

23rd March 2020

Agenda Item: 12

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, EDUCATION, LEARNING AND SKILLS

OUTCOMES OF OFSTED INSPECTIONS OF SCHOOLS – TERMLY UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. To inform the Committee of the outcomes of inspections of state funded schools over the Autumn term 2019 and any actions being taken by the Council to support those schools identified as Requiring Improvement (RI) or Ofsted category of concern.
2. For the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to Require Improvement, the report seeks approval for the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services to write to the head teacher and chair of governors to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress towards becoming a Good school. In relation to academies, the Chairman and Corporate Director will also write to the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC).
3. For the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good but declining, the report seeks the approval for the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services to write to the head teacher and chair of governors to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress towards remaining a Good school. In relation to academies, the Chairman and Corporate Director will also write to the RSC.
4. For schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain or become Good or Outstanding, the report also seeks approval for the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services to write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to congratulate them on their achievement. Copies of congratulatory letters will also be sent to the RSC in relation to academies judged to be Good, remain Good or Outstanding.

Information

5. There is a time lag between inspection outcomes as known within the Council and the published summary data. This report will focus on published Ofsted reports for the Autumn term, 2019-20 academic year.
6. This report draws on two main sources of data:

- Ofsted's website www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted which publishes individual school inspection reports, usually within two weeks of inspection. However, this can take considerably longer for a school that is judged as Inadequate as Ofsted carries out increased quality assurance exercises. This can take up to two months to complete.
- Ofsted's monthly management information <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/monthly-management-information-ofsteds-school-inspections-outcomes>. This is up to date as at 31 December 2019 and provides data on the proportion of Good schools at Local Authority level but not the proportion of learners attending Good schools. This provides an overall comparison of the performance of Nottinghamshire schools with those nationally.

7. All schools inspected across the Autumn term 2019 were inspected under the revised inspection framework. The new framework has brought some significant changes to the inspection process. The key changes are:

- Ofsted inspections will focus on what Her Majesty's Chief Inspector calls the real substance of education, the curriculum.
- Inspectors will spend less time looking at test data, and more time looking at what is taught and how it is taught. They will consider how a nursery, school, college or other education provider achieves its results.
- Ofsted want to make sure that good results flow from teaching a broad, rich curriculum and reflect real learning, not just intensive preparation for a test. They will look at the curriculum:
 - Intent; how the curriculum is designed to meet the needs of the school's pupils
 - Implementation; how the curriculum intent is delivered through effective, research-based pedagogy
 - Impact; what difference the curriculum makes on pupil learning and preparation for the next stage of their education and for full and rich lives as adults.
- Schools will be graded on the areas that Ofsted believe matter most to parents:
 - the quality of education
 - behaviour and attitudes
 - personal development
 - leadership and management.
- Inspectors will look at how a school contributes to pupils' broader development, including their character, citizenship and resilience. They will also look at how the school manages behaviour, low-level disruption and bullying, so that parents can be assured that the school is one in which pupils are safe and able to learn.
- Inspectors will check that school leaders are behaving with integrity by putting children's interests first. This includes checking that schools do not enter pupils for qualifications that are inappropriate for the child but that may have a positive impact on the school's published performance data.

- Inspectors will also check that schools are not removing pupils from the school's roll without a formal, permanent exclusion when this is not in the child's best interests. We refer to this as 'off-rolling'.
- The reports will be shorter and clearer. They will tell parents what it's like to be a child in that school, what the school is doing well and what it could be doing better.
- Ofsted will keep the current grading system of:
 - outstanding
 - good
 - requires improvement
 - inadequate.

