

Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee – Ofsted Subgroup

Minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2018

Present:

Councillor Stone – in the Chair
Councillor Reid

Mr R Lammas, Primary sector teacher representative
Ms M Neall, Co-opted Member, Parent Governor Representative

Councillor S Newman, Executive Member for Children's Services
Councillor Rahman, Executive Member for Schools, Culture and Leisure

Apologies: Councillors Alijah, Collins and Taylor
Mrs B Kellner, Co-opted Member, Representative of the Diocese of Manchester

CYP/OSG/18/01 Minutes

The Chair requested that the visit to Precious Kids Day Nursery be organised for Members of the Subgroup (see item CYP/OSG/17/18)

Decisions

1. To agree the minutes of the Ofsted Subgroup meeting held on 17 October 2017 as a correct record.
2. To request that the visit to Precious Kids Day Nursery for Members of the Ofsted Subgroup as requested at the previous meeting be organised.

CYP/OSG/18/02 Feedback from Visits

A member of the group reported that they had recently visited Cringle Brook Primary School. She said that the visit had been very positive and that she had been particularly impressed by the staff and the imaginative use of space at the site. She said the environment was very pleasant and the nursery staff encouraged independence and curious minds.

A member said that they had undertaken a visit to Carisbrook Day Nursery and had found it to be very positive experience. A Member of the group said that she had concerns regarding privacy around the site and said that she would welcome the introduction of a screen around the parameter of the site. She said that she also had concerns around the issue of Air Quality around schools.

CYP/OSG/18/03 Ofsted Inspections of Manchester Schools

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for the Grange School,

which had been rated as 'Inadequate'. The Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officer said that inspectors had identified issues of concern during their visit regarding the curriculum and teaching, however what was not reflected in the final report was their positive observations regarding behaviour, student welfare and safeguarding.

Members of the group said that there were very few positives in the report and expressed concern at the reported ineffectiveness of the governing body, concern over the use of the Pupil Premium and the provision of 6th form education.

The Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officer said that an interim governing body had been established following the inspection and an improvement action plan had been written and this had been submitted to Ofsted for approval.

The Subgroup recommended that the improvement plan be submitted for comment at the next meeting.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for Medlock Primary School, which had been rated as 'Requires improvement'. The Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officer said that the issues identified around progress and attainment were as a result of staff turnover for Key Stage 2 pupils, however this had since been addressed.

A member commented that despite the overall rating the report had highlighted a lot of positive aspects that were demonstrated by the school. The Chair commented that he was confident that a future inspection report would reflect the improvements.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for Ravensbury Community School, which had improved its rating from 'Good' to 'Outstanding'. The Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officer said that the high standards that had resulted in the rating filtered throughout every aspect of school life.

Members of the group commented that the report had highlighted the importance of an experienced and knowledgeable body of governors. A Member said that she welcomed the comments regarding the care for staff that was referred to and the group asked for further information on the connected curriculum that was referred to in the report.

The Subgroup recommended that a letter be sent to Ravensbury Community School to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted report and to arrange a visit to the school for Members of the Ofsted Subgroup.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for St John's CoE Primary School, which had been rated as 'Requires improvement'. The Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officer said that the issues identified regarding the post of substantive head teacher had been addressed with the appointment of an Executive Head Teacher, working in federation with other local schools. He said that he was confident that the changes to the management structure at the school would result in the required improvements.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for St Kentigern's RC

Primary School, which had improved its rating from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Outstanding'. The Senior Schools Quality Assurance Officer said that the vision and drive that was articulated by the Head Teacher was evident in all aspects of school life and activity that had resulted in such a dramatic improvement for the school.

Members commented that the report demonstrated the value of a varied curriculum and the joy of learning was evidenced throughout the report. Members commented that the report highlighted the great work of Teaching Assistants and the benefits to learning of imaginative school visits.

The Subgroup recommended that a letter be sent to St Kentigerns's RC Primary School to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted report.

Decisions

1. To write to Ravensbury Community School to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted report and arrange a visit to the school for Members of the Ofsted Subgroup.
2. To write to St Kentigerns's RC Primary School to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted report.

CYP/OSG/18/04 Daycare Providers

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for Happy Kids, which had been rated as 'Requires improvement'. The Senior Quality Assurance Officer (Early Years) said that the rating was as a result of Ofsted not being notified that the registered manager had changed. The Executive Member for Children's Services said that she was confident that other than for that the rating would have been 'Good' and that the site would be inspected again within a year.

The Senior Quality Assurance Officer (Early Years) said that any prospective private company wishing to establish a new day care service was invited to attend a briefing where all of the expectations and requirements were explained to them. She said they became aware of new operators when they registered with Ofsted or via notification from other businesses or professionals such as Health Visitors.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for The Co-operative Childcare Forum, which had maintained its rating of 'Good'. The Subgroup noted that the management at the site was very effective and this was reflected throughout the report.

The Subgroup recommended that a letter be sent to The Co-operative Childcare Forum to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted inspection report.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for Tiny Turtles Daycare, which had been rated as 'Good'. The Senior Quality Assurance Officer (Early Years) said that this was a very positive report for a provider who had previously operated as a childminder before becoming a provider of daycare. The

Executive Member said that she was confident that future inspection reports would continue to demonstrate improvements and good practice.

The Chair said that he welcomed the comments in the report that highlighted good teaching, personalised activities and support for children who speak English as an additional language and for those with special educational needs.

The Subgroup recommended that a letter be sent to Tiny Turtles to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted inspection report.

The Subgroup considered the recent Ofsted inspection report for Winstanley Day Nursery, which had improved its rating from 'Good' to 'Outstanding'. The Senior Quality Assurance Officer (Early Years) said that the site had become a facility that other providers in the locality could access to share good practice, especially in regard to the teaching of maths. The Subgroup welcomed this and congratulated the provider for delivering such an excellent service in a challenging area.

The Subgroup recommended that a letter be sent to Winstanley Day Nursery to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted inspection report.

Decisions

1. To write to The Co-operative Childcare Forum to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted inspection report.
2. To write to Tiny Turtles Daycare to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted inspection report.
3. To write to Winstanley Day Nursery to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted inspection report and arrange a visit to the nursery for Members of the Ofsted Subgroup.

CYP/OSG/18/05 Terms of Reference and Work Programme

The Chair recommended that the Ofsted inspection report for St Matthew's RC High School be submitted to the next meeting of the Ofsted Subgroup.

The Chair further recommended that the post Ofsted inspection action plan for the Grange School be submitted to the next meeting of the Ofsted Subgroup.

The Subgroup agreed these recommendations.

Decision

To agree the work programme subject to the above amendments.

CYP/OSG/18/06 Exclusion of the Public

A recommendation was made that the public be excluded during consideration of the next item of business because it contained exempt information as provided for in the Local Government Access to Information Act and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

Decision

To exclude the public during consideration of the following item of business.

**CYP/OSG/18/07 Ofsted Inspections of Manchester Children's Homes
(Public Excluded)**

The Subgroup considered the report that was introduced by the Head of Service (Looked After Children) that provided details of recent Ofsted inspections outcomes at Manchester City Council children's homes.

The Subgroup welcomed both reports and commented that both evidenced the good practice in the safety and welfare of children in care. The group noted the activities of one of the site's that had worked with families to help maintain children to remain in their family home.

Decision

To write to both Children's homes to congratulate them on their recent Ofsted inspection ratings.