

Select Committee - Grammar School and Social Mobility

Hearing 1: Monday 1st February 2016

Witness Guide for Members

Below are suggested themes and questions. They have be provided in advance to the witnesses to allow them to prepare for the types of issues that Members may be interested to explore. All Members are welcome to ask these questions or pose additional ones to the witnesses via the Committee Chairman.

Themes and Questions

Katherine Atkinson, Head of Information and Intelligence (Kent County Council)

- Please introduce yourself and provide an outline of the role and responsibilities of your post
- How many FSM children take up a place in Grammar school compared with non FSM children?
- Have we seen increased numbers of disadvantaged children being put forward for and accessing grammar school education in recent years?
- How do attainment levels differ between FSM children and non FSM children in primary school?
- Are children who are eligible for FSM and who have achieved Level 5 in KS2 as likely to sit and pass the Kent Test as their peers who are not eligible for FSM?
- Is there variation across Kent's districts in the percentage of FSM children who pass the Kent test and take up a place at a Grammar school?
- Does the location of Grammar schools and the competition for places in the West of the county impact on the ability of FSM children to access a Grammar school place?
- Do attainment levels differ between FSM children and non FSM children once in grammar school?
- At Year 11 and beyond, is there a difference in the destinations of FSM children and non FSM children?
- Why do some schools with a high percentage of children on FSM send significantly more children to grammar school, compared to others with a similar demographic with a relatively low number attending?
- Are there any other issues that you would like to raise to the committee?