



Report for:
ACTION/INFORMATION

Item Number:

09

Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	NO (If yes state which paragraph of the Access to Information Rules, the exemption relates)
Title	Report on the Education of Looked After Children
Responsible Officer(s)	Judith Finlay, Director, Children and Families Services, Julie Lewis, Assistant Director, Schools Service, Marcella Phelan, Assistant Director, Planning, Commissioning and Partnerships.
Author(s)	Bridie McDonagh, Direct Line 0208 825 6648
Portfolio(s)	Cllr Binda Rai, Children and Young People.
For Consideration By	Corporate Parent Committee
Date to be Considered	July 17 th 2014
Implementation Date if Not Called In	
Affected Wards	All Wards
Area Committees	
Keywords/Index	Update on attainment targets for Year 11 Looked After Children, Updates Key Stage 1 & 2, Post 16. Other updates, John Lyon's projects overview.

Purpose of Report:

- a) To inform Members of the progress against targets for attainment in the public exams summer 2014 for Looked After Children in Year 11
- b) To update members on the current performance at the end of Key Stages 1 and 2 and Post 16.
- c) To outline to members progress on the John Lyon's, Easter and half term programme.

1. Recommendations

1.1 Members are invited to note this report and identify any additional information they would like to receive.

2. Reason for Decision and Options Considered

2.1. Achieving the best possible results at the end of Year 11 is a key element in achieving young people's future goals and aspirations. The Spring Term is a key period when the virtual school Looked After Children Education Team prioritise educational support for Looked After young people taking appropriate public exams. Looked After Children's targets include 5 good GCSEs at grades A* - C including English and Maths.

2.2 Further, this report updates members on education programmes covering school holiday periods and activities undertaken by the virtual school Looked After Children Education Team funded through the John Lyon's Charity and other funding sources.

3. Key Implications

Key Stage 4

It is a large Year 11 cohort this year. There are currently 44 young people in Year 11. Last year there were 27 young people in Year 11 and in 2011 there were 38 young people in Year 11, in 2010 there were 36.

Five young people have come in to care in Year 11 since December 2013 and one has left care.

Twenty young people are being educated in borough (12 last year). Sixteen are in mainstream schools, none in special and 4 in alternative provision. Alternative provision is provided as part of the EOTAS service (Education Other Than At School).

There are 24 young people being educated out of borough. Twelve are in mainstream schools, 7 in special schools, and 5 are in alternative provision. Out of this group, five students are living near enough to be able to access on-site Horizons support.

Currently, target grades are as follows:

12/44, 27% will achieve 5 A*-C including English and Maths.

15/44, 34% will achieve 5 A*-C grades.

25/44, 57% will achieve 5 A*-G grades.

34/44, 77% will achieve 1 A*-G grades.

As highlighted in the March Education Report, target grades are marginally down on predications, affected by some adverse circumstances such as emergency placement moves for individual students with complex needs. However, this year's cohort have worked hard and results are likely to exceed any to date. These will be fully reported on in the September results analysis for Corporate Parent.

Please Note

- These results refer to young people in care at the end of Year 11 irrespective of the length of time in care.
- Numbers per year group are statistically small; therefore each young person's individual performance has a bigger impact on the results than would be the case in a mainstream school, for example.

Key Stages 1 and 2

Key Stage 2

There are currently 19 children in year 6 (20 last year). Since the last report, 2 have gone home and one unaccompanied minor has arrived.

12 (63%) are currently attending Ealing schools, compared to 54% last year. Six children have statements of special educational needs and 4 children are in specialist educational provisions.

The year 6 group continue to attain at good/average compared to previous years. The expected attainment remains at 60% level 4 or above in English, with Maths at 50%.

Key Stage 1

In year 2, the end of key stage 1, there are 12 (17 last year) children, 7 (10 last year) of whom attend Ealing schools.

Three children have a statement of special educational needs and all 3 are educated in special schools.

The year 2 cohort are struggling much more to attain in line with national expectations.

The 3 children in special schools are working well below expected levels. Of the other nine, 5 (56%) are on track to get level 2.

Post 16

There are currently 35 (36 last year) young people at University, 15% to date all are studying successfully. Since the last report in March, one young woman has put her studies on hold to have a baby and is intending to return at a later date.

