

**From:** Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform  
Patrick Leeson, Corporate Director for Education and Young People's Services

**To:** Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee – 8 July 2015

**Subject:** Ofsted Inspection Outcomes Update

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**Electoral Division:** County Wide

**Summary:**

This report summarises the performance of Kent schools in Ofsted inspections from 1 September 2014 to June 2015.

**Recommendation:**

The Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee is invited to note and comment on the information contained in this report.

## **1. Summary**

- 1.1 As we near the end of this academic year 2014-15, 80% of schools in Kent are now good or outstanding. This is excellent progress towards meeting the 2015 target of 82% good or outstanding schools. It represents a significant increase of 5% more schools from the previous year and takes Kent above the Local Authority national average of 79%. It continues a very positive 4 year trajectory of improvement from 59% in 2012, to 70% in 2013 and 75% in 2014.
- 1.2 The proportion of schools in Kent judged to be Requiring Improvement (RI) currently this academic year 2014-15, has decreased to 16.6%. This now takes Kent below the national average of 18%. It represents a continued reduction in the number of RI schools from 36% in 2012, to 25% in 2013 and 20% in 2014.
- 1.3 Currently in this academic year 2014-15, 3.1% of schools in Kent are in an Ofsted category of concern. This is a decrease from the previous year and means Kent is now in line with the national average of 3% of schools judged to be inadequate by Ofsted. This is an improved picture compared to previous years; (4% in 2012 and 2013 and 5% in 2014)

## **2. Ofsted Inspections 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014 to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015**

- 2.1 Between September 2014 and June 2015, of the 102 Kent schools selected by Ofsted to receive section 5 inspections, the proportion of schools judged outstanding was 15.7% (16 schools), good 55.9% (57 schools), requiring improvement 25.5% (26 schools) and 2.9% (3 schools) were judged inadequate.
- 2.2 Of particular note are the 29.4% (30 schools) that improved their judgement from requiring improvement (RI) to good or outstanding and the 7.8% (8 schools) that improved their judgement from good to outstanding. In addition 5.9% (6 schools) maintained their outstanding judgement and 18.6% (19 schools) maintained their good judgement. However, 3.9% (4 schools) dropped from outstanding to good.

- 2.3 Since September 2014, 3 schools have been placed in an Ofsted category and 11 schools have been removed. Currently 12 maintained schools and 3 academies are in Ofsted categories of concern, which represent a significant reduction on the 29 schools at the same time last year. Of the three judged inadequate in the past school year, the main areas identified for improvement were: the quality of teaching and acceleration of pupil progress; pupil achievement; leadership, management & governance; Early Years Foundation Stage Provision; safeguarding arrangements and behaviour and safety.
- 2.4 In addition, 17 RI schools continued to be judged RI. This is a cause for concern since they have made insufficient progress since their last inspection. In addition, 4 schools declined from good or outstanding to RI.
- 2.5 In order to achieve the ambitious 2018 Kent target of 90% of schools being judged to be good or outstanding, we need to ensure that there is no further slippage of schools currently judged good or outstanding to RI or below.

### 3. Inspection outcomes between 1 September 2014 and June 2015

Total number of inspections:  
(based on published inspection outcomes only)

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Overall
Outstanding	3	3	2	3	5	16
Good	9	8	10	14	16	57
RI	5	5	6	6	4	26
Category	2		1			3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>102</b>
Category to Good			3	1	2	6
RI to Good	4	2	4	7	11	28
RI to Outstanding		1			1	2
Good to Outstanding	2	2	1	2	1	8

**4. Overall, Kent continues to achieve a positive trajectory of progress towards meeting its 2018 target of 90% of schools judged good or outstanding**

Outstanding		Good		RI		Inadequate		Total
No. of schools	%	No. of schools	%	No. of schools	%	No. of schools	%	No. of schools
81	15.9%	329	64.4%	85	16.6%	16	3.1%	511

