



18<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Agenda Item: 8

## **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 2018 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 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, 2018-19 academic year.
6. This report draws on two main sources of data:

- Ofsted's website [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://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 2018 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. There are two types of inspection under the common inspection framework that are used to judge the performance of schools in England:

- the Section 5 inspection is a two day inspection of a school that was Good but declining at its most recent inspection or Good and improving towards Outstanding, Requires Improvement or is Inadequate or is being inspected for the first time (typically a new academy). This inspection provides judgements against the four key inspection areas (Effectiveness of leadership and management; Quality of teaching, learning and assessment; Personal development, behaviour and welfare; and Outcomes for pupils) and the overall judgement for the school. If the school has an Early Years Foundation Stage or a 6<sup>th</sup> Form, these will receive additional judgements.
- the Section 8 inspection is a one 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.
- from September 2018 Ofsted has adopted a revised schedule for the timing of school inspections summarised as follows (changes are in bold):
  - New schools
    - Ofsted usually inspects all new schools, including academies, **normally this happens in the school's third year**
  - Schools judged 'Outstanding'
    - Some schools judged Outstanding are exempt from routine inspection. However, Ofsted can inspect them using a Section 8 inspection.
    - This exemption does not apply to maintained nursery schools, special schools or pupil referral units
  - Schools judged 'Good'
    - A school judged Good will normally receive a one-day short inspection, approximately every 4 years but some will receive a full inspection, if the school's performance may have deteriorated significantly. This may be due to a range of indicators including data, qualifying complaints or subject inspections
    - if a school shows improved performance at its short inspection, then it may receive a full inspection within 2 years to determine if it is now Outstanding. This

is the process that applied to Crescent Primary, now judged as Outstanding (see below).

- if a lead inspector is not satisfied at a short inspection that the school remains Good, then the next inspection will be a full inspection within 2 years to determine if the school remains Good, Requires Improvement or is Inadequate.
  - Ofsted will convert short inspections to full inspections within 48 hours if evidence suggests that the school may be Inadequate or there are serious concerns about safeguarding, pupils' behaviour or the quality of education.
  - Schools judged 'Requires Improvement'
    - Ofsted may monitor a school judged to Require Improvement. **This will not normally apply to a school that has been judged Requires Improvement for the first time.** The school will usually have a **full re-inspection within 30 months of the school's last full inspection.**
  - Schools judged 'Inadequate'
    - When Ofsted judges a school as Inadequate, it places the school in a category of concern. This means Ofsted judges the school either to have serious weaknesses or to require special measures.
    - The school will then become a sponsored academy. **Ofsted will not usually monitor the school unless there are safeguarding concerns or there is a delay in the school becoming a sponsored academy.**
- a new inspection framework will be implemented from September 2019. The draft framework has now been published and the Local Authority will be able to comment on this during the spring term. Ofsted is piloting the new inspection framework in Nottinghamshire schools over the autumn term 2018 and the spring term 2019.

8. **Appendix 1** shows Local Authority inspections over the autumn term 2018. Compared with previous inspections:

- there were 24 schools inspected in the autumn term
- 21 of the inspections in the autumn term were of Good schools. 16 of these schools retained their previous Good judgement of which four were Good but declining. These four schools will be subject to a full inspection within the next two years.
- Crescent Primary moved from a Good school to be judged as Outstanding.
- Priestsic Primary, Newstead Primary, Stanhope Primary and Gotham Primary all moved from Good to Requiring Improvement. Gotham Primary and Stanhope Primary were both judged as Good but declining in their previous inspections. For Gotham the full inspection was 7 months, including the summer break, after the short inspection that found the school was declining. For Stanhope the full inspection was 8 months, including the summer break, after the short inspection that found the school was declining.
- King Edward Primary remains as Requiring Improvement following the first Section 8 monitoring inspection.
- Arnbrook Primary Academy improved from Inadequate to Requiring Improvement.
- Hillocks Primary remains in Special Measures but was found to be taking effective action at its second monitoring visit.

9. **Appendix 2** shows the reasons the schools were placed in Requiring Improvement and the actions taken by the Local Authority to support these schools.
10. The summary table below shows that, as a result of the inspections over the last term, Nottinghamshire continues to remain above the national average for all schools and secondary schools in terms of the proportion of Good or better schools and is well above other East Midlands local authorities' average in all three areas. Nottinghamshire remains above the East Midlands average, but below the national average in terms of the proportion of primary schools that are Good or better. Secondary schools are above both the East Midlands and the national average.

Management Information for Schools 31 August 2018			
Number of Good or better schools	National	Notts	E Midlands
All Schools	85%	86%	83%
Primary	87%	85%	84%
Secondary	75%	88%	70%

#### Other Options Considered:

11. No other options have been considered.

#### Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. 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

13. 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

14. It is part of the Local Authority's statutory duty to support maintained schools which have been risk assessed as Requiring Improvement. Four schools fell into this category and are identified at **paragraph 8**. Due to the Education Improvement Service annual risk assessment process all four schools had been identified as requiring additional support and costed into the Support to Schools' Education Improvement Service Targeted Support budget, taken from the DfE School Improvement Grant for maintained schools in Nottinghamshire. There are no funding changes as a result of these schools being judged as Requiring Improvement.

15. Additional funding will be required to meet the costs of additional support for schools judged by Ofsted as Inadequate. This is likely to be up to £35,000 per school and will be funded from Local Authority targeted support.

## **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 towards remaining 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 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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**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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### **Constitutional Comments (EP 18/02/19)**

16. The recommendations fall within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee by virtue of its terms of reference.

### **Financial Comments (SAS 22/02/19)**

17. The financial implications of the report are contained within paragraphs 14 and 15 above.

## **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 15 October 2018

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

C1219