

# **Pupil Premium Select Committee**

## **Hearing 4**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

### **Witness Guide for Members**

*Below are suggested themes and questions. They have been 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**

#### **Simon O'Keefe, Principal, Stour Academy Trust**

- Please introduce yourself and offer an outline of the roles and responsibilities that your post involves.
- What is the Stour Academy Trust and what are its values?
- Please provide an overview of Pupil Premium allocation in your schools. Is there a clear rationale for how Pupil Premium funding should be spent, and is this communicated to all stakeholders?
- Please discuss the findings of the recent Ofsted report “Unknown Children Destined for Disadvantaged” (2016). In your view, to what extent is the Early Years Pupil Premium effective in promoting the academic achievement of vulnerable younger children?
- To what extent has Pupil Premium funding been effective in narrowing the attainment gap between vulnerable children and their peers in the Trust’s schools?
- In your opinion, what other strategies and interventions – if any – can be implemented to maximise the impact of the Pupil Premium?
- What can KCC do, if anything, to improve the effectiveness of the Pupil Premium in closing the attainment gap between vulnerable children and their peers?
- Are there any other issues, in relation to the review, that you wish to raise with the Committee?