School Type	Outstanding		Good		RI / Satisfactory		Inadequate		TOTAL
	No of Schools	%	No of Schools	%	No of Schools	%	No of Schools	%	No of Schools
Primary	53	13.5%	259	65.9%	69	17.6%	12	3.0%	393
Secondary	19	22.1%	51	59.3%	12	13.9%	4	4.7%	86
Special	7	30.4%	13	56.5%	3	13.1%	0	0.0%	23
PRU	2	22.2%	6	66.7%	1	11.1%	0	0.0%	9

**TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOOLS**

Primary	448
Secondary	101
Special	24
PRUs	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>583</b>

**Numbers of schools with no inspection judgement**

Primary	55	12.3%
Secondary	15	14.8%
Special	1	4.2%
PRUs	1	10.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>12.4%</b>

As of June 2015 there are 410 (80%) good or outstanding schools in Kent. At the time of writing this report there are 2 schools that are not reported in the above figures as their reports are not yet in the public domain.

## 5. Requires Improvement to Good

The table below shows the numbers of RI schools by district and their current predicted date for moving to a judgement of good.

Area	District	No of RI schools			Good or better by July 2015		Good or better by July 2016		Good or better by July 2017	
		Total	LA	Academy	LA	Academy	LA	Academy	LA	Academy
South	Ashford	4	3	1	1	0	2	1	0	0
South	Dover	6	5	1	2	0	1	1	1	0
South	Shepway	8	5	3	0	2	3	0	0	1
East	Canterbury	10	9	1	0	0	8	0	1	1
East	Swale	6	3	3	1	0	0	0	2	1
East	Thanet	7	2	5	0	0	1	0	1	0
West	Tonbridge & Malling	6	6	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
West	Maidstone	10	8	2	2	0	3	0	0	1
West	Tunbridge Wells	6	4	2	1	0	1	1	0	0
North	Dartford	7	5	2	0	1	2	0	2	0
North	Gravesham	6	5	1	2	0	3	0	0	0
North	Sevenoaks	9	8	1	4	0	1	0	1	0
<b>Total no. of schools</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Predicted percentage of good or better schools</b>					<b>80.4%</b>		<b>83.0%</b>		<b>84.3%</b>	
<b><i>Vision &amp; Priorities for Improvement targets</i></b> <b><i>(percentage of schools judged by Ofsted as good or better)</i></b>					<b>82%</b>		<b>84%</b>		<b>86%</b>	

NB all projections are based on the current Ofsted framework (last revision published January 2015). It is likely that given changes to the Ofsted framework due for September 2015 that the projections from 2016 onwards will be liable to change.

## **6. Ofsted revised inspection framework**

- 6.1 In September 2014 there was a revised Ofsted Inspection Framework. This initially, given the addition of no notice inspections, had a significant impact on Kent schools and a number of schools dropped into category below that expected. Schools did respond quickly and with support, by the end of term 2 we saw a recovery in the numbers of schools achieving at least a good judgement.
- 6.2 A new Ofsted framework will be in place from September 2015 and will no doubt bring additional challenge to raising standards in schools further. We continue to monitor all schools closely in particular those at risk of dropping to RI or an Ofsted category. .
- 6.3 Despite the impact of the revised Ofsted framework between September 2014 and January 2015, the percentage of good and outstanding schools in Kent increased from 75% in July 2014 to 80% in June 2015. There are now 85 RI schools, a reduction of 24 schools from 109 in July 2014. This is very encouraging and we expect this to have reduced this number further by the end of the academic year 2015 meeting Kent's challenging target in this area.

## **7. Conclusion**

- 7.1 Very good progress is being made overall but the challenge remains to improve the schools that have been previously rated as satisfactory or RI and to ensure they are providing a good quality of education. In the last five years, we have seen the position of schools in Kent improve significantly from 55% good or outstanding in 2010 to 80% good or outstanding in June 2015.
- 7.2 The work of the School Improvement Service is focused on supporting all schools to meet the challenge of continuous improvement and in particular to accelerate the rates of progress in schools requiring improvement and in Ofsted categories, whilst ensuring maintained standards and quality in good and outstanding schools.

## **8. Recommendation:**

The Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee is invited to note and comment on the information contained in this report.

### **Lead Director**

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### **Background Documents**

School Ofsted Reports