

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:**           **LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY  
COMMITTEE**

**DATE:**                   **THURSDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2013**

**REPORT BY:**           **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING**

**SUBJECT:**              **PUPIL ATTAINMENT 2011/2012**

**1.00    PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01    To provide Members with a summary of pupil attainment in statutory assessments across primary and secondary school phases for the school year 2011/2012

**2.00    BACKGROUND**

2.01    The Welsh Government has produced its annual set of results by Local Authority area, of pupil attainment at the end of Key Stages.

2.02    The pupil attainment information has been derived from statutory assessments administered by schools and from public examinations during the school year 2011/2012

2.03    Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee also considered the self-evaluation of Local Authority Education and Services for Children and Young People (LAESCYP) in the Autumn of 2012. This updated information will inform the self-evaluation in Autumn 2013. It will also inform future quarterly performance monitoring reports and post-inspection action plan monitoring reports.

2.04    School Improvement Officers have presented information on learner outcomes across each Key Stage at workshops for members held in December 2012 and January 2013. This enabled helpful debate and discussion on the role of elected members in improving performance across the system and of their role in governance of individual schools.

2.05    The Standards Monitoring Group of Senior Officers and Members of LLOSC hold termly meetings to challenge school improvement progress in schools where the Authority identifies causes for concern from data or practice. These meetings also monitor the impact of agreed action plans in securing improvements for learners.

### **3.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.01 Attached to this Report as Annex 1 is an analysis of pupil attainment in statutory assessment and public examinations in the academic year 2011/2012 for pupils in years 2, 6, 9, 11 and 13 in Flintshire.
- 3.02 Appendix 1f provides analysis of trends in outcomes across the Key Stages. The Local Authority endeavours to secure outcomes for learners at or above its Free School Meal ranking in Wales (currently sixth place). It regularly succeeds in doing this on indicators at Key Stage 3. It increasingly exceeds this ranking on indicators at Key Stage 4. However, achieving this benchmark at Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 remains a key challenge and priority for the Authority given the low entry profile of many learners. The Local Authority is also actively seeking to improve the balance between primary and secondary schools in the top quartile and bottom quartile against similar schools in Wales.
- 3.03 Appendix 1h provides benchmarked data from the Local Authority's Core Data pack on the number of schools in each quartile in relation to the performance in the Foundation Phase Indicator, Core Subject Indicator at Key Stage 2, Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, together with Level 2 (including English/Welsh and Maths) performance at Key Stage 4. It also provides a comparison of that data across all other Local Authorities in Wales.
- 3.04 This year, primary attendance joins secondary attendance as being at or above ranking in Wales. This follows improving outcomes and rankings on both authorised and unauthorised absences in each of the last two years.
- 3.05 Progress is also being made with action on reduction of fixed term exclusions in primary schools and length of exclusions of six days or more in secondary schools, building on low levels of permanent exclusions. However, exclusions analysis is reported separately to Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.01 That members receive the Report and note the attainment of Flintshire pupils for the year 2011/2012
- 4.02 That members receive a future report on analysis of learner progress from entry assessment and successful strategies for securing improved learner progression.

## **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 There are no financial implications as a consequence of this report.

## **6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 The Local Authority seeks to mitigate the impact of poverty through its Children and Young People's Plan work programme.

Children's on-entry data of supports the Local Authority's decision to introduce target setting for Foundation Phase pupils. It is essential that young learners who are not achieving at the age related norms benefit from an appropriately designed curriculum and suitable intervention strategies for their stage of development to ensure they make good progress and achieve the expected national benchmarks at the age of 7.

The on-entry profile also supports the high priority the Local Authority places on working with a range of other providers and partners through its Children and Young People's Plan in supporting families and young children in order to give all learners the best possible chances of achieving their potential e.g. Flying Start, Early Entitlement, Chatterbox, Families First and Family Learning.

Monitoring the on-entry data/Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 outcomes over time will enable the Local Authority to measure the impact of these strategies as evidence from the Welsh Government's national evaluation project for the Foundation Phase and the thirty year American Highscope programme suggests that full benefits may not be immediately apparent.

## **7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None.

## **8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 The 2011 LAESCYP inspection recognised good practice in wellbeing and additional learning needs. This continues to be reflected in Flintshire's values, strategy, provision and outcomes.

## **9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.01 There are no personnel implications from this report.

## **10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.01 Annual self-evaluation processes involve all key education stakeholders.

## **11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 None.

## **12.00 APPENDICES**

12.01 Annex 1

- a. Foundation Phase Assessment Results in Wales 2012
- b. Key Stage 2 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales 2012
- c. Key Stage 3 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales 2012
- d. Key Stage 4 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales 2012
- e. Key Stage 5 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales 2012
- f. Trends in outcomes at Key Stage 2, 3 and 4
- g. Progress report on School Performance Monitoring Group
- h. Benchmarked Distribution Indicators FP/KS2/KS3/KS4

## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Self-evaluation of Local Authority Education and Services for Children and Young People- December 2012

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