

**Southend-on-Sea Borough Council**  
**Report of the Deputy Chief Executive**  
**People**  
**to**  
**People Scrutiny Committee**  
**on**  
**10<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

Report prepared by: Amanda Champ  
School Performance & Improvement Group Manager (Interim)

**Schools Progress Report**  
**People Scrutiny Committee**  
**Executive Councillor: Councillor James Courtenay**  
**A Part 1 Public Agenda Item**

**Purpose of Report**

- To inform members of the current position with regard to the performance of all schools, including those schools causing concern, and to update on known Academy developments.
- To update members with regard to the actions the Council is taking to support further improvements in schools.

**Recommendation**

- that members of the People Scrutiny panel note and approve the information in the report.

**Inspections**

In the period since the previous School Progress Report, the following Ofsted inspection visits have been undertaken

<b>School</b>	<b>Date Report Published</b>	<b>Judgement</b>	<b>Length of Inspection</b>	<b>Date of Previous Inspection</b>
Barons Court Primary	May 2017	<b>Outstanding</b>	15-16 <sup>th</sup> March	23 <sup>rd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> Feb 12. Outcome good
The St Christopher	July 2017	<b>Outstanding</b>	Short Inspection letter (8 <sup>th</sup> June)	Outstanding at previous inspection
Heycroft Primary	Sept 2017	<b>Good</b>	Short Inspection letter (5 <sup>th</sup> July)	12 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> June 13 Outcome good

The profile of the number of pupils attending Good or Outstanding schools in the Borough remains high, currently at 85%. Several of the recent inspections, although very positive, have not affected this number.

Thirteen Southend Primary Schools are imminently due an Ofsted inspection. This is mainly due to the date of academy conversions which means most of these schools

are due their first inspection since gaining academy status. The Local Authority will be providing support for schools to prepare them for the requirements of the inspections.

### **Academies**

We currently have 32 Academies (Federation of Greenways and PLT Campus counted as one school each) in Southend. Since January, the following schools have converted status:

- Bournemouth Park Academy
- PLT Southend Campus: Victory Park & Sutton House (formerly Seabrook College)
- Bournes Green Junior School
- Richmond Avenue Primary
- Lancaster School
- Kingsdown School
- St Nicholas School

We understand from the DfE that Futures College that the scheduled conversion on 1st November is now subject to further delay. Temple Sutton Primary School is potentially due for conversion January or February 2017 to join the Learning in harmony Trust.

### **School Performance and Improvement Strategy**

A draft School Performance and Improvement Strategy is being drafted and was presented to School Performance sub group on 19.09.17 for comments and approval / amendments. The strategy sets out to define Southend Borough Council's process of support and intervention for schools and includes information on how we intend to monitor, challenge and support schools. The draft strategy will progress through the Council's governance procedures in due course.

As part of this strategy, each school in the Borough will receive the offer of a supportive review of performance by either an officer or a local Headteacher. This will allow greater "intelligence" of our schools, but also crucially allow us to understand better where the areas of best practice are within schools.

### **Diminishing the Difference (previously known as 'narrowing the gap') Pupil Premium Strategy**

One area of school performance that remains stubbornly wide is the gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers. We have received the final report from a consultancy company who were commissioned to undertake a diagnostic review of pupil premium provision in Southend Schools. A total of 21 schools took up the SBC funded offer to receive a half day visit. Implementation plans were co-authored by senior school staff and consultants. Key headline issues for SBC were identified as to:

- Further improve the quality of teaching so that all lessons are suitably differentiated and match the needs, interests and aspirations of all pupils;
- Develop highly personalised and bespoke interventions and support for the most complex cases; and
- Engage the most 'hard to reach' families to improve pupil attendance and increase engagement in learning

Phase two has commenced which will focus on the delivery of development and support for schools from two local Headteachers and the set-up of a pupil premium network.

