CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SCRUTINY REVIEW BOARD 28 March 2022

Minute Extract

53/21 COVID Remote Learning Update

The Board considered a report from the Strategic Director People Services on COVID Remote Learning. This report was presented by the Director of Learning, Inclusion and Skills.

It was noted that the DfE Laptops for schools scheme did not include Key Stage 1 children. It was noted that the Council had identified £150,000 of funding for KS1 pupils. It was reported that for Years 1 and 2, 2052 pupils were eligible which equated to £73.10 per pupil. The Council had therefore asked schools to make informed decisions on which pupils required laptops/tablets. The Board noted that the Council had received positive feedback from schools.

It was reported that the Council had an initial plan to commission PCT to deliver 50k of equipment and associated software and accessories, but lack of capacity had changed this. The council was now directing the funding to pupils in NC years 3-6 for KS2. It was noted that this would target 631 CYP with plans funded by Derby City Council.

The Board noted that based on the last school census, 42.8% of pupils with EHCPs were eligible for FSM and that 270 pupils were eligible for the SEND disadvantaged funding. It was reported that schools would confirm these numbers and that the Council would issue this funding. Schools would then report back on how the funds had been spent.

A councillor asked how the Council was supporting children who weren't educated at school. It was noted that digital learning was included in the EOTAS package. It was noted that for the 414 home schooled children in Derby, a resource wasn't attached at the moment, but the Council were looking into this.

A councillor asked whether disadvantaged children who lived in Derby but went to schools in other local authorities benefited from the Council's KS1 digital support funding. The Director of Learning, Inclusion and Skills agreed to look into this.

A councillor suggested that it would be useful to get information on how successful this funding has been and how effectively it has been used. This would allow the Council to provide schools with advice on how to use this funding, if it was provided again in the future.

The Board resolved:

- 1. to note the report and presentation.
- 2. to recommend that Cabinet ensures that they are reaching and closing the digital divide for disadvantaged children and young people from low-income families who receive education other than at school, are home educated or go to school out of area.

MINUTES END