significant number 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.
20. In respect of young people aged under 20 (or over 20 if the council maintains an Education, Health and Care Plan for them), the council must make available support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training.
21. Furthermore, 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 statutory partners to improve the well-being of children in the council's area. "Well-being" in this context includes their education and training.
22. 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 and 17 year olds in education or training; a duty to maintain a tracking system to identify any 16 and 17 year olds who are not participating in education and training; and a duty to promote the educational achievement of children looked after by the council;.
23. As such, the preparation of a school standards report is something that is incidental to the council's functions in these areas in enabling the cabinet to see the extent to which aspects of these duties are being met. The

various duties described relate to the council's executive functions and whilst provision of this report is not identified in the constitution as specifically delegated to the cabinet, it assists in the cabinet's overall general responsibility of oversight of the authority's services in accordance with Part 3B of the constitution.

24. When making its decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that the cabinet has due regard to the need of the council 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 REF: [CAS22/17]**

25. The strategic director of finance and governance notes the recommendations of this report, which sets out information on school standards.
26. As noted in the report the challenge for the future is to ensure high quality education by ensuring that schools are full, well-funded and able to provide the specialist support that they need. In order to achieve this is especially important that schools have sufficient pupil numbers on roll as key driver for their funding. Therefore, the efficient management of the surplus capacity within Southwark's school system is crucial to achieve this goal.

**Other officers**

27. Not applicable.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
25 November, 2020, Council Assembly: Refresh of the Council Plan 2018-2022.  Item 6.1  And Appendix 1, Agenda Item 9.	Children's and Adults' Services, Education Directorate, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Nikki Tilson 0790 825 6018
<b>Link (please copy and paste into browser):</b> <a href="https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s92005/Report Council Plan.pdf">https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s92005/Report Council Plan.pdf</a>		
<b>Link (please copy and paste into browser):</b> <a href="https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/b50012014/Council Plan">https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/b50012014/Council Plan</a>		

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
<a href="#">2018-2022 Appendix updated Tuesday 08-Sep-2020 16.00 Cabinet.pdf?T=9</a>		
The Borough Plan	Children's and Adults' Services, Education Directorate, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Nikki Tilson 0790 825 6018
<b>Link (please copy and paste into browser):</b> <a href="https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s92006/Appendix A Southwarks Borough Plan 2020.pdf">https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s92006/Appendix A Southwarks Borough Plan 2020.pdf</a>		
Equalities Act 2010	Children's and Adults' Services, Education Directorate, 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Nikki Tilson 0790 825 6018
<b>Link:</b> <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents</a>		

## APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	The Southwark Standards Report

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Jasmine Ali, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Children, Young People, Education and Refugees	
<b>Lead Officer</b>	David Quirke-Thornton, Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services	
<b>Report Author</b>	Nikki Tilson, Principal Advisor, Education	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	24 November 2022	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes	
<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	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>		24 November 2022