### **Grammar School Strategy**

The consortium of Selective Schools in Essex (CSSE) have confirmed that approx 200 additional applications (an improvement of 15%) have been received for Southend residents' postcodes SS0-9. There were 1422 applications for 2018 entry. Last year there were 1235 applications for 2017 entry and prior to this 1209 applications for 2016. Phase 2 is currently being planned and will include partnership work with schools as well as increased communications with potential applicants' families.

### **Overall performance of schools**

A separate paper has been submitted to report on pupil outcomes at end of EYFS, KS1, KS2 and KS4. Overall, at all Key Stages, Southend schools continue to both improve and outperform against national benchmarks. Whilst we await the individual validated school results, we anticipate that Southend Borough as a whole will continue to improve its rankings nationally and in relation to our statistical and geographical neighbours.

### **Corporate Implications**

Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

This report contributes to the Council's ambition that all schools will be good or outstanding.

Financial Implications

The work currently undertaken with school improvement is covered by the core staffing budget and the SLA with the teaching school alliance.

Legal Implications

None

People Implications

None

Property Implications

None

Consultation

None

Equalities and Diversity Implications

None

Risk Assessment  
None

Value for Money

N/A

Community Safety Implications

None

Environmental Impact

None

### **Background Papers**

None

### **Appendices**

#### **List of Southend Academies** (as at 01/09/17)

<b>Academy name</b>	<b>Date of conversion</b>	<b>Multi-Academy Trust</b>	<b>Single Academy</b>
Belfairs Academy	01/06/2012	Legra Academy Trust	
Blenheim Primary and Nursery	01/09/2016	Learning in Harmony Trust	
Bournemouth Park Primary School	01/02/2017	Eastwood Park Academy Trust (EPAT)	
Bournes Green Infant	01/09/2016	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Bournes Green Junior	01/08/2017	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Cecil Jones Academy	01/09/2015	Legra Academy Trust	
Chase High School	01/04/2015	Brentwood Academies Trust	
Darlinghurst School	01/01/2014	Legra Academy Trust	
Friars Primary School and Nursery	01/09/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Hamstel Infant School and Nursery	01/09/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Hamstel Junior School	01/09/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Hinguar Community Primary School	01/09/2016	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	

<b>Kingsdown School</b>	<b>01/09/2017</b>	<b>SEN Trust Southend</b>	
<b>Lancaster School</b>	<b>01/09/2017</b>	<b>SEN Trust Southend</b>	
Porters Grange Primary School	01/04/2016	Portico Academy Trust	
Prince Avenue Academy & Nursery	01/04/2014	South East Essex Academy Trust (SEEAT)	
Richmond Avenue Primary and Nursery School	01/08/2017	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
<b>PLT Southend Campus: Victory Park &amp; Sutton House (formerly Seabrook College)</b>	<b>01/07/2017</b>	<b>Parallel Learning Trust (PLT)</b>	
Shoeburyness High School	01/12/2011	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Southend High School for Boys	01/02/2011		Southend High School for Boys Academy Trust
Southend High School for Girls	01/02/2011		Southend High School for Girls Academy Trust
St Bernard's High School	01/08/2011		St Bernard's High School
<b>St Nicholas School</b>	<b>01/09/2017</b>	<b>SEN Trust Southend</b>	
St Thomas More High School	01/08/2011		St. Thomas More High School
The Eastwood Academy	01/08/2011	Eastwood Park Academy Trust (EPAT)	
The Federation of Greenways Schools	01/10/2016	Learning in Harmony Trust	
<b>The St Christopher School</b>	<b>01/03/2012</b>	<b>SEN Trust Southend (previously a single academy trust)</b>	
The Westborough School	01/09/2010	The Challenger Multi Academy Trust	
Thorpedene Primary School	01/09/2016	Southend East Community Academy Trust (SECAT)	
Westcliff High School for Boys	01/09/2010		Westcliff High School for Boys
Westcliff High School for Girls	01/03/2011	South East Essex Academy Trust (SEEAT)	
West Leigh Junior School	01/04/2016	Portico Academy Trust	