

Notice of:	EXECUTIVE
Decision Number:	EX43/2020
Relevant Officer:	Sharon Davis, Scrutiny Manager
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Schools, Education and Aspiration
Date of Meeting:	2 November 2020

INCLUSION IN EDUCATION SCRUTINY REVIEW – FINAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 To consider the final report and recommendations attached at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report, resulting from the scrutiny review of Inclusion in Education.

2.0 Recommendations:

2.1 To approve the final report and recommendations resulting from the scrutiny review of Inclusion in Education.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To allow the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee to oversee and monitor the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee’s working group.

3.2 Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council’s approved budget? Yes

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 The Executive has the option to request amendments to the report’s recommendations prior to approval.

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is: “Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience”.

6.0 Background information

- 6.1 At the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee on 10 October 2020, Members agreed to undertake a scrutiny review on Inclusion of Blackpool pupils in secondary education.
- 6.2 Following the scoping of the review and further discussions with relevant officers, it was determined that the review should focus on the implementation of admissions procedures to ensure Blackpool Academies were adequately adhering to the agreed policies.
- 6.3 The findings and resulting recommendations from the working group’s review have been discussed with the Cabinet Member for Schools, Education and Aspiration and her comments incorporated into the action plan.
- 6.4 The Vice-Chairman of the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Andrew Stansfield, who was also the lead Councillor for this review, has been invited to the Executive meeting to make representations on behalf of the Committee.
- 6.5 Once approved by the Executive, the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Committee will monitor the implementation of the recommendations in line with the target dates agreed with the Cabinet Member for Schools, Education and Aspiration and the Head of School Standards, Safeguarding and Inclusion.
- 6.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

7.0 List of Appendices:

- 7.1 Appendix 2a – Inclusion in Education Final Report

8.0 Financial considerations:

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Legal considerations:

- 9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

- 10.1 None.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 The following school representatives contributed to the review:
Graham Warnock, Headteacher, St George’s Church of England High School
Chris Wardle, Deputy Headteacher (Inclusion and Academic Support) St George’s Church of England High School
Stephen Cooke, Headteacher, Unity Academy
Neil Reynolds, Principal, South Shore Academy
Simon Eccles, Headteacher, St Mary’s Catholic Academy
Andrew Galbraith, Principal, Highfield Academy
John Woods, Principal, Aspire Academy

Approval of report contents and recommendations were received from the following key officers involved in the review:

Paul Turner, Head of School Standards Safeguarding and Inclusion
Phil Thompson, Head of SEND

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 None.

15.0 Key decision information:

15.1 Is this a key decision? No

15.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number:

15.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

15.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

16.0 Call-in information:

16.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

16.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

17.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: N/A Date approved: N/A

18.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

18.1 Councillor Farrell declared a personal interest as she had been involved in the scrutiny review prior to being appointed to the Executive.

19.0 Executive decision:

19.1 The Executive resolved as follows:

To accept the final report and recommendations resulting from the scrutiny review of Inclusion in Education and endorse the comments made by the Cabinet Member in the review at Appendix 2a, to the Executive report.

20.0 Date of Decision:

20.1 2 November 2020

21.0 Reason(s) for decision:

21.1 To allow the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee to oversee and monitor the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee's working group.

22.0 Date Decision published:

22.1 3 November 2020

23.0 Executive Members in attendance:

23.1 Councillor L Williams, in the Chair

Councillors Benson, Brookes, Campbell, Hobson, Kirkland, Smith and I Taylor

Councillor Farrell was also in attendance but did not vote on the matter.

24.0 Call-in:

24.1

25.0 Notes:

25.1 It was noted that Councillor Kath Benson, Cabinet Member for Schools, Education and Aspiration had met with Councillor Stansfield the Lead Member on the Scrutiny review and he had accepted the comments made by Councillor Benson in response to the recommendations.