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To: Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 8th May 2018

Subject: Ofsted Outcomes Update

Classification: Unrestricted

Electoral Division: All

Summary:

This report is provided three times a year and provides a summary of the inspection outcomes for Kent schools. The most recent data shows a steady and continual improvement in the quality of education in Kent schools. Overall, 92% of schools in Kent are now rated good or outstanding compared to 89% nationally, which is in line with our target of 93% for summer 2018. We have 385 good and 120 outstanding schools, 39 schools requiring improvement and 5 schools in a category of concern, out of a total of 549 schools with a current inspection result. Of the five schools in an Ofsted category, two are academies and three are local authority maintained. Overall there are nine more good and outstanding schools compared to this time last year. The monitoring of Ofsted outcomes was previously delegated to an Informal Member Group, which is no longer in place. Therefore, it is suggested that Members receive six monthly reports on this subject in order to monitor progress.

Recommendations:

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee are asked to **NOTE** the information in the report and **DISCUSS** whether to receive six monthly reports on this subject in order to monitor progress.

1 DfE/Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) update

1.1 Kent Local Authority does not have statutory duties regarding school improvement in academies and free schools. Links have been established between improvement advisers and academy trusts to foster collaborative working but academies do not receive funded visits from an improvement adviser. The Local Authority has no powers of intervention for academies and free schools. If there is a concern about an academy, the Local Authority will contact the academy principal and/or CEO to arrange a meeting to discuss the concerns and the actions being taken. The Local Authority can also challenge the RSC to intervene and tackle underperformance in line with the DfE 'Schools Causing Concern' guidance. The performance of academies and free schools is regularly discussed and reviewed at the Local Authority's termly meetings with the RSC.

2. Ofsted update

- 2.1 Since September 2017, Ofsted has made changes to the inspection process. Schools with an existing good judgement are subject to a section 8 (one day) inspection. Some good schools, however, have a full section 5 (two day) inspection, based on Ofsted's risk assessment. Section 8 inspections are also used to monitor the progress of schools with a judgement of requires improvement. Since September 2017, there have been 50 section 5 inspections and 75 section 8 inspections in Kent, a total of 125 inspections.

3 Primary inspections

- 3.1 Primary inspection outcomes continue to improve from a low starting point. Currently, 93% of primary schools are judged good or better compared with 54% in 2011. Nationally, 91% of primary schools have a good or better judgement. Of the 457 primary schools in the county, 300 schools (65.6%) are local authority maintained and 157 (34.4%) are academies or free schools. There are currently 27 schools (two local authority maintained and 25 academies) that do not yet have an inspection judgement which is 6% of the county's primary schools.
- 3.2 Since September 2017, there have been 32 section 5 inspections in primary schools; 18 local authority-maintained schools and 14 academies. There have been 63 section 8 inspections; 41 local authority-maintained schools and 22 academies.
- 3.3 There are 84 outstanding primary schools in the county; 62 local authority maintained (20%) and 22 academies (14%). The proportion of primary schools with an outstanding judgement has increased to 19.4%, compared with 18.5% in March 2017.
- 3.4 There are 29 primary schools (6.5%) with a current judgement of requires improvement; 13 maintained schools (4%) and 16 academies (10%). In March 2017, 36 primary schools had an inspection judgement of requires improvement.
- 3.5 Three primary schools are in an Ofsted category; one local authority-maintained school and two academies. One primary school was in an Ofsted category in March 2017.

4. Secondary inspections

- 4.1 Secondary inspection outcomes continue to improve. Currently 91.4% of secondary schools are good or better compared with 87.5% in March 2017. Nationally, 79% of secondary schools have a good or better judgement. There are 98 secondary schools in the county, 23 (23.4%) are local authority maintained and 75 (76.5%) are academies or free schools. There are currently five secondary schools (all academies) which do not yet have an inspection judgement.
- 4.2 Since September 2017, there have been 15 section 5 inspections in secondary schools; five local authority-maintained schools and ten academies. There have been six section 8 inspections and all have been academies.
- 4.3 There are 27 outstanding secondary schools in the county; six local authority maintained (26%) and 21 academies (28%). The proportion of secondary schools with an outstanding judgement is 32.3%, compared with 31.3% in March 2017.
- 4.4 There are nine secondary schools with a judgement of requires improvement; one

local authority-maintained school (4%) and eight academies (11%). In March 2017, 12 secondary schools had a judgement of requires improvement.

