

Meeting: Education Advisory Board

Subject: School Improvement Priorities for 2017/18

Date: 3rd October 2017

Report from: Alison Jeffery, Director of Children, Families and Education

Report by: Mike Stoneman, Deputy Director of Children, Families and Education – Education Service

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report provides an outline of the council's school improvement priorities for 2017/18 and an update on the targeted work undertaken by the Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance on behalf of the council to provide school improvement support to LA Maintained schools.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that members of the Education Advisory Board endorse the priorities for school improvement support for 2017/18 and note the support that was provided in 2016/17.**

3. School Improvement Support

Background

- 3.1 The council has a statutory duty to improve standards and ensure that the schools that fall under the council's responsibility (referred to as LA Maintained Schools) maintain high standards. Whilst many of the city's schools have joined Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), over 50% of schools remain under the responsibility of the council.
- 3.2 Furthermore, despite the freedoms and flexibilities granted to schools under the Academies Act 2010, local authorities retain a legal responsibility for performance in the area as a whole (under the 1996 Education Act). In addition, there is an expectation for local authorities to act as strategic commissioners for all schools.
- 3.3 It is in this context that the Portsmouth Education Partnership (PEP) was established in November 2016; a schools-led Partnership bringing together Multi Academy Trusts, individual schools and academies, the Local Authority, Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance, colleges, early years settings and a range of key partners in order to collectively drive improved attainment and opportunity for all children and young people

across the city. As part of these new arrangements a School Improvement Board has been established which is chaired by a Headteacher. The Board oversees the main priorities for school improvement across the city and is developing a collaborative school improvement programme, sharing information about the support that is available (a school to school support directory has been developed) and co-ordinating applications for school improvement funding (e.g. Strategic School Improvement Fund).

- 3.3 Targeted school improvement support for LA Maintained schools has been outsourced by the council to the Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance which reports into the School Improvement Board.

PEP Performance Dashboard 2017

- 3.4 The School Improvement Board has also developed a Performance Dashboard which RAG rates a range of indicators across all key stages in schools. This in turn helps to inform and prioritise the schools that need the most support. The latest version of the Performance Dashboard is attached at Appendix 1 together with details of the criteria that are used to RAG rate the indicators. The latest version is based on provisional results and information that is currently available. Further updates to the Dashboard will be made during the course of the year.
- 3.5 All schools will be sent a copy of the Dashboard with the RAG rating that is specific to their school during the first half of the Autumn term. For LA Maintained Schools this will determine whether they are a Priority 1, 2 or 3 school (Priority 1 in schools in need of the greatest support) and will in turn inform the amount of support schools will receive from the Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance. All Priority 1 schools will be visited before half term and all Priority 2 schools will be visited by the end of the Autumn term.
- 3.4 Multi Academy Trusts and individual academies are also sent the Dashboard information. Whilst academies are not prioritised in the same way as LA Maintained schools, academies are asked to respond to areas of concern and also to share areas of strength. This is also informing the annual meetings the council and the Teaching School is having with Multi Academy Trusts in the first half of the Autumn term.
- 3.6 The table below sets out the current prioritisation of both LA Maintained Schools and Academies. It is important to note that for most of the secondary schools a priority number is not given as we are still waiting for progress data.

Table 1: Prioritisation of schools (LA Maintained and Academies)

LA maintained schools	
School name	Overall Priority
Copnor Primary School	1
Cottage Grove Primary School	1
Devonshire Infant School	1
Fernhurst Junior School	1
King Richard School	1
Milton Park Primary School	1
Northern Parade Junior School	1
Portsdown Primary School	1
St Jude's Primary School	1
Bramble Infant School	2
St George's Primary School	2
Wimborne Junior School	2
Corpus Christi Primary School	3
Craneswater Junior School	3
Cumberland Infant School	3
Langstone Infant School	3
Langstone Junior School	3
Manor Infant School	3
Mayfield School	3
Medina Primary School	3
Meon Infant School	3
Meredith Infant School	3
Northern Parade Infant School	3
Penhale Infant School	3
Southsea Infant School	3
St John's Cathedral Primary School	3
St Paul's Primary School	3
St Swithun's Primary School	3
Stamshaw Infant School	3
Wimborne Infant School	3
College Park Infant School	
St Edmunds RC School	

Academy schools	
School name	Overall Priority
ARK Ayrton Primary Academy	1
ARK Dickens Primary Academy	1
Court Lane Junior School	1
Isambard Brunel Junior School	1
Lyndhurst Junior School	1
Meon Junior School	1
Solent Junior School	1
Westover Primary School	1
Arundel Court Primary Academy	2
Beacon View Primary Academy	2
Stamshaw Junior School	2
The Flying Bull Academy	2
Court Lane Infant School	3
Gatcombe Park Primary School	3
Highbury Primary School	3
Moorings Way Infant School	3
Newbridge Junior School	3
Solent Infant School	3
The Victory Primary School	3
Admiral Lord Nelson School	
Charter Academy	
Miltoncross School	
Portsmouth Academy	
Priory School	
Springfield School	
Trafalgar School	

Notes:

- Secondary schools are based on Ofsted grade only. 2016/17 Progress 8 scores are not yet available, and national results have not been published.
- Priority ratings for primary schools do not include results by pupil characteristics (apart from KS2 by gender), because national results have not been published.

- KS2 coasting uses 2016/17 results compared to 2015/16 coasting definition.

Strategic School Improvement Fund

- 3.7 As stated above the School Improvement Board is also responsible for agreeing and co-ordinating applications for school improvement funding. The most significant opportunity that is currently available is through the national Strategic School Improvement Fund (SSIF). Three bids were submitted in July 2017 under Round 1 of the fund for
- Challenge the Gap – to improve outcomes for disadvantaged children across all key stages
 - SEN – to improve outcomes for pupils on SEN Support in mainstream schools across all key stages
 - Maths – to improve outcomes in maths in Key Stages 1 and 2
- 3.8 The Challenge the Gap was the only successful bid but it should be noted it was only one of six successful bids in the South East and was the only successful bid in the Solent and Hampshire sub region.
- 3.9 The Challenge the Gap programme is now underway involving 18 schools in 3 clusters (LA Maintained Schools and Academies). Details of the programme are given at [Appendix 2](#).

School improvement areas for development in 2017/18

- 3.10 In addition to the above the following areas will be prioritized for support:
- Continue to prioritise support for those pupils who have SEN/D in mainstream and will support special schools as necessary.
 - Continue to prioritise support to improve progress in core subjects at all Key Stages through subject training and networks as well as in school support from SLEs and other specialists.
 - Provide leadership training at all levels from early leadership (pre-middle leadership) to Executive Head leadership support. The Portsmouth TSA will also be running a Leadership conference on 1st November at the Marriott Hotel and have secured national speakers including Dame Alison Peacock, Andy Buck and Robert Hill.

School Improvement Support in 2016/17

- 3.11 In 2016/17 the Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance delivered a comprehensive range of school improvement support for LA Maintained Schools. A brief summary of this support is given at [Appendix 3](#).

Appendices:

Appendix 1: PEP Performance Dashboard 2017 (based on provisional results - to be tabled due to confidential data)

Appendix 2: Challenge the Gap Programme

Appendix 3: PEP School Improvement Update