

By: Mike Whiting, Cabinet member for Education, Learning and Skills

Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education, Learning and Skills

To: Education Cabinet Committee - 9th May 2012

Subject: Bold Steps for Education

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report sets out Kent County Council's, Education, Learning and Skills vision, priorities and improvement targets to 2015.

Recommendations Members are asked to:

- (i) endorse the Education, Learning and Skills' Vision and Priorities for Improvement, in order to create the conditions in which pupils experience the best teaching and learning, so that:
- excellence is promoted across the system;
 - every child in Kent meets their full potential; and
 - every young person benefits from a broad range of pathways in further learning employment, both for their own sense of achievement and for the success of the economy
-

1. Introduction

1. (1) The Vision and Priorities for Improvement document (attached) details why education and training in Kent needs to be transformed in order to keep pace with the most successful nations in the world in terms of educational performance. The ambitions set out in the vision document promote and champion educational excellence and support the drive towards ensuring that Kent becomes one of the best places in the country to be educated.

2. Background

2. (1) The world is changing fast, learning is being transformed in a digital age, expectations are rising and the importance of learning for future personal, social and economic wellbeing has never been greater. Those countries that are developing fastest are achieving their growth through education and by equipping young people with the skills for life long learning and employability. In order to keep pace, we need to transform the way we do our education business in Kent.

3. Bold Steps for Kent

3. (1) Some of our strategic priorities for Education Learning and Skills were set out in an initial Bold Steps for Education scoping document that was

shared with Headteachers and key stakeholders just over a year ago. We have built on this initial engagement to develop a transformational set of ambitions.

(2) During the course of the Autumn Term 2011, discussions were held with Headteachers and other partners at a range of meetings to identify where we are and where we need to be, in terms of local, national and international performance. From this series of conversations we have been able to establish a good level of shared ambition and agreed a range of rapid priority improvements to achieve by 2015. These are detailed in the attached vision document, as are the headline steps that will need to be taken to get there.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Members are asked to:

- (ii) endorse the Education, Learning and Skills' Vision and Priorities for Improvement, in order to create the conditions in which pupils experience the best teaching and learning, so that:
- excellence is promoted across the system;
 - every child in Kent meets their full potential; and
 - every young person benefits from a broad range of pathways to further learning and employment, both for their own sense of achievement and for the success of the Kent economy.

Lead officer: Sue Rogers
Director of Quality and Standards
Tel: 01622 696167
Email: sue.rogers@kent.gov.uk

Mike Whiting
Cabinet Member for Education
Learning and Skills
01622 694296
Mike.whiting@kent.gov.uk

Patrick Leeson
Corporate Director for Education,
Learning and Skills
01622 69550
Patrickk.leeson@kent.gov.uk

Background Documents

Bold Steps for Kent