Eight young people (10 last year) are expected to graduate this Summer and 3 of these students are expected to graduate in their Masters. Two of these 6 students are currently repeating their second year and another 2 students started their foundation year in 2011/2012 and will be graduating in 2015 instead of 2014. A further 13 young people are expected to start university in Autumn 2014. One of the 13 young people who qualified to go to University in September 2014 had immigration status issues but has now been granted leave to remain so will be able to start in the Autumn Term.

There are currently 48 young people in year 12.

Of these 48 young people 36 (75%) are in EET, a decrease of 7% since the last report in March 2014. The majority of year 12 students are on Level 1 and Level 2 courses and two students are taking A Level Courses.

There are currently 12 students (25%) that are NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training). Four of the twelve that are NEET have College places confirmed for Sep 2014.

The NEET number in Year 12 has increased since the March Education Report: one young person has had twins. Others have a level of complexity of need: mental health issues and unwillingness to engage; exclusion for fighting; move out of borough for safety; recovery from substance misuse; 3 non-attenders/ not able to sustain the attendance on courses.

3.1 John Lyon's Charity Projects, Easter & May Half Term Programme (See Account Appendix 1)

The Easter and May half term school break offered Ealing Looked After Children the usual opportunities to participate in a number of exciting and creative educational activities as below:-

Fashion & Textiles Project with the Royal College of Art (RCA)

-14 young people participated in this project, age range from 11–18 years. Four were first time attenders of activities and several of the young people came from out of borough, one from Suffolk to take part in the visit to Burberry and the V&A museum. The final part of this project took place in the May half term, where a group of 12 young people attended the Fashion Graduates final degree show at the Royal College of Art.

Matilda Theatre Trip

-10 young people aged between 11-16 years attended this theatre trip. One boy currently living in Kent met the group in London. Another boy, a new comer to holiday activities has recently started to engage with Study Support on Wednesdays.

Overall 17 young people took part during the week for the project and theatre trip.

Study Support Day

-Education support centred around the GCSE maths papers and an English language paper with specialist maths and English tuition, support and guidance offered to year 11s.

Transition Day

-Focused on Year 6 children moving on to high school in September.

Opera at Holland Park

- Foster carers and families with 4 Looked After Children met up with two of the LAC Education Team teachers on a trip to the opera at Holland Park taking advantage of free tickets to see a dress rehearsal of Puccini's Opera "The Girl from the Golden West".

3.2 Junior Council

Following the survey on the role of the social worker which the Junior Council designed and sent out, the group have been spending time discussing the results and planning the next steps. Carol Yates, Operations Manager attended the meeting in May where she discussed the outcomes with the children and explored the areas further. The children participated fully and were very keen and articulate in expressing their views and drawing on their own experiences.

During the May half term holiday, five of the Junior Council members went to Perceval House to meet with seven team managers. Again, a very fruitful and honest discussion took place and the children were able to say what they liked and didn't like and suggest ways to improve the service. These ideas were subsequently taken forward as the key item at the LAC Teams' Away Day where staff from the teams discussed how some of these ideas could be put into practice. There is a plan for this to continue in the summer holidays, when the Junior Council will meet with the social workers.

Following the survey, on	Department	Date sent to consultee	Date response received from consultee	Comments appear in report para:
Internal				
Marcella Phelan				
Julian Bell				
Binda Rai				
Judith Finlay				
Julie Lewis				
Bridie McDonagh				

Director	Executive Director
Lawyer	Director of Legal Services Jane Batalona/Diana Hamilton
Finance Officer	Finance Officer Amar Barot
Councillor	Binda Rai
External	
A N Other	Voluntary organisation
Police etc	

Report History

Decision type:	Urgency item?
EITHER: Key decision [state the date it was first entered into the Forward Plan OR Non-key decision OR For information (delete as applicable)	No (delete as applicable) [Yes if it is a general or special urgency key decision, which was not included in the Forward Plan with at least one months' notice] If yes, set out the reasons both why the item was not included and a decision cannot be deferred.

Authorised by Cabinet member:	Date report drafted:	Report deadline:	Date report sent:
XX.XX.06	XX.XX.06	XX.XX.06	XX.XX.06

Report no.:	Report author and contact for queries:
	First and surname, job title
	Bridie McDonagh, Virtual School Head Teacher, Ealing Looked After Children