

EDUCATION ADVISORY BOARD

RECORD OF DECISIONS of the meeting of the Education Advisory Board held on Tuesday, 2 October 2018 at 4.00 pm at the Guildhall, Portsmouth

Present

Councillor Suzy Horton (in the Chair)
Councillors Tom Coles

Alison Jeffery, Director Children, Families and Education
Mike Stoneman, Deputy Director of Children, Families and Education
Jo Peach, Director of Learning, Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance
Hilary Loder, Independent Chair of the Portsmouth Education Partnership Strategic Board
Rob Sanders, Anglican Diocese Representative

12. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Neill Young.

13. Declarations of interests

Councillor Tom Coles declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as he is on the Academy Advisory Board at Penhale Infant School.

Councillor Suzy Horton declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest as she is a governor at Craneswater Junior School.

14. Minutes of the previous meeting - 3 July 2018

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2018 be confirmed and signed by the chair as a correct record.

15. Provisional results 2018: EYFSP, KS1, KS2 and KS4

Mike Stoneman, Deputy Director for Children, Families and Education took members through the presentation slides included with the papers for the meeting. He explained that the results would be validated in January. The Council did not yet have the KS4 progress and attainment 8 scores. The KS4 results are based on the returns from the schools. It was anticipated that the KS4 results would be ready towards the end of the month.

In terms of Ofsted judgements Portsmouth was now close to the national average for this with 85.7% of schools being judged as good or outstanding the national average is 86.1%. There are no schools that are judged to be

inadequate but the remaining 8 schools require improvement. Mr Stoneman referred to the two day inspection of Westover Primary School which is one of the schools that is requiring improvement.

For Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Portsmouth had seen a very slight drop in the GLD measure from 71% to 70% which for the first time is now slightly below the national average. Ms Peach added that this had been heavily skewed due to three schools. However, the EYFS average point score is above the national average and the Council is putting targeted support in place for literacy which was contributing to the GLD drop.

In terms of the proportion of pupils meeting the phonics standard in Year 1 the gap between Portsmouth and the national average has closed slightly as a result of 2% point increase from 77% to 79%, with national increasing by 1% point to 82%.

Key Stage 1

KS1 reading at expected standard remained the same as last year at 74% with the gap to national reducing slightly. For KS1 writing at expected standard there was a 1% increase but the gap to national has widened slightly due to a national increase of 2% points. Mr Stoneman added that the Council is working closely with schools through the moderation process and associated training / CPD. Ms Peach added that they are confident that writing will improve and the improvement can be seen in pupils' books already. There has also been strong attendance at CPD events. KS1 maths at expected standard has remained at 73% and nationally this increased by 1% meaning the gap has widened.

Key Stage 2

For the combined measure of Reading, Writing and Maths at expected standard there was a decrease of 1% which was a disappointment. Mr Stoneman explained that there were a variety of reasons for this and included a dip in maths and in specific schools. Reading has improved by 1% this year however nationally this increased by 3% so the gap has widened. Writing has also increased by 1%. Maths has dropped from 71% to 68%. The Portsmouth Education Partnership had predicted this and a bid was submitted to the Strategic School Improvement Fund for KS2 maths, but it was not successful. A back up plan is in place working with Solent Maths Hub targeting 7 schools that have not engaged with maths mastery. The Solent Maths Hub is also able to provide a range of CPD for schools - most of which is free.

With regard to KS2 progress scores there have been declines since 2017 across all three measures - reading had dropped by 0.1 points, writing by 0.3 and maths by 0.3.

Key Stage 4

For pupils achieving a strong pass (grade 5 or above) this remained at 37%. Numbers achieving a standard pass for English and Maths have remained at 58% which was the same for both 2016 and 2017. The national figures are not yet available but it appeared that nationally the figures had not increased

significantly. The expectation is that there will be a significant improvement next year based on local intelligence and predicted results.

The number of pupils achieving a strong pass in English had decreased by 1% and the Council were still waiting for the national data. KS4 standard pass for English had decreased by 2% compared to 2017.

Overall KS4 was a fairly static picture and Mr Stoneman said it would be interesting to see how Portsmouth ranks against the statistical neighbours. It was hoped that the details of the statistical neighbours would be available next month.

For KS4 attainment 8 this decreased by 1.1% compared to last year but these scores are not directly comparable over time due to changes in methodology. With regard to the percentage of pupils entering the EBacc for 2018 this increased by 2% compared to last year and has been above national for the last few years.

In response to questions the following matters were clarified:

- The council, through the PEP, has been doing a lot of work with the Solent Maths Hub and the number of schools in the mastery programme has increased. There has also been CPD and targeted support through schools. Officers were unsure why the performance in maths had dropped. Ms Peach added that it had been difficult getting some Portsmouth schools to engage. All case studies show Portsmouth schools improve after completing the programme. The recruitment and retention of teachers and school attendance are also significant factors that are hampering improvements.
- The Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance has looked at which schools have not performed well in maths - some of those schools have not engaged. Ms Peach referred to Langstone Junior School who undertook the training and their results in maths were excellent.
- Mr Stoneman explained they are setting up a sub group of the School Improvement Board which Jane Bush is heading. She will be starting with the schools within her multi academy trust first.
- The recent Ofsted inspections have been very encouraging and they are seeing good teaching and leadership.
- Attendance levels at secondary are some way below the national average but at primary level it is around the national average.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

16. School improvement: priorities for 2018/19 and impact/outcomes of support delivered in 2017/18

The report was introduced by Ms Peach, Director of Learning at the Portsmouth Teaching School Alliance.

School to School Support

There were 92 individual projects for all Portsmouth schools. Ms Peach explained that this is only work that has come through work that she is directing and does not include any work that schools are organising themselves. 77% of the projects were rated as green, 94% amber or green and 6% red. For LA maintained schools there were 58 projects with 60% rated as green 86% amber or green and 11% red.

There were 7 Ofsted inspections for local authority schools in 2017/18 and all remained as Good. There were 30 maintained schools in 2017 and in September 2018 there are 24 maintained schools. These have just been prioritised and 5 are rated as priority 1 and 5 as priority 2. These will receive a lot of support.

The Teaching School Alliance have supported 19 other schools who were not a priority. Most of this has been done through Specialist Leaders of Education. They have completed over 50 days of in school support and are leading the way in the region.

School Improvement Priorities

Jo Peach explained that there are five main priorities that will continue into 2018/19. These are SEND in mainstream, closing the gap for disadvantaged pupils, improving outcomes for more able pupils, leadership and curriculum/subject specific support. The SEND priority started in January and this work was ongoing. They have obtained some really useful information as to how to improve the quality of teaching and have received some great evaluations of this so far.

Mr Stoneman added that the School Improvement Board met last week which had good representation. The PEP performance dashboard will be going out to schools next week. Multi academy trusts receive the same information which informs the annual conversation. If there are areas of strength in a particular area the PEP will ensure these are shared across the city. There are 11 trusts that the LA will be meeting with.

Ms Peach added that where there is good practice taking place across the city the PEP are considering making the data public. This will allow other schools to see what schools have particular strengths so they can ask for support from those schools if required. Mr Stoneman added that some of the issues are long standing issues and there are no quick fixes.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

Thanks to Hilary Loder, Independent Chair of the PEP Strategic Board

The Chair advised this was Hilary's last meeting as Independent Chair and a new Chair would be elected. Members and officers wished to place on record their thanks to Hilary.

The meeting concluded at 4.55 pm.

Councillor Suzy Horton
Chair