8. There are two types of inspection under the common inspection framework that are used to judge the performance of schools in England and both will be a two day inspection unless the school has less than 150 pupils when a section 8 inspection will be for one day only:

- the Section 5 inspection is a two day inspection of a school that provides judgements against the four key inspection areas (the quality of education, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, leadership and management) and the overall judgement for the school. If the school has an Early Years Foundation Stage or a 6th Form, these will receive additional judgements.
- the Section 8 inspection is a two day inspection of schools previously judged as Good by Ofsted (and for Outstanding special schools and Pupil Referral Units). This inspection evaluates whether the school remains at the same grade as at the previous inspection. If the Ofsted pre-inspection desktop analysis indicates that the inspection is likely to convert to a Section 5 inspection, the school will be informed at the initial contact telephone call that the inspection will be carried out as a section 5 inspection rather than a section 8. If inspectors are concerned that a particular area of provision has declined significantly then the inspection will convert and be deemed a section 5 inspection. This will mean that all the areas within the framework will receive a judgement as outlined above.
- All inspections referred to in this report were carried out under the new framework.

9. **Appendix 1** shows Local Authority inspections over the Autumn term 2019. Compared with previous inspections:

- There were 30 schools inspected in the Autumn term compared to 19 schools in the summer term.
- 23 of the inspections in the Autumn term were of Good schools. 17 of these schools retained their previous Good judgement.
- Two schools, Haddon Primary & Nursery and Killisick Junior, moved from Requiring Improvement to Good.
- One school Chetwynd Primary Academy moved from Good to Outstanding.

- Lovers' Lane Primary and Samworth Church Academy both moved from Good to Requiring Improvement.
 - Holgate Primary & Nursery and King Edward Primary remain as Requiring Improvement.
 - Crossdale Drive Primary Academy moved from outstanding to good.
 - Two academies had their first inspections since conversion; The William Gladstone Primary was graded as Requiring Improvement, Leamington Primary & Nursery was graded as Good.
 - Three schools retained their Good judgement but were graded as Good and Declining and their next inspection will therefore be a full Section 5 inspection: Leverton C of E Academy, Ramsden Primary and Westwood Infant and Nursery.
10. **Appendix 2** shows the reasons the schools were placed in Requiring Improvement and the actions taken by the Local Authority to support these schools.
11. The summary table below shows that, as a result of the inspections over the last term, Nottinghamshire is 1% below the national average for all schools with Nottinghamshire primary schools also performing 1% below primary schools nationally. All schools in Nottinghamshire remain above the East Midlands figure. Nottinghamshire secondary schools continue to perform well above the national and regional figures. Nottinghamshire primary schools are just above the regional figure.

Management Information for Schools 31 December 2019			
Number of Good or better schools	National	Notts	E Midlands
All Schools	87%	86%	82%
Primary	87%	86%	85%
Secondary	76%	86%	70%

Other Options Considered:

12. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

13. To ensure Members of the Committee are aware of the steps being taken to ensure that all children in Nottinghamshire have the opportunity to attend a Good school.

Statutory and Policy Implications

14. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty,

safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

15. It is part of the Local Authority's statutory duty to support maintained schools which have been risk assessed as Requiring Improvement. One maintained school fell into this category and is identified at **paragraph 9**. Due to the Education Improvement Service annual risk assessment process this school had already been identified as requiring additional support and the cost of this will be met from the DfE School Improvement Grant. The School Improvement Grant is £738,420 for 2019-20.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) for the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to Require Improvement, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress to become a Good school. In relation to academies, a letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner.
- 2) for the schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good but declining, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to inform them that the Committee will track closely their progress to become a Good school. In relation to academies, a letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner.
- 3) for schools identified in the report judged by Ofsted to remain Good, or become Good or Outstanding, the Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee and the Corporate Director of Children and Families Services write to the head teacher and chair of governors of Local Authority maintained schools to congratulate them on their achievement. A copy of this letter will also be sent to the Regional Schools Commissioner in relation to academies.

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Constitutional Comments (KK 02/03/20)

16. The proposals in this report are within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee.

Financial Comments (SAS 02/03/20)

17. It is part of the Local Authority's statutory duty to support maintained schools which have been risk assessed as Requiring Improvement. One maintained school fell into this category and is identified at **paragraph 9**. Due to the Education Improvement Service annual risk assessment process this school had already been identified as requiring additional support and the cost of this will be met from the DfE School Improvement Grant. The School Improvement Grant is £738,420 for 2019-20.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

[Outcomes of Ofsted Inspections of schools – termly update: report to Children and Young People's Committee on 14th October 2019](#)

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C1358