

Subject:	Annual Standards Report		
Date of Meeting:	12 January 2014		
Report of:	Executive Director Children's Services		
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND POLICY CONTEXT**

- 1.1 The local authority has a statutory duty to promote high standards in schools and to intervene where there are significant concerns about pupils' progress or wellbeing. The LA Ofsted framework states clearly Ofsted's expectation that the local authority know the attainment and progress being made in schools in the area.
- 1.2 This report contains an analysis of the End of Key Stage results for children and young people in the city and the progress towards closing the gaps in achievement. Some of this data is still provisional.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That That the Committee notes the report about standards achieved in Brighton & Hove schools, colleges and settings in the academic 2013/2014.

3. CONTEXT/ BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 School Effectiveness
The percentage of schools judged to be good or outstanding in the city has fallen from 80% in summer 2013 to 77.8% in summer 2014. The percentage of pupils attending a school judged to be good or outstanding at the end of the academic year 2013-2104 was 79.4%. Her Majesty's Chief Inspector's report is due out later this year which ranks all Local Authorities in this measure. We continue to focus on the schools which we believe may be vulnerable to losing their judgement of good as well as supporting and challenging schools to get to good at their next inspection.
- 3.2 Standards and Achievement
The attached report shows that performance in the city is in line or above that nationally in Early Years, Key Stage One, Key Stage Two and Key Stage Five. The LA RAISE online shows that the main priorities for these phases are phonics and writing and we are addressing these issues.
In Key Stage Four, performance has dropped below the national and this remains our key priority.

- 3.3 Closing the gap
We want to ensure that every child in the city achieve well and this is not yet the case for some children from vulnerable groups. The attached report outlines the performance of the different groups in detail, but shows that there is much more to be done. The groups on which we will focus this year are: 'disadvantaged' pupils (those in receipt of Pupil Premium). Children and young people from Black Minority Ethnic groups, children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability and children in care.

4. ANALYSIS & CONSIDERATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 4.1 Schools supporting schools is the option promoted nationally as the way forward for school improvement and is a driver for our School Improvement Strategy. This is going alongside an increased challenge role from officers in the Standards and Achievement Team.

5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & CONSULTATION

- 5.1 Headteachers and councillors have received some of the information contained in this report and meetings are planned to share the validated data. It has not been the subject of community engagement or consultation. It reflects however the way in which the authority, schools, colleges and other settings engage with each other to secure improved standards and achievement.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The early data suggests an improving picture across the LA in almost all phases of education. However, there have been significant national changes to GCSE which have affected the outcomes.
- 6.2 The priorities for the year 2014 – 2015 are:

For all schools to become good or outstanding through:
Improving GCSE outcomes
Closing the achievement gaps between vulnerable groups and their peers
Phonics at Year One
Writing across Key Stage One and Key Stage Two

7. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications for schools arising from this report. Schools should be aiming to spend their budget on increasing the attainment of all pupils and in particular to use their Pupil Premium funding to close the attainment gap for those in vulnerable groups. The authority will continue to support and challenge them to do so.

Finance Officer Consulted: Andy Moore Date: 27/11/14

Legal Implications:

- 7.2 Local Authorities have a statutory duty under section 13A of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that their functions in relation to the provision of education are exercised with a view to promoting high standards. This report informs the committee how the Council is seeking to fulfil this duty.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston Date: 10/10/14

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Appendix 1 Annual Standards Report 2013 – 2014 December Version

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None

