

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday 15 August 2017

Positive Action Funding in Primary Schools

Item number	7.4
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	

Executive Summary

To ensure the most effective targeting of funding to those children most in need. Changes to the allocation of Positive Action Funding were agreed at Committee on the 1 March 2016. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to the Education, Children and Families Committee on actions underway to improve performance.

Links

Coalition Pledges
Council Priorities
Single Outcome Agreement

Update on Positive Action funding in Primary Schools

Recommendations

Members of the Education, Children and Families Committee are asked to:

- 1.1 Note the content of this report.
- 1.2 Request a further report detailing the improvement in attainment to date based on 2016/17 data when it becomes available and identifying actions to be taken to ensure improvement in performance.

Background

- 2.1 Previously the method for allocating positive action funding to Primary Schools was based:
 - 2.1.1 20% on attainment for the number of pupils at P1 where the three year average literacy score was under 85;
 - 2.1.2 80% based on the three year average Free Meal Entitlement as at February for any school where the three year average was greater than 40%.
- 2.2 In March 2016 the Education Children and Families Committee agreed that for the three year period between 2016-17 and 2018-19 positive action funding in the primary sector would be allocated to those schools with children living in Deciles 1 and 2 of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation with a weighting of 2:1 to those pupils living in decile 1 and a 40% threshold being used.
- 2.3 Using deciles 1 and 2 ensured the targeting of resources for pupils with the greatest need in areas of multiple deprivation.

Main report

- 3.1 Currently positive action funding is allocated to 25 of the 88 primary schools, ranging from £4,114 to £217,706 (Appendix 1).
- 3.2 All schools are committed to planning and managing resources to improve the quality of education. Currently a significant number of initiatives are in place some of which are detailed below:
 - 3.2.1 Developing leadership skills and improving teacher quality – staff take on additional responsibility for developments in school and undertake professional development through a range of courses.

- 3.2.2 Systems for monitoring and tracking pupil performance – planning, implementing and evaluating standardised testing and teacher judgement based on observation, discussion and formal assessments.
- 3.2.3 Clear focus on specific learning and teaching strategies for literacy and numeracy – SEAL (Stages of Early Arithmetical Learning) understanding the development of children’s numerical knowledge, Literacy Rich Edinburgh: a phonics programme and VCOP (Vocabulary, Connectives, Openers and Punctuation) as a way of improving writing.
- 3.2.4 Using technology to improve learning – use of iPads/ hand held devices and improved parental engagement, through for example twitter, school websites and email.
- 3.2.5 Increasing opportunities for pupils to develop a wide range of life skills - broadening horizons and understanding of the practical requirements of the working world so they can be motivated to improve their literacy and numeracy skills
- 3.2.6 Developing teaching strategies and targeting interventions and resources effectively to improve both attainment and wider achievement.
- 3.2.7 Recruiting additional teaching and support staff.
- 3.2.8 Increasing opportunities for pupils to participate in activities that aim to enhance their emotional health and wellbeing - such as expressive arts, school clubs, outdoor learning.
- 3.2.9 Involving parents in the life of the school and in their child’s learning.
- 3.3 The information detailed in Appendix 2 and 3 highlights the percentage of pupils achieving the appropriate CfE (Curriculum for Excellence) level as per teacher professional judgement within P4 and P7. These levels are:
 - 3.3.1 First Level - To the end of P4, but earlier or later for some;
 - 3.3.2 Second Level - To the end of P7, but earlier or later for some.
- 3.4 At an individual school level the information available through standardised testing helps to target underachievement and identify the best ways to help pupils improve, with a particular focus on those pupils most in need.
- 3.5 Standardised test scores between 85 and 115 are within the average range; scores over 115 are considered above average, while scores below 85 are considered below average. Last session by the end of P7 improvement in numeracy performance was variable and performance in literacy indicated a steady improvement (Appendix 4).

Measures of success

- 4.1 The impact of targeted support will be evaluated through the annual Standards and Quality Improvement Planning process by the school Quality Improvement Education Officer.

Financial impact

- 5.1 No change is proposed to the overall level of Positive Action Funding.

Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact

- 6.1 There are no risk, policy, compliance or governance issues arising directly from this report.

Equalities impact

- 7.1 All work within this area seeks to address the imbalance in terms of provision of resources and outcomes for children. There are no negative equality impacts.

Sustainability impact

- 8.1 There are no sustainability issues.

Consultation and engagement

- 9.1 This will be shared through the head teacher executive and with parents through the normal processes of locality and CCWP arrangements.

Background reading/external references

Achievement of Curriculum for Excellence levels

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/ACEL>

Scottish Survey of Literacy and Numeracy

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Statistics/Browse/School-Education/SSLN>

Development of Curriculum for Excellence

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/thecurriculum/whatiscurriculumforexcellence/howwasthecurriculumdeveloped/index.asp>

[Review of Positive Action Funding in Primary Schools 1 March 2016](#)

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Links

Coalition Pledges**Council Priorities****Single Outcome Agreement****Appendices**

- 1 – Allocation of funding 2017/18
- 2 – CfE levels language
- 3 – CfE levels mathematics
- 4 – Standardised test scores

