

Policy and Scrutiny

Open Report on behalf of Debbie Barnes, Executive Director of Children's Services

Report to:	Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee
Date:	06 March 2015
Subject:	School Performance 2014 (inc Closing the Gap data)

Summary:

This report summarises the 2013-14 performance of Lincolnshire schools for the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee, following the release of validated performance data released by the Local Authority (LA) Performance Team on 29 January 2015.

Actions Required:

That the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee notes and comments on the contents of the report.

1. Background

1.1 This report provides information on the academic performance of pupils in Lincolnshire schools (Appendices A and B) compared with national, East Midlands and our statistical neighbour data averages, from Early Years until the end of Key Stage (KS) 5. Appendix C outlines the actions that are being taken to address any priorities for improvement identified from detailed interrogation of school level and Local Authority level data. The Local Authority schools' performance as measured by Ofsted inspections is reported in Appendix D. Examples of the impact of school improvement projects are provided in Appendices E and F.

1.2 It should be noted that there have been significant changes to the examination regime at KS4 and to the examination results that can be counted in the performance tables as reported here. This has resulted in a significant decrease nationally in the proportion of pupils achieving the 5A*-C including English and maths at GCSE indicator, for example. Lincolnshire has mirrored the national reduction so that overall we are performing in line with the national average, rather than exceeding it, as in previous years of late. Further national changes are planned in each of the next 2 or 3 years including a transition to a completely new set of measures (Achievement 8 and Progress 8). These changes are particularly challenging for our non-selective Secondary schools.

2. Conclusion

2.1 The pupil performance data in this report shows that, whilst there are many positive aspects of performance to celebrate, there are a number of key actions needed in order to improve the overall picture. Underperforming schools have already been challenged individually. CfBT Education Services has been proactive in tackling the priorities identified and will be offering a range of focused support to individual schools and school partnerships which encompass the skills and expertise within CfBT, enhanced through partnership working with Teaching School Alliances, National Leaders in Education (NLEs), Local Leaders in Education (LLEs) and Specialist Leaders in Education (SLEs). School to school support and joint practice development, benefiting from the successful approaches seen in Lincolnshire schools and nationally, will be key to ensuring the sustainability of this support.

2.2 In addition, CfBT Education Advisers and Associate Education Advisers will continue to work with school leaders to validate the accuracy and rigour of school self-review processes so that underperformance in teaching and learning is recognised and tackled, and to ensure good progress is being made towards improving outcomes in all Key Stages. Brokering of support will continue to encourage school leaders to use delegated funding to secure improved outcomes through the full range of external CPD available and to utilise cluster approaches to improving schools.

2.3 It is hoped that the newly developing county wide 'sector led' approach (the Lincolnshire Learning Partnership) will build on the successes achieved in existing clusters and accelerate the rate of improvement.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

N/A

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	School Performance Data
Appendix B	Closing the Performance Gap for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)
Appendix C	Actions to Address Outcomes
Appendix D	Outcomes of Ofsted Inspections in Lincolnshire Schools 2013-14
Appendix E	Collaborative Partnerships in Primary Schools
Appendix F	The South Holland Project - interim report

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

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