- 4.5 There is one secondary school in an Ofsted category and this is a local authority maintained school. No secondary schools were in an Ofsted category at this time last year.

5. Special school inspections

- 5.1 Special school inspection outcomes have dipped since March 2017 when all special schools in the county had a judgement of good or better. Currently, 90.9% of special schools have a good or better judgement which is just below the national proportion of 94%. There are 22 special schools; 21 local authority maintained and one academy. All special schools have an inspection judgement.
- 5.2 Since September 2017, there has been one section 5 inspection and six section 8 special school inspections.
- 5.3 There are six outstanding special schools in the county; five local authority maintained (24%) and one academy (100%). The proportion of special schools with an outstanding judgement has fallen to 27.3%, compared with 36.4% in March 2017.
- 5.4 Two local authority maintained special schools have a judgement of requires improvement (10%).
- 5.5 No special schools are in an Ofsted category of concern.

6. Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) inspections

- 6.1 Currently, 42.9% of PRUs have a good or better judgement. There are 7 PRUs, all are local authority maintained. All PRUs have an inspection judgement.
- 6.2 Since September 2017, there has been two section 5 PRU inspections.
- 6.3 There are two outstanding PRUs in the county. The proportion of PRUs with an outstanding judgement has increased to 28.6%, compared with 14.3% in March 2017.
- 6.4 Three PRUs have a judgement of requires improvement (42.9%). One PRU is in an Ofsted category of concern (14.3%).

7. School Improvement Support Offer

- 7.1 The Local Authority knows its schools well. Information from a range of sources, including performance data, monitoring visits and inspection outcomes is used to categorise schools and ensure schools they receive appropriate support:
- 7.2 High risk (red) schools categorised by:
- Ofsted judgement 4 or at risk of a 4

- Poor academic outcomes/ below floor standards/coasting
- Leadership and management concerns
- Schools causing concern protocol

Schools receive a minimum of 8 visits from an advisor. Support and monitoring visits can include a range of activities, for example, joint lesson observations, action planning for priority areas, challenge and support and brokering of additional support from other schools. This also includes support with Head teacher appraisal. Support from a good or outstanding school is brokered through the LA procurement framework where substantial and immediate leadership support is required. Contracts are monitored by school improvement.

7.3 Medium risk (Amber) schools categorised by:

- Ofsted: Requires Improvement or at risk of Requires Improvement
- Declining academic outcomes
- Other indicators raising concerns e.g. attendance

Receive a minimum of 3 support and monitoring visits from an advisor. Support with Head teacher appraisal.

7.4 Low risk (green schools) categorised by:

- Ofsted: Good or better
- Improving academic outcomes
- Not Red or Amber
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Receive a minimum of 2 support and monitoring visits from an advisor. Support with Headteacher recruitment is provided to the governing bodies of all LA maintained schools

7.5 Currently, Kent has the following schools in each category:

Number of LA Maintained Schools	Red	Amber	Green	Total
Primary	11	44	249	304
Secondary	2	1	22	25
Special		2	19	21
PRU	4	4	1	9
Total	17	51	291	359

7.6 School Improvement also works closely with its partners Kent Association of Head teachers (KAH), Kent Special Educational Needs Trust (KsENT) and the Teaching Schools Network to:

- Promote and support the use of Kent Leaders of Education, National and Local leaders of Education, and deploying them well to support improvement in other schools.
- Identify School Improvement Priorities through an area-based model and collaborate to develop bids for the Strategic School Improvement Fund (DfE funding).
- To support the Kent Leadership Strategy, including:

- Induction for new Headteachers including the identification of a mentor
- Coaching
- Allocation of a Kent/Local/National leader of Education for support

Recommendations:

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee are asked to **NOTE** the information in the report and **DISCUSS** whether to receive six monthly reports on this subject in order to monitor progress.