

## Education Improvement Report January 2014

### SUMMARY

- 1.1 Education improvement is judged in terms of pupil outcomes, (progress and attainment), and in terms of Ofsted judgements. The Derby Winners policy outlines the Local Authority policy for school improvement and its implementation has contributed to significant improvements over the last 2 years.
- 1.2 Trends in terms of pupil outcomes at KS1 and KS2 show a steadily improving picture in Derby since 2011. Whilst pupil outcomes remain below national, there has been a year on year improvement and the gap between Derby's performance and national performance is narrowing.
- 1.3 Comparative regional and national data showing the numbers of schools and academies in each Ofsted category is published quarterly. The latest statistics available represent inspections up to Sept 2013. Schools which have become sponsored academies are not included in the published figures. Overall school performance as judged by Ofsted inspection findings demonstrates rapid improvement across the City, particularly in terms of the percentage of schools now judged as good or better.

### RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To support the continued implementation of the Derby Winners policy and the increased team focus on Foundation Stage.
- 2.2 To note the outcomes of recent Ofsted inspections.
- 2.3 To note the improvements in pupil performance at KS1 and KS2.

### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To secure further improvements in pupil outcomes, particularly at Foundation Stage.
- 3.2 To ensure that the percentage of schools judged good or better continues to increase.

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 4.1 Early Years Foundation Stage

New arrangements for assessing children at the end of Foundation Stage (pupils aged 5) were introduced this year. All schools and settings received LA training to enable effective implementation of the new system. Historical comparisons for foundation stage assessments is not therefore possible for 2013.

The overall performance at the end of Foundation Stage in Derby is very low. Only 41% of children achieved a 'good level of development' in 2013. Teaching in Foundation Stage classes across the City is good or better and ensures that children make good progress from their very low starting points. Nevertheless, this data demonstrates that many pupils entering key stage 1 are not ready to access the formal National Curriculum which starts in Y1.

### 4.2 KS1

The systems for assessing pupils at the end of KS1 remain unchanged. Results are based on a combination of test results and teacher assessments. The Local Authority is responsible for checking the accuracy of schools' assessments and this moderation is carried out in a sample of 25% of schools each year.

Results for KS1 show significant improvements compared with 2012. In Derby, the percentage of pupils attaining the expected level for seven year olds (Level 2b+) has increased in reading, writing and in maths. The percentage of pupils exceeding expected levels has increased in writing; 2012 increases have been maintained in maths and reading.

### 4.3 KS2

Results for KS2 show improvements in a number of areas compared with previous years. The percentage of pupils who attain Level 4+ (the expected level for eleven year olds) in all three subjects reading, writing and maths has increased to 72%. The percentage of pupils exceeding Level 4 has increased in writing and in maths.

Progress rates from the end of key stage one to the end of key stage two have also improved in writing and in maths.

### 4.4 GCSE

Provisional GCSE results indicate that they will be slightly lower than 2012 which were the best ever for Derby. This matches the national pattern following the raising of threshold levels for each grade. All schools have some notable successes and there have been significant improvements in terms of 5 A\*-C (including English and Maths) at da Vinci and Allestree Woodlands. All the schools graded as Requiring Improvement by Ofsted have seen an improvement in their results. These schools have been receiving additional support from the SSIO team.

### 4.5 A level

A level results improved once again in 2013. This year, the vast majority of schools reported an increase in terms of the average points per student and the average points per subject.

#### 4.6 Ofsted judgements

The most recent national data from Ofsted inspections was based on inspections up to September 2013. This shows a significant increase in the percentage of schools judged good or outstanding ( 72%). Derby's ranking against other Local Authorities has improved on this measure; Derby is now ranked 123<sup>rd</sup> compared to 151<sup>st</sup> in September 2012.

#### OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 None.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

<b>Legal officer</b> <b>Financial officer</b> <b>Human Resources officer</b> <b>Estates/Property officer</b> <b>Service Director(s)</b> <b>Other(s)</b>	Lynda Poole 01332 642665 <a href="mailto:lynda.poole@derby.gov.uk">lynda.poole@derby.gov.uk</a>
<b>For more information contact:</b> <b>Background papers:</b> <b>List of appendices:</b>	Christine Tarpey 01332 640358 <a href="mailto:christine.tarpey@derby.gov.uk">christine.tarpey@derby.gov.uk</a> None Appendix 1 – Implications

<b>IMPLICATIONS</b>
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**Financial and Value for Money**

- 1.1 The national focus on LAs role in school and Early Years setting improvement carries implications for the resource needed by LAs to deliver that role.

**Legal**

- 2.1 None

**Personnel**

- 3.1 Advice in line with relevant policies, employment legislation and good practice would be given on any personnel implications arising from the need to make the improvement in schools.

**Equalities Impact**

- 4.1 The council's interest in equalities can be best delivered in this case through the recommendations.

**Health and Safety**

- 5.1 None.

**Environmental Sustainability**

- 6.1 None

**Property and Asset Management**

- 7.1 An effective School Improvement and Early Years function in Derby will support schools and enable the implementation of the Derby Winners Strategy .

**Risk Management**

- 8.1 School performance can be volatile, for example in the context of turnover of key posts. Risk management is the responsibility of Derby's School Improvement team; it is vital that the team has full and updated information on all DCC schools.

**Corporate objectives and priorities for change**

- 9.1 Achieving their learning potential  
Good quality services that meet local needs