

Report for: Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel

Item number:

Title: Update on exclusions from schools

Report

authorised by:



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Lead Officer:

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Ward(s) affected: All

Report for

Non-Key Decision: Update on exclusions from Haringey schools

1. Describe the issue under consideration

The Council is undertaking a review of exclusions and the final report will come to Scrutiny Panel later in the year. This report provides a summary of the latest position.

2. Recommendations

Members are asked to note the headline information on exclusions from our schools and actions being taken to reduce exclusions as well as noting the imminent publication of the exclusions review carried out in Haringey.

3. Background information

- 3.1 Haringey's rate of permanent exclusions (0.23% in 2017/18 provisional) has been steadily increasing and is above statistical neighbours and London average (0.19% in 2017/17 latest published data). National research¹ shows that the numbers of black and ethnic minority boys and children with SEND subject to permanent exclusion is disproportionate.
- 3.2 Recently published data shows an improvement in the rate of secondary fixed term exclusions (9.16% in 2016/17). Haringey's figure is lower than statistical neighbours (9.51% in 2016/17) but is not meeting the local target of being below the London average by 2018 (7.5% in 2016/17).
- 3.3 While the Council has no statutory responsibility for processes leading to exclusions but has a number of duties around access to education (including ensuring children excluded from school receive suitable education). It also has a significant leadership role in securing good outcomes for children and young people, both through its statutory responsibilities for children's services and

youth provision and by providing or commissioning early help.

- 3.4 The Council commissioned a review via the CDU to look at how what was causing the increase in exclusions, how they could be reduced and what other support schools, young people and families need to keep our children in school and learning.
- 3.5 The review is nearing its conclusion and it is expected to be published in February. It will be inextricably linked to a review of our alternative provision (AP) and this the quality breadth and depth of this provision supports our young people and our schools to keep children in school and ensure that time away is to use to deliver effective support with the ultimate aim for a return to mainstream in the majority of cases.
- 3.6 Once the review report is finalised, it will be distributed to stakeholders, including Secondary Schools via Secondary Heads Forum. Further work between the LA, schools and partners will be carried out to agree next steps and develop response to review. We will progress key recommendations, including but not limited to:
 - developing a system map and guide to the support and pathways offered locally for children at risk of exclusion;
 - Establishing a forum for the sharing of good practice and development of system-wide solutions (proposal for this to be a focus of the one of the conferences led by the BAME steering group)

The most up to date data on exclusions in Haringey can be found at Appendix 1 of this report.

4. Contribution to strategic outcomes

Outcome 4. **Best start in life: the first few years of every child's life will give them the long-term foundations to thrive**

Outcome 5. **Happy childhood: all children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up, feeling safe and secure in their family, networks and communities**

Outcome 6. **Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future**

5. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 shows a summary of data for exclusions in our schools.

6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

NA

Appendix 1

Data on primary school exclusions in Haringey

The number of fixed term and permanent exclusions for the last 3 academic years

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18 1 term only
Perm Exclusions	<4	<4	4	0
Fixed Term Exclusions	198	164	125	38

- *Note: exclusions data is gathered via the school census and there is a 2-term lag. Therefore, we can only report up to term 1 of the 2017/18 academic year so far.*

Secondary data – to be tabled