

Strategic Director's Briefing for Children's PDS, 19 September 2017

Exam results

With the main A-level and GCSE results being released to schools and pupils in August, we have begun to collate and analyse the overall local picture of performance. This is made more complex by the changes to the grading system with GCSE grades A-E being progressively replaced with numbers 1-9. The authority does not receive results directly at this stage, but relies on schools submitting early data to us for analysis. With the potential for re-marks and lack of a full dataset, that means we have to be very cautious about drawing any early conclusions. Once a more comprehensive analysis has been carried out of all schools data, we will be able to report in detail, including key measures such as narrowing the gap for pupils eligible for Free School Meals across all the reporting key stages.

Bath Community Academy (BCA)

Every pupil who was in Year 9 last year, moving into year 10, has been offered a place at another local school. Plans are being finalised for the process for identifying and allocating places for the current Year 8 and 9 pupils to transition to new schools for Year 9 and 10 in September 2018.

Work has also commenced to prepare for conversations about the future use of the BCA site, once the Academy vacates in August 2018. This includes a review of the current usage and condition of the buildings on site; conversations with existing tenants of parts of the site, including GLL and Bath Spa University; work to develop a specification for a new Special School, which is a priority need for Bath and North East Somerset and could potentially be located at the BCA site; and a bid to secure additional resources to support the development of a vision for the future of the site, through the One Public Estate initiative (Cabinet Office/LGA). We hope to hear the outcome of that bid this month and will be developing a timeline and process for engagement and development of a vision for the future of the site, which will be shared with the panel in due course.

Youth Connect

A successful bid to the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has secured funding to enable the Youth Connect service to assess the potential to create a staff mutual to take on the delivery of Youth Connect. This will run alongside wider engagement to look at options for the future delivery model in collaboration with local community organisations.

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