

## EXECUTIVE MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL 16 September 2015

### KS2 Results

1. Middlesbrough primary schools have continued to perform strongly at Key Stage 2 in results published at the end of August. The performance of pupils in writing and in spelling, grammar and punctuation was particularly pleasing with the percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 and the percentage of pupils achieving Level 5 up on 2014 for both measures. The percentage of pupils achieving Level 4 in maths also showed an increase on 2014, though the percentage of pupils achieving Level 5 fell slightly. The outcomes in reading were also down on last year's figures most notably in the percentage of pupils achieving the highest levels.
2. The progress made by pupils from the end of Key Stage 1 to the end of Key Stage 2 is largely positive, with the percentage of pupils making expected progress in writing up on 2014. However the figures for progress in reading have dropped slightly. Progress made by pupils in maths has been sustained at the high levels achieved in 2014.
3. Whilst the performance of schools across Middlesbrough was generally good a few schools are worthy of a particular mention – The Avenue, Acklam Whin, St Edward's and St Clares all achieved 100% Level 4+ in reading, writing and maths.

### GCSE Results

4. Early analysis of the summer 2015 GCSE results suggests a disappointing picture across the Town, with only Trinity and Outwood Acklam showing improvements against the 5A\*-C (English and Maths) figure recorded in 2014. The expected progress made by students from KS2 has however increased by 5% in mathematics though it has fallen by 16% in English. The drop in performance in this key subject area has had a significant impact on student outcomes. The results are particularly disappointing given the strong predictions made by schools across the last year. The school improvement team will be working with schools to understand why these predictions were not realised; to identify in which part of the assessment process students underperformed, and to review the specific support that needs to be provided to schools in the forthcoming year to produce the outcomes required.

## **Strategic Review – SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability)**

5. A strategic review of provision for children and young people with SEND and who are vulnerable started this month and will take place over a 5 month period. The review team will carry out a forensic diagnostic of provision which will inform the development of a long term strategic strategy for vulnerable children and young people and those with SEND. To support the review team a SEND and Vulnerable Learners Commission will be established which will have representation from key services, partners and parent's young people.

## **Education Psychologist Service**

6. Middlesbrough Council and Redcar and Cleveland Council are in the exciting process of developing a single specialist Education Psychologist Service which will meet the needs of children and young people across both local areas. This is a forward thinking development which will enhance the local offer and reshape the face of provision in Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland.

## **Early Years Quality Mark Accreditation/Primary Quality Mark**

7. Ayresome Primary School achieved an Early Years Quality Mark. To achieve the award schools have to demonstrate that it meets the criteria against 10 elements including learning environment, pupils' progress, assessment, planning, working with parents and other stakeholders. Both Marton Manor primary school and Abingdon primary school achieved a Primary Quality Mark for basic skills.

## **School Attendance**

8. There has been a rapid increase in the number of fines to parents in Middlesbrough. In 2014/15, 184 fines were issued and in 2015/16 there have been 500 so far. The majority of the increase is in relation to parents taking children out of school to go on holiday in term time, Middlesbrough schools are now becoming much more proactive with regard to this issue.

## **Leadership Network Meetings**

9. The Leadership Network meetings have been well attended. We have had three meetings focusing on leadership, teaching and learning and behaviour. The fourth meeting focusing on achievement takes place this month. The purpose is to ensure that our school leaders are fully aware of the requirements of the new Common Inspection Framework for schools. The meetings included a showcase of good practice from both primary and secondary schools. Acklam Grange, Outwood Acklam and Brambles Academy showcased their behaviour approaches.

**Councillor Janice Brunton**

**Executive Member for Education & Skills**