



Dear colleagues,

I want to thank you for your ongoing commitment to improving the education and life chances of Ealing's children and young people.

I am delighted that 87 Ealing schools have joined the Ealing Learning Partnership (ELP) for a further two-year period until July 2021. At the heart of the partnership is its' mission: *No learner left behind; no school left behind*. Driving greater collective responsibility for outcomes through ELP will make the best use of expertise across the sector and the best use of resources for the benefit of Ealing's children and young people, in learning through addition to learning through collaboration and innovation.

This years' results continue to show real improvements. At primary level, 68% of 10 and 11-year olds in Ealing primary schools achieved the expected standard in all of reading writing and maths, which is four percentage point above the 64% who achieved this standard nationally. This is an 3%-point improvement since 2017 and 13% points higher than in 2016. At secondary level Ealing achieved a Progress 8 score of 0.53 in 2018, which means that children in Ealing secondary schools are making significantly more progress than children with similar starting points nationally. This score is well above the London average (0.23) and represents a 0.11 improvement on our 2017 score (0.42). These are excellent results and a testament to the ongoing work and commitment of school leaders, teachers and support staff. Thanks, you and well done.

Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) continues to be at the centre of our collective drive to improve outcomes across the borough. The recent local authority SEND Ofsted inspection, as yet embargoed, reinforced that the priorities in our strategy. The strategy, of which there is more detail in the report, has been approved by the multi-agency SEND Executive Board and the clinical commissioning group (CCG) and has four key priorities one of which is to support schools and other educational settings to embed the highest expectations for children and young people with SEND – reducing the variation in the quality of provision and outcomes. As part of this the ELP SEND and Inclusion committee is overseeing strategies to promote consistency in the expectation and practice of schools and the Local Authority towards all vulnerