

**Report for:** 16 September 2025 – Cabinet

**Item number:** To be added by the Committee Section

**Title:** Implementation of the Education Strategy for all children and young people 0 – 19 (2025-28)

**Report authorised by:** Ann Graham, Corporate Director for Children Services

**Lead Officer:** Jane Edwards, Director of Schools and Learning  
Carlo Kodsi, Head of Admissions and School Organisation

**Ward(s) affected:** All

**Report for Key/  
Non Key Decision:** Key Decision

## **1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1. This report seeks Cabinet approval for the implementation of Haringey's Education Strategy 2025–2028, which will apply to all children and young people aged 0–19 across the borough, commencing in September 2025.
- 1.2. The Education Strategy serves as a comprehensive framework aimed at ensuring that every child and young person in Haringey is supported to thrive and achieve their full potential. Haringey's education provision is currently strong, with 98% of schools rated as good or outstanding by Ofsted, and high-quality educational opportunities available in both the East and West of the borough.
- 1.3. The continued success of Haringey's young people is fundamental to the borough's long-term development and prosperity. There is a shared sense of pride in the achievements of the local education system and its partners. Nonetheless, there remains a firm commitment to further improving outcomes for all children and young people. This ambition is clearly articulated through the vision, strategic priorities, and operational approaches outlined in the Education Strategy at Appendix 1.
- 1.4. The Strategy reaffirms the Council's dedication to collaborative working with key stakeholders—including schools, parents and carers, governors, community organisations, and the wider education sector—to deliver an inclusive and high-quality education offer for all.

## **2. Cabinet Member Introduction**

- 2.1. I am delighted to introduce Haringey's Education Strategy (2025-28). Haringey's Education Strategy is a roadmap to ensuring every child and young person in our borough has the opportunity to belong and thrive. There are around 59,800 children and young people between the ages of 0-19 in Haringey, and approximately 9,000 have special education needs and disabilities. With over 180 languages spoken across the borough, Haringey is committed to working in partnership with all stakeholders, including schools, parents/carers, governors, and community organisations, to support children's education.
- 2.2. Haringey has excellent schools, with 98% rated good or outstanding. This is due to the hard work of educators in constantly striving for exceptional outcomes for our children. There is a real pride in Haringey in what we have been able to collectively achieve. However, we are determined to do more, and this is set out in this strategy.
- 2.3. Our strategic vision includes eight key priorities which will form the basis of the Education Strategy:
  1. Ensure that every child and young person has a pathway for their future and their success and all that entails.
  2. Ensure that key transition points in a child's education are well defined and support their needs.
  3. Ensure that the views and thoughts of children, young people, and their families are captured and inform our strategy and work in our settings.
  4. Ensure strong leadership at every level to maintain and improve the excellent educational opportunities in Haringey.
  5. Explore collaboration and sustainability opportunities fully, creating resilience in our smaller schools.
  6. Ensure that school communities are green.
  7. Support children and young people to ensure their resilience and well-being, including their physical, emotional, and mental health.
  8. Implement a digital learning strategy across Haringey that supports learning whether at school, at home, or in their local communities.
- 2.4. This strategy should be read in conjunction with our [SEND Strategy 2022-2025](#), our [Early Years Strategy](#) and our borough vision [Haringey 2035](#). There is much to do, but this is an exciting and promising time for us to deliver for the children and young people of Haringey. Together, we can create a brighter future for all children and young people in Haringey.

## **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:

- **Approve** the implementation of Haringey's Education Strategy 2025–2028, which applies to all children and young people aged 0–19 in the borough, with effect from September 2025.
- **Note** the following supporting materials:
  - a. Details of the planned media and communications campaign at Appendix 3 to promote the Strategy, aligned with its official launch at the start of the 2025/26 academic year.

#### 4. Reasons for decision

##### Context and rationale

- 4.1. The Education Strategy 2025–2028, presented at **Appendix 1**, sets out Haringey's strategic vision for education across eight key priority areas. It is intended to be read alongside the [Haringey SEND strategy 2022-2025](#) and the [Early Years Strategy](#) ensuring alignment across all stages of a child's educational journey.
- 4.2. The Strategy is underpinned by the values and ambitions of the **Haringey Deal**, placing children and young people at the centre of its vision. It aims to deliver inclusive and equitable outcomes for all, through strong partnerships with educational settings, families, and community stakeholders.
- 4.3. A key focus of the Strategy is addressing persistent educational inequalities. It acknowledges the need to improve outcomes for groups such as Black Caribbean pupils—who are also disproportionately represented in suspensions and exclusions—and Turkish/Kurdish pupils, who face early educational challenges but make strong progress at secondary level. These insights are informed by robust data analysis, including suspension and exclusion trends, which guide targeted interventions and resource allocation.
- 4.4. The Strategy also embraces innovation, recognising the growing role of **digital technology and artificial intelligence (AI)** in education. It calls for the development of a borough-wide digital strategy to support learning across school, home, and community settings. Drawing on evidence from the **Education Endowment Foundation (EEF)** and other research, the Strategy highlights how AI and digital tools—when used effectively—can enhance teaching and learning outcomes.
- 4.5. There is an unequivocal focus on inclusion in the strategy. We want to ensure that every child and young person in the borough has the opportunity to engage positively with their education and secure the qualifications they need to transition successfully to adult life.
- 4.6. The Strategy further recognises the financial pressures facing schools and the importance of schools working to form partnerships and secure sustainability through joint working.

