

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**Briefing for Care Services
Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee
28th June 2016**

Virtual School Annual Report 2015/16

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1. Summary

- 1.1 Local authorities have a duty under the Children Act 1989 to safeguard and promote the welfare of a child looked after by them. This includes a particular duty to promote the child's educational achievement, wherever they live or are educated. The authority must therefore give particular attention to the educational implications of any decision about the welfare of those children, including children who have been placed for adoption until the court makes the adoption order giving parental responsibility to the adoptive parents.
- 1.2 Every local authority is required to ensure that a Virtual School Head Teacher is in place, giving that officer responsibility for arrangements which ensure that looked after children have access to a suitable range of high quality education placement options and that there are robust procedures in place to monitor the attendance and educational progress of the children in its care.
- 1.3 Reporting on the progress, performance and development of the Virtual school is a key activity and the annual Report of the Virtual School Head Teacher is a requirement of Ofsted during an inspection.

2. THE BRIEFING

- 2.1 The committee is asked to note the content of the attached report (Appendix 1).