

Decision Maker: **Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee**

Date: **10th March 2015**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

TITLE: UPDATE ON UNDER PERFORMING SCHOOLS

Contact Officer: Nina Newell, Head of Schools, Early Years Commissioning and Quality Assurance

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director, Education and Care Services

Ward: Boroughwide

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 Education Care and Health Services report annually on the standards of attainment and progress in Bromley schools. The report is based on an analysis of recently published National Curriculum assessments and summer 2014 GCSE/GCE examination results.
- 1.2 The report also includes an update on Bromley Academies providing detail of current Ofsted outcomes and an update for those schools still maintained by the Local Authority, showing detail of Ofsted visits and outcomes, outlining Local Authority intervention under the revised categorisation process and an updated analysis of risk.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 The Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee is asked to note :-

- **The annual report on the standards of attainment and progress in Bromley schools based on 2014 results with a particular focus on those pupils in receipt of pupil premium (based on Free School Meal eligibility).**
- **An update of Ofsted outcomes for Bromley academies.**
- **An update of Ofsted outcomes for Bromley maintained schools including detail in respect of schools identified as underperforming, an outline of the LA support and challenge provided and a RAG rating of risk.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: N/A
 2. Ongoing costs: N/A
 3. Budget head/performance centre: School Standards
 4. Total current budget for this head: £445,350
 5. Source of funding: The approved service budget is funded from Council Revenue and Dedicated Schools Grant.
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional) -
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours - N/A
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory requirement: The LA has a number of statutory duties to secure school improvement and to meet the statutory targets with respect to attainment of children and young people a duty of care to all children and young people in all Bromley schools
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected) - 47,000 children and young people in 95 schools and other education settings (e.g. PRS).
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

3.1 This report highlights the standards achieved in Bromley schools during the academic year September 2013 to July 2014 and highlights the performance of discrete groups of children. The analysis has been used with a suite of other indicators as outlined in the report 'Categorisation, Intervention and Support for High Priority Schools in Bromley' endorsed at a meeting of the Education Policy Decision and Scrutiny Committee on 23rd January 2013. This report draws from the results of teacher assessment undertaken at the end of the reception year and Key Stage 1, National Curriculum tests conducted at the end of Key Stage 2 and GCSE and GCE A-level examinations (**Appendix 1**).

3.2 OVERVIEW

3.3 Early Years Foundation Stage (4-5 year olds)

3.4 In the Early Years Foundation Stage, children are assessed across seven areas of learning, the prime areas being communication and language, physical development and personal social and emotional development and additional specific areas of learning being literacy, mathematics, understanding the world and expressive arts and design. Assessments are determined through teachers' professional judgements which are moderated across all schools; there are no set tasks or tests.

3.5 The overall percentage of children achieving a good level of development across all areas was 68 in Bromley against a national percentage of 60 with girls outperforming boys in Bromley and nationally. 51% of children in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) reached a good level of development, against 68% of non FSM children, **a gap of 19% against a national gap of 19% and improvement of + 5% on 2013.**

3.6 Key Stage 1 (6-7 year olds)

3.7 The Year 1 Phonics Screening Check shows an increase from 75% to 82% achieving the expected standard, a **7% increase** on 2013 and **8% higher** than the national average. However although there was an increase on 2013 with 64% of FSM children achieving the expected standard this is still showing **a gap of 21% against a national gap of 16% (-5%)**

3.8 Across Key Stage 1 Bromley's performance remains above the national average at all levels. At level 2+ non FSM children still outperformed FSM children in all areas. The gap in Bromley is still wider than the national figures , although there is evidence of a continued improvement from 2013:-

- **In reading the gap was 14% against a national gap of 12% and a gap in 2013 of 15%, an improvement of 1%**
- **In writing the gap was 18% against a national gap of 14% and a gap of 20% in 2013 an improvement of 2%**
- **In mathematics the gap was 11% against a national gap of 9% and a gap in 2013 of 13% an improvement of 2%**