- 4.7. In light of the above, Cabinet is recommended to approve the implementation and launch of the Education Strategy 2025–2028. The Strategy positions education as a transformative force—central to safeguarding, reducing inequality, improving health outcomes, and expanding life opportunities. It promotes a continuous, supportive educational journey from birth to adulthood.
- 4.8. The Strategy will be launched in September 2025 through a borough-wide media and communications campaign. This will serve not only to celebrate the achievements of Haringey’s education community but also to reaffirm the Council’s commitment to sustaining and enhancing educational excellence, school estate resilience, and the overall wellbeing—physical, emotional, and mental—of its children and young people.

## **5. Alternative options considered**

- 5.1. At the time of drafting this report, no alternative options to the proposed Haringey Education Strategy—comprising eight key priorities—have been considered. These priorities were identified and developed collaboratively with key stakeholders to reflect the borough’s specific educational context. Further details regarding the development process of the Strategy are provided in the **Background Information** section at paragraph 6.6 below.
- 5.2. While other local authorities across London and England have produced their own education strategies—each with varying structures and thematic priorities—Haringey’s Strategy is tailored to address the unique strengths and challenges of the borough’s education system.

## **6. Background information**

### **Strategic overview**

- 6.1. Haringey’s Education Strategy 2025–2028 sets out a comprehensive vision to ensure that every child and young person in the borough thrives academically, socially, and emotionally. Serving a diverse population of approximately 59,800 children and young people aged 0–19—including around 9,000 with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)—the Strategy is built on the principles of equity, inclusion, and excellence.
- 6.2. The Strategy builds on Haringey’s strong educational foundation, with 98% of schools rated as good or outstanding by Ofsted. It identifies eight strategic priorities, including improving transitions, supporting mental health and wellbeing, enhancing digital learning, and ensuring the sustainability of school provision.

### **Social and Economic drivers**

- 6.3. The Strategy is shaped by recent social and economic challenges, including the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ongoing cost-of-living crisis, and increasing mental health needs among children and young people. It

emphasises the importance of trauma-informed practice, early intervention, and inclusive education to address persistent absence, suspensions, and attainment gaps—particularly among Black Caribbean, Turkish/Kurdish, and SEND pupils.

- 6.4. Strong leadership, cross-sector collaboration, and meaningful engagement with families and communities are identified as essential enablers of success.

### **Alignment with the Haringey Deal**

- 6.5. A central theme of the Strategy is its alignment with the **Haringey Deal**, which promotes co-production with children, young people, and families. The Strategy commits to reducing educational disparities, improving outcomes for children in care and those with social workers, and strengthening the resilience of smaller schools through collaboration and estate rationalisation. It also supports the borough's environmental sustainability and carbon neutrality goals.

### **Governance and Co-Production**

- 6.6. To oversee the development of the Strategy, an **Education Strategy Board** was established in January 2024, chaired by the Corporate Director of Children's Services. The Board provides strategic oversight and ensures the Strategy is aligned with borough-wide priorities. Further details, including the Board's Terms of Reference and membership, are provided at **Appendix 2**.
- 6.7. The Strategy has been co-produced through extensive consultation with a wide range of stakeholders, including school leaders, governing boards, community groups, and relevant Council services. Input was also sought from the Inclusion Steering Group, the local area SEND partnership, and other advisory bodies. Multiple drafts were circulated for feedback, culminating in the final version presented at **Appendix 1**.
- 6.8. As part of the Strategy launch, we will also engage children and young people through youth forums and school councils, supported by a child-friendly summary document designed to ensure accessibility and inclusive participation. This forms a core element of the Council's Participation Framework, which sets out our commitment to embedding the voices of children and young people in formal decision-making processes, ensuring their lived experiences inform the development of policies, programmes, and strategic priorities.

### **Future forward thinking education landscape**

- 6.9. The Strategy envisions a future-ready education system through the implementation of a borough-wide **Digital Learning Strategy**. This includes addressing the digital divide and integrating technology into teaching and learning environments. It draws on national frameworks and research evidence to promote the effective use of digital tools and artificial intelligence (AI), while also acknowledging the challenges and risks associated with their

use. By aligning with broader borough initiatives, the Strategy aims to create a cohesive, inclusive, and forward-thinking educational landscape that supports all children and young people in Haringey to succeed.

### **Communication and promotional launch**

- 6.10. The Strategy is scheduled for publication and promotion following approval for implementation by Council's Cabinet in September. It will be disseminated across all official Haringey Council digital platforms, including the Council's website and social media channels. This launch will be accompanied by a child-friendly summary document, designed to ensure broad accessibility and engagement with children and young people.
- 6.11. In addition to digital promotion, the Strategy will be featured in the following Council newsletters and bulletins:
- Member's Weekly Update
  - Haringey People Extra
  - Schools Newsletter
  - SEND Newsletter
  - Home Zone Newsletter
- 6.12. A dedicated landing page will be created to host promotional content, including a message from the Cabinet Member for Children, Schools & Families and the Director of Children's Services. This will outline the vision, strategic priorities, and aspirations for children and young people in Haringey.
- 6.13. These communication channels have been selected to ensure comprehensive awareness of the Strategy's launch among residents, stakeholders, educational providers, and partners both within and beyond the borough.

