

TITLE OF REPORT: Annual Report Service and School Performance (Learning and Schools)

REPORT OF: Caroline O'Neill – Strategic Director, Care, Wellbeing and Learning

Purpose of the Report

1. The report summarises the performance of Gateshead schools for the academic year 2017/18. Statutory assessments/examination performance alongside judgements from Ofsted inspections are used to give proxy indicators of the effectiveness of Gateshead's school improvement services.

In addition, the report also summaries the academic performance of Gateshead's looked after children.

Background

2. A key target for the school improvement element of the Learning and Schools Service is to ensure that schools are performing well and providing Gateshead children and young people with the best start to life and preparing them for further learning, training or employment.

Proposal

3. Available data strongly suggests that the Council's school improvement services are having a positive impact on improving the outcomes for children and young people in maintained schools. There is a weaker performance overall, and more variation in the non-maintained sector where the Council has limited influence.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that Cabinet agrees the annual report.

For the following reason:

The Council's school improvement services are effectively supporting maintained schools in providing our children and young people with a good education resulting in strong outcomes.

APPENDIX 1

Policy Context

1. The report is consistent with the Council's School Intervention and Support Policy.

Background

2. Schools that perform well place the success of all of their children and young people at the centre of all their activity. Academisation has resulted in 9 out of 10 secondary schools no longer being maintained by the Council. Of the remaining schools in Gateshead (Nursery, Primary and Special) only 4 have decided to become academies. Therefore, in Gateshead we have a polarised system with secondary education standards and performance the responsibility of the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Council retaining the responsibility for the clear majority of primary and special schools.

Statutory pupil performance data and results from Ofsted inspections suggests

- Maintained schools, in general, are performing well.
- Academic performance by the end of primary education is very strong with Gateshead attaining a national rank of 16 and 93% of primary schools being judged to be good or better.
- The special school sector is performing well with all schools judged to be good or better.
- Pupil progress slows in the secondary sector and there is a significant variation in the quality of education on offer to pupils, as judged by Ofsted. Only 1 school in this sector is maintained by the Council.
- There are still significant challenges for the Council in accelerating the performance of vulnerable groups, such as LAC, within Gateshead.

Consultation

3. The Cabinet Members for Children and Young People have been consulted.

Alternative Options

4. There are no alternative options.

Implications of Recommended Option

5. Resources:

- a) **Financial Implications** – The Strategic Director, Corporate Resources confirms there are no financial implications as a result of this report.
- b) **Human Resources Implications** – There are no specific implications arising from this report.
- c) **Property Implications** - There are no specific implications arising from this report.

6. **Risk Management Implication** - none
7. **Equality and Diversity Implications** - none at this stage
8. **Crime and Disorder Implications** – none
9. **Health Implications** - none
10. **Sustainability Implications** - none
11. **Human Rights Implications** -
12. **Area and Ward Implications** - none

Background Information