

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting8th October 2015

1. Title of Item/Report

School Performance 2014-2015 for Vulnerable Pupils

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report that presented an analysis of school performance in the academic year 2014 – 2015 for vulnerable pupils including:-

- Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding;
- Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN);
- Performance of boys;
- Black and minority ethnic children;
- Looked After Children;
- Attendance and exclusion figures for Stockton.

Gaps between the attainment of disadvantaged pupils in comparison with their peers had improved for the expected level of attainment at the end of Key Stage 1 (level 2b+) in Reading and Writing. The gap in attainment had also improved at the higher level (3+) in Reading and Maths. However, the gap in attainment had widened in Maths (level 2b+) and Writing (level 3+).

At the end of Key Stage 2, most measures showed a narrowing of the gap in the attainment and progress of disadvantaged pupils compared to their peers, with specific reference to progress in Reading. Expected progress in Maths (2 levels of progress) and above expected progress in Writing (3 levels of progress) will be a focus of work in 2015/2016.

At Key Stage 4, the results for disadvantaged pupils showed improvement as gaps had narrowed. Whilst gaps had narrowed, it was possible they would still be more than the gaps nationally.

For the purposes of comparing the gap in attainment for pupils with SEN with that of their peers with no SEN it was important to note that there would be an expected gap and a slower rate of progress for pupils in Specialist Provision that had complex needs.

For those students without a Statement or EHCP the gap with their peers had improved in a number of areas at the end of KS1, however the gap had widened at the higher level (3+) in all areas. The gap in attainment for those with a Statement/EHCP in mainstream had been very positive upward trend in most areas. The gap had widened specifically at L3+ writing.

The actions that were planned in 2015-16 for the Schools and SEN Service and specifically the 0-25 SEN team in order to improve outcomes further were detailed within the report.

The performance of girls continued to outstrip boys except at the higher level for maths where boys outperform girls. Gaps between the attainment of boys and girls had improved for the expected level of attainment at the end of Key Stage 1 (level 2b+) in Reading and Writing. The gap in attainment had also improved at the higher level (3+) in Maths. However, the gap in attainment had widened in Reading and Writing (level 3+).

The report compared outcomes of children and young people who were White British (WBRI) and their BME Peers.

Attendance continued to be above the national averages for all primary and secondary schools. Persistent absence was aligned to all primary schools and significantly below all secondary schools. Exclusion figures continued to be significantly below the average for LACYP nationally. In 2015 there were 56.5 days of fixed term exclusion, 25 of these days were due to one child, the provision for this child which was challenged by the LA and VS and appropriate support was provided. Of the 12 pupils with Persistent Absence-, 5 were recent to care; 5 had placement issues; 1 went into secure accommodation and 1 had historical absences.

A table within the report showed the breakdown of secondary fixed term exclusions by year group, gender and SEN status. It illustrated that approximately three quarters (73.5%) of all fixed term exclusions were boys.

RESOLVED that the standards and achievement across the Borough be noted.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The annual report on standards across the borough enables Cabinet to monitor standards and achievement and to evaluate the impact of local authority monitoring, challenge, intervention and support.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None.

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Mrs Wilburn declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 8 - School Performance 201415 for Vulnerable Pupils as her grandson had special educational needs.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight on 16th October 2015

Proper Officer
12 October 2015