

Appendix 1 – Recommendations – Raising Attainment in Maths and English

Desired Outcome – To break to link between deprivation and low attainment by learning from schools that have achieved in challenging circumstances.

Recommendation 1 – That the Director of Children’s Services in collaboration with Cluster Partnerships undertakes detailed analysis of schools who are achieving in challenging circumstances to identify the source(s) and reasons for their success which may then assist other schools in similar challenging circumstances. The Director is requested to provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Board at the April 2014 meeting.

Desired Outcome – To improve attainment in Maths and English for vulnerable children.

Recommendation 2 – That the Director of Children’s Services undertakes an investigation and detailed analysis to identify the underlying issues that create barriers to achievement in Maths and English for vulnerable children in Leeds. The Director is requested to provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Board at the April 2014 meeting.

Desired Outcome – To ensure that all pupils attain a GCSE maths or English qualification which reflects their potential and supports their continued education or chosen profession.

Recommendation 3 – That the Director of Children’s Services scrutinises the early entry policies for maths and English GCSE examinations for secondary schools in Leeds to ensure that policies are not counterproductive to pupil attainment. The Director is requested to provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Board at the April 2014 meeting.

Desired Outcome – Improving the transition experience for pupils, to secure continuity of learning and improved maths and English attainment.

Recommendation 4 – That the Director of Children’s Services investigates the viability of collaborating with schools in the design and implementation of city wide standardised reporting format for feeder schools to provide consistent high quality information to secondary schools to aid the transition process. The Director is requested to provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Board at the April 2014 meeting.

Desired Outcome – Improving the transition experience for pupils, to secure continuity of learning and improved maths and English attainment.

Recommendation 5 – That the Director of Children’s Services facilitates dialogue and action at the appropriate level/forum to reinforce the importance of providing accurate and realistic pupil information to secondary schools throughout the whole transition process. The Director is requested to advise the Scrutiny Board of the proposed process for facilitating dialogue in the Directors response.

Desired Outcome – Understand the Local Authority support and interventions that are the most effective in improving the delivery of maths and English education.

Recommendation 6 – That the Director of Children’s Services evaluates the improvement in education provision as a result of traded service and School Improvement Service engagement and identifies which interventions and support are the most effective in driving improvement forward. The Director is requested to provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Board at the April 2014 meeting.

Desired Outcome – Ensuring that all schools in Leeds are aware of the resources and support that can be accessed to facilitate improved pupil attainment in maths and English.

Recommendation 7 – That the Director of Children’s Services investigates how the service can be effective in raising awareness about the benefits of Teaching School Alliance membership and making more extensive use of National, Local and Specialist Leaders of Education with Headteachers and Governors. The Director is requested to provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Board at the April 2014 meeting.

Desired Outcome – Identify the underlying issues that create barriers to learning and the practical action required to overcome the challenges currently in place.

Recommendation 8 – That the Director of Children’s Services investigates how Leeds City Council and the YorksITSA can utilise project funding to research Maths and English attainment in Leeds and the action required for improvement. The Director is requested to advise the Scrutiny Board about the progress of the investigation in the Directors response.

Desired Outcome – To utilise the principals learned via strategies and projects, implement and embed them in day to day practice across the city to facilitate improved educational outcomes for pupils in maths and English.

Recommendation 9 – That the Director of Children’s Services reviews the intervention strategies and projects implemented in schools and school collaboratives across the City to identify successful outcomes. Plus, also investigates how, working collaboratively with schools, the effective processes can be expanded and embedded in the city to effectively narrow the gap in Maths and English attainment. The Director is requested to provide a progress report to the Scrutiny Board in April 2014.