3.9 Key Stage 2 (10-11 year olds)

3.10 The overall performance at Key Stage 2 in Bromley remains above the national average overall at all levels.

3.11 The % of pupils achieving 2 levels of progress is above national average and has improved since 2013.

- 3.12 At Key Stage 2 Level 4+, girls still outperformed boys in all subjects, but the gap is smaller in mathematics. This mirrors the picture nationally.
- 3.13 At Level 4+ reading, writing and mathematics combined, the gap for pupils eligible for FSM in 2014 was 18% against a national figure of 18%. The gap in 2013 was 20% an improvement of 2%.
- 3.14 The National floor target for Level 4+ in reading, writing and mathematics combined is 65% (60% in 2013) The number of schools in Bromley **below** this target is **4 (10 in 2013) of which 2 are academies. This is an improvement of +6 on 2013.**
- 3.15 **Overall, Bromley's Key Stage 2 attainment results are consistently above the national average with improvement on 2013. There still remains a range of achievement across Bromley primary schools, however there is evidence that the gap between those in receipt of Free School Meals and the rest of the cohort is narrowing.**
- 3.16 **Key Stage 4 (16 year olds)**
- 3.17 The 2014 average for the percentage 5+A*-C including English and mathematics is above national average but has decreased 8% from 2013. **This shows a worse picture than the decrease nationally of just 4%.**
- 3.18 There has been a corresponding decrease in the percentage of pupils gaining 5+ A*-C including English and mathematics who are eligible for Free Schools Meals in Bromley, which has decreased to 37% compared with 68% Non FSM – **a gap of 31% compared with a gap of 28% in 2013 and 26% nationally.**
- 3.19 **Overall attainment in Bromley's schools is above the national average. However whilst there is evidence that the gap between those children on FSM and others is closing in the primary phase, this has not been mirrored at KS4. Although attainment at KS4 has reduced it must be noted that there have been significant changes to how performance is measured and it is expected that there will be an improvement in secondary school performance in coming years.**
- 3.20 **LA CATEGORISATION AND SUPPORT**
- 3.21 A report to the Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee on 23 January 2013 outlined a revised process for categorisation, intervention and support in local authority maintained schools, and part of this process involves the analysis of school performance using the data in Appendix 1, together with other indicators, to provide targeted support where schools are not meeting the required performance levels.
- 3.22 As the performance of children in receipt of pupil premium was identified as needing particular focus in Bromley, this data is now included when assessing the support needed by a school and, as reported to this committee in March 2014, all schools with an Ofsted outcome below good will automatically be considered as a high priority school. Data is analysed as an initial indicator of potential issues within a school which need to be investigated to determine if intervention is needed. Other changes which can affect the performance of a school, such as a change of Head Teacher, will also be taken into consideration.
- 3.23 Since the last report, as at 14 February there have been 2 Ofsted visits – one re-inspection at Bromley Road Primary School and one monitoring visit at Worsley Bridge Primary School, neither of which are yet in the public domain.
- 3.24 The table at **Appendix 2** provides detail of current Ofsted outcomes in Bromley academy schools.

- 3.25 The table at **Appendix 3** details all current outcomes in Bromley maintained schools, detailing any subsequent visits. It also provides information in respect of the challenge and support provided to all maintained schools by the Local Authority. Risk has been assessed in line with the categorisation process outlined above, together with recent inspection reports and HMI follow up visits plus local school intelligence.
- 3.26 The support and challenge provided to schools is co-ordinated using a combination of the Local Authority staff team, externally commissioned consultants and brokered school to school support. Where Head Teachers are reluctant to engage with the support available from the Local Authority, challenge is provided by the Head of Schools and Early Years, and where necessary the Assistant Director Education or Director of Education Health and Care Services.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Education Portfolio Plan highlights as a main aim promoting educational opportunity in the borough, ensuring all families have a choice of good and outstanding schools.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Council has a statutory duty to provide support and challenge to schools (Education and Inspection Act 2006) in order to raise attainment and to intervene in schools causing concern.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Personnel Implications, Financial Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Education Portfolio Plan 2014