Funding allocation for 2017/18

Brunstane PS	North East	£54,650
Castleview PS	North East	£178,171
Craigentenny PS	North East	£49,850
Leith PS	North East	£10,500
Niddrie Mill PS	North East	£161,514
St Catherine's RC PS	North East	£69,074
St Francis' RC PS	North East	£99,452
St Ninian's RC PS (Edin)	North East	£41,630
Broomhouse PS	North West	£83,989
Craigroyston PS	North West	£110,975
Ferryhill PS	North West	£35,122
Forthview PS	North West	£155,070
Granton PS	North West	£133,572
Pirniehall PS	North West	£103,550
St David's RC PS (Edin)	North West	£65,741
St Joseph's RC PS (Edin)	North West	£57,415
Craigour Park PS	South East	£5,696
Gilmerton PS	South East	£4,114
Gracemount PS	South East	£89,220
Royal Mile PS	South East	£8,834
Balgreen PS	South West	£3,586
Canal View PS	South West	£217,706
Clovenstone PS	South West	£81,475
Sighthill PS	South West	£78,934
Stenhouse PS	South West	£49,343

% of pupils achieving appropriate CfE levels *

School	LOCALITY	2013- 2014	2014- 2015	2015- 2016	2013- 2014	2014- 2015	2015- 2016
		CfE Lang P4	CfE Lang P4	CfE Lang P4	CfE Lang P7	CfE Lang P7	CfE Lang P7
Brunstane PS	North East	11	27	47	24	11	36
Castleview PS	North East	4	25	65	3	28	55
Craigentenny PS	North East	48	36	54	38	31	59
Leith PS	North East	21	25	71	41	31	66
Niddrie Mill PS	North East	24	0	43	3	7	50
St Catherine's RC	North East	30	37	72	38	40	48
St Francis' RC PS	North East	30	0	75	63	48	74
St Ninian's RC PS	North East	62	55	50	7	24	53
Broomhouse PS	North West	36	0	66	32	0	50
Craigroyston PS	North West	18	21	67	53	12	85
Ferryhill PS	North West	31	56	77	0	34	43
Forthview PS	North West	25	49	57	18	52	48
Granton PS	North West	16	62	61	32	29	73
Pirniehall PS	North West	52	56	65	44	31	91
St David's RC PS	North West	52	31	58	0	26	77
St Joseph's RC PS	North West	80	39	73	30	28	78
Craigour Park PS	South East	64	50	69	44	48	64
Gilmerton PS	South East	34	58	57	24	35	27
Gracemount PS	South East	48	31	40	17	38	78
Royal Mile PS	South East	25	38	59	29	0	33
Balgreen PS	South West	73	68	56	68	68	66
Canal View PS	South West	20	45	59	13	21	61
Clovenstone PS	South West	48	0	53	22	0	57
Sighthill PS	South West	46	19	38	47	62	46
Stenhouse PS	South West	49	52	70	40	58	70

- Based on teacher judgement

% of pupils achieving appropriate CfE level *

		2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
School	LOCALITY	CfE Maths P4	CfE Maths P4	CfE Maths P4	CfE Maths P7	CfE Maths P7	CfE Maths P7
Brunstane PS	North East	16	32	59	12	17	20
Castleview PS	North East	58	28	54	38	36	45
Craigentenny PS	North East	32	41	59	43	23	64
Leith PS	North East	41	27	86	31	38	69
Niddrie Mill PS	North East	8	0	45	0	33	50
St Catherine's RC PS	North East	12	27	44	31	20	44
St Francis' RC PS	North East	0	0	79	32	33	57
St Ninian's RC PS	North East	49	67	61	7	21	35
Broomhouse PS	North West	25	28	79	37	61	60
Craigroyston PS	North West	35	21	78	33	3	77
Ferryhill PS	North West	43	50	88	0	24	50
Forthview PS	North West	23	31	59	11	52	50
Granton PS	North West	16	72	55	32	35	48
Pirniehall PS	North West	45	31	58	53	34	91
St David's RC PS	North West	48	18	55	0	20	63
St Joseph's RC PS	North West	91	24	82	45	32	59
Craigour Park PS	South East	61	52	66	38	40	61
Gilmerton PS	South East	68	46	48	7	41	31
Gracemount PS	South East	26	27	38	13	45	49
Royal Mile PS	South East	33	46	82	6	0	25
Balgreen PS	South West	59	69	58	68	60	76
Canal View PS	South West	26	45	54	32	21	65
Clovenstone PS	South West	22	39	50	0	0	48
Sighthill PS	South West	64	26	44	40	67	69
Stenhouse PS	South West	46	60	79	53	65	72

- Based on teacher judgement

Average standardised test scores 2013 - 2016

		Numeracy P4 2013	Numeracy P7 2016		Literacy P4 2013	Literacy P7 2016
Brunstane PS	North East	82	86		88	94
Castleview PS	North East	80	78		81	87
Craigtinny PS	North East	88	98		99	98
Leith PS	North East	89	87		96	94
Niddrie Mill PS	North East	84	78		90	90
St Catherine's RC PS	North East	84	90		87	99
St Francis' RC PS	North East	84	83		87	95
St Ninian's RC PS	North East	88	89		98	102
Broomhouse PS	North West	90	93		91	96
Craigroyston PS	North West	84	81		84	94
Ferryhill PS	North West	90	92		97	101
Forthview PS	North West	85	84		90	99
Granton PS	North West	91	82		93	92
Pirniehall PS	North West	79	86		87	101
St David's RC PS	North West	88	88		93	100
St Joseph's RC PS	North West	87	97		94	101
Craigour Park PS	South East	95	96		91	104
Gilmerton PS	South East	82	79		91	93
Gracemount PS	South East	87	86		98	100
Royal Mile PS	South East	83	84		89	95
Balgreen PS	South West	100	97		105	107
Canal View PS	South West	87	98		91	96
Clovenstone PS	South West	90	86		100	95
Sighthill PS	South West	89	102		95	109
Stenhouse PS	South West	91	97		96	99