

**REPORT FOR: Corporate Parenting
Panel**

Date of Meeting: 17 December 2013

Subject: **INFORMATION REPORT –
Report on Champions for Young
People in Education**

Responsible Officer: Catherine Doran
Corporate Director of Children and
Families

Exempt: No

Enclosures: None

Section 1 – Summary

This report sets out information about the arrangements for the establishment of Education Champions for Harrow Looked After Children.

FOR INFORMATION

Section 2 – Report

- 2.1 We all share an ambition to improve outcomes for children and young people in care and we all have a role as corporate parents to help this ambition become a reality.
- 2.2 The Education Champion acts as an ambitious parent on behalf of the child and a critical friend for the Social Worker and other professionals around the CLA.
- 2.3 We currently have 11 Education Champions in place:
 - 2 ESSO
 - 3 HSIP (including Head of HSIP)
 - 1 Corporate Director
 - 1 Divisional Director
 - 2 Acting Virtual Heads
 - 1 Service Manager
 - 1 Analyst
- 2.4 Every Champion has been allocated a Y11 pupil and have been encouraged to make contact with the Social Worker, to identify potential barriers to Learning and professional conversations have begun
- 2.5 Following GCSE Mock exams, Champions will be invited to a pupil progress meeting on February 13th to discuss outcomes for these Y11 pupils, in order for the Virtual School to plan targeted interventions if necessary.
- 2.6 There will be no contact with the young person although they will be aware they have an Education Champion. This is to maintain confidentiality and restrict the number of professionals already involved with the CLA. (However, if attendance at a PEP, LAC review or Annual Review is considered helpful by the Social Worker, IRO or Virtual School and agreed by the Young Person, this could be a time when a meeting takes place.)
- 2.7 As at December 2013, 60% of the designated Harrow Education Champions have made contact with Social Workers regarding the achievement and performance of their Looked After Child.
- 2.8 In addition to the work of the Champions to support these and all secondary CLA pupils, a homework club is being set up starting on January 9th, every Thursday evening from 4.00 – 6.00 pm at the Weald Centre. One paid tutor will attend with several volunteers (some retired teachers) in order to help students with homework and revision.

Section 3 – Further Information

The Virtual Headteachers will be providing updates on how this initiative is progressing and the impact the arrangements are having on securing improved outcomes for Children Looked After..

Section 4 – Financial Implications

There is no additional budget required for this initiative. Officers who have agreed to be Education Champions will ensure this function is covered within their Officer role.

Section 5 - Equalities implications

The strategy is intended to close the achievement gap between CLA and the average for all pupils in Harrow.

Section 6 –Priorities

The report is focused on improving outcomes for one of the most vulnerable groups of Children and Young People. These are those in LA care, who nationally and locally are known to be educationally achieving significantly below their peers. The report therefore contributes to the Council priority of a fairer Harrow.

Name: Jo Frost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 12 th December 2013		

Section 7 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Jane Munroe / Tina Henley Acting Virtual Headteachers
Jane Munroe – 020 8416 8852

Background Papers: None