## **7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026 High Level Strategic outcomes.**

- 7.1. The key priorities in Haringey's Education Strategy underpin theme 3 within the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-26 which seeks to enable every child to have the best start in life with access to high quality education. Haringey aims to create a fairer, more inclusive borough, which supports children and young people to belong and thrive. We want to optimise schools' roles as an anchor system in the borough and ensure that developments and changes are sustainable and that children and young people receive the support they need to succeed and thrive in education and beyond. This strategy will also contribute to the delivery of Haringey 2035 – specifically the Call to Action of Supporting Children and Young People's Experiences and Skills.

## **8. Carbon and Climate Change**

- 8.1. A key priority within the Education Strategy is the creation of environmentally sustainable school communities where children and young people can grow, thrive, and develop a strong sense of environmental responsibility. The Strategy aims to strengthen environmental networks across schools and promote the development of energy-efficient buildings and initiatives that enhance pupils' awareness, knowledge, and skills related to sustainability.
- 8.2. Haringey schools play a vital role in the borough's response to the climate emergency. By embedding sustainable practices and fostering a culture of environmental stewardship, schools will contribute to the borough-wide ambition of becoming **carbon neutral by 2041**. The Strategy encourages schools to adopt the principle of "**Think Global, Act Local**", empowering pupils to understand and act on the environmental challenges facing their communities and the wider world.
- 8.3. The Council is committed to supporting schools in this endeavour by identifying and pursuing opportunities to secure funding for capital projects that promote environmental sustainability. This includes investment in infrastructure and initiatives that align with both educational and climate objectives.
- 8.4. Through this approach, the Strategy not only supports the development of environmentally conscious future citizens but also reinforces the Council's broader commitment to climate action and sustainable development.

**9. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Director of Legal and Governance, Equalities)**

**Finance**

- 9.1. The Director of Finance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and confirms that, aside from minor administrative costs to the Schools & Learning budget associated with the promotional communications campaign, there are no direct financial implications arising from the implementation of the Education Strategy.
- 9.2. Importantly, the Strategy may contribute to mitigating financial pressures on the school estate through its emphasis on cost-effective school organisational changes and the strategic use of artificial intelligence within educational settings to improve efficiency and resource allocation.

**Director of Legal and Governance [Ellen Matheson Harley Principal Lawyer EEC]**

- 9.3. The Director of Legal & Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 9.4. The Local Authority has a primary role in the strategic provision of sufficient and good-quality education in its area for children aged from 0 up to 19. This report sets out the Council's proposed strategy for 2025-2028. The Director of L&G

sees no legal reasons preventing the approval of the recommendations in the report.

## **Equalities**

9.5. The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act 2010 ('the 2010 Act') to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act. Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a "relevant protected characteristic" and people who do not share it.
- Foster good relations between people who share those a "relevant protected characteristic" and people who do not share it.
- A "relevant protected characteristic" is age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

9.6. The strategy is underpinned by guiding principles of access, equity, and representation: to provide all Haringey children and young people (0-19) with the opportunity to secure equity, excellent educational outcomes, maintaining high quality education provision and environments, and system sustainability. It is therefore anticipated that the strategy will have a positive impact on those with protected characteristics, by advancing equality of opportunity for those who share a protected characteristic and who do not, through more collaborative ways of working and transparent commissioning. In particular, it is anticipated that young people from diverse and ethnic minority backgrounds, and those from low socioeconomic backgrounds will be positively impacted.

9.7. A comprehensive EQIA of the strategy identified positive impacts across all protected characteristics. The EQIA can be found as an appendix to this report.

## **10. Use of Appendices**

**Appendix 1** – Education Strategy

**Appendix 2** – Education Strategy Board: Terms of Reference

**Appendix 3** – Media and communication plan

**Appendix 4** – EqIA

## **11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**



11.1. This report contains no exempt information

## **12. Background papers**

1. The Haringey Deal | Haringey Council
2. The Corporate Delivery Plan | Haringey Council
3. Haringey 2035: Our Vision
4. Haringey Early Years Strategy 2023 – 2026
5. Haringey SEND strategy 2022-2025
6. Send-and-alternative-provision-strategy-2023-2026
7. Sustainability and climate change strategy - GOV.UK
8. All schools and colleges in Haringey - Compare school and college performance data in England - GOV.UK
9. Haringey Data on Attendance, Exclusions and Suspensions and permanent exclusions in England, Academic year 2023/24 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK
10. Pupil absence in schools in England, Academic year 2023/24 - Explore education statistics - GOV.UK
11. Education Strategy Principles - Stakeholder Engagement Plan
12. Haringey Children's Roadmap
13. Haringey Physical Activity and Sports Strategy