

<b>CABINET MEMBER UPDATE</b> <b>Overview and Scrutiny (Children's Services and Safeguarding)</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Period of Report</b>
Diane Roscoe	Education	August 2022

### **Education Excellence**

Recruitment to vacant posts within Education Excellence continues. There is difficulty in recruiting SEND case officers which has an impact on the production of Education, Health, Care Plans (EHCPs).

We continue to develop our strategies in working with, supporting and challenging schools. This year will see the introduction of a programme across primary schools based on the successful secondary programme. The professional Partners Programme has been successful and will be expanded this year. We are building on the work started with the School Improvement Groups to further develop the partnership work to support and challenge schools.

### **Schools**

This half term we have had the final reports for three schools. Maricourt High was rated good overall an improvement from the last inspection when they were requires improvement. Waterloo Primary remained good and Our Lady of Walsingham was rated requires improvement. The school improvement team continue to support, challenge and broker additional support for schools.

This term we will continue to offer health checks in a range of areas including early years; school improvement and curriculum; SEND and leadership and management to all schools rated good or outstanding due for an inspection. Schools have found this beneficial and enabled them to target areas for development which has resulted in a positive impact in inspection results.

### **St Teresa's**

St Teresa's school closed on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022. We have negotiated a short term lease with Liverpool Archdiocese whilst surveys are carried out on the building pending a long term lease of 25 years. This will enable us to provide new and additional places for children in primary schools with a diagnosis of Social, Emotional, Mental Health (SEMH). In addition this will provide additional capacity for secondary pupils at Newfield as the younger children move to the St Teresa's site.

### **Sacred Heart**

The school moved to the St Francis Academy Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022

### **Savio**

Savio has been accepted onto the new build programme. As a result, due diligence on moving to Pope Francis Academy trust has resumed. The intended date for conversion is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

### **Exams and Tests**

Provisional results have been published for all exams and tests at primary and secondary level. Whilst we have seen a rise in attainment at GCSE and A Level in comparison to 2019

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we have seen a slight decline in KS1 and KS2 SATs. This is in line with a national picture at KS1 and KS2, there is no comparison available yet at GCSE and A Level.

### **White Paper, 'Opportunity for All'**

One of the key components in the paper is for all schools to move to academy status by 2030. Schools, particularly community schools are concerned about the implications for them. A meeting was facilitated at Edge Hill College to outline the key objectives. Further support is planned for schools this term to enable them to consider the best options for them. Sefton currently has 10 small Multi Academy Trust (MATs), including two Archdiocesan and one Diocesan trusts operating within Sefton.

### **School Rebuilding Programme**

Of the schools identified: Hudson; Lydiate; Netherton Moss; Woodlands; Meols Cop; The Grange; St Philips (Litherland); Marshside; Redgate and Summerhill. Lydiate has been identified as being part of the programme. The other schools continue to go through the process and as yet no further information has been given as to whether they are successful or not.

### **Attendance**

On 6th May 2022, the DfE published new guidance on school attendance along with a summary table of responsibilities that will come into force from 1st September 2022. The guidance places expectations on:

- All school and academy trust staff, headteachers, governors, academy trustees, and alternative provision providers
- Local authority attendance staff, early help lead practitioners, social workers, and virtual school heads

The guidance is intended to:

- help schools, trusts, governing bodies and local authorities maintain high levels of school attendance
- summarise the roles and responsibilities of parents, schools, trusts, governing bodies and local authorities
- summarise the support that should be provided to families, including for pupils who are persistently or severely absent or at risk of becoming so
- provide details of attendance legal interventions available to schools and local authorities where support does not work, is not engaged with or is not appropriate
- provide details of what schools are required to record in the attendance and admission registers

There will be significant change to the way attendance is addressed nationally and Sefton have been planning with the schools what the new attendance model will look like. Early help is the focus of the model. We plan to provide regular updates as developments progress. We will be publishing dates on new attendance network meetings and all schools have a named point of contact.

### **SEND**

The new framework is currently in consultation and will be rolled out from January 2023. The focus will be on experiences and outcomes for children and young people; how the Local Area Partnership works together to plan evaluate and develop SEND system; core criteria developed against which the Area Partnership will be evaluated. The judgements will be based on in depth discussions, case tracking, sampling and data.

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[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/926253/The\\_framework\\_for\\_the\\_inspection\\_of\\_local\\_areas\\_effectiveness\\_in\\_identifying\\_meeting\\_needs\\_children\\_who\\_have\\_SEND.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/926253/The_framework_for_the_inspection_of_local_areas_effectiveness_in_identifying_meeting_needs_children_who_have_SEND.pdf)

Newton Europe have been appointed to support us in the first stage of the DBV programme. They will be meeting with various people over the next few months so that a robust action plan can be implemented.

In preparation for the inspection and undertaking the DBV programme then Heather Loveridge has joined the education team as Interim AD for Education Improvement with responsibility for supporting the SEND teams. Heather has already started benchmarking against the inspection and DBV criteria and will be developing an action plan to support further development.

Additional capacity within Sefton is being developed through a range of projects across the LA. This includes additional ASD provision at Rowan High and Rowan Park; Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) at Crosby High and Complex Learning Difficulties (CLD) at Redgate. In addition we are developing extra capacity for KS1 and KS2 children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) in the St Teresa's building as an annexe to Newfield. Other projects being considered are SEMH provision at The Grange; ASD provision at Freshfield; CLD provision at Formby High; profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD) at Rowan Park and ASD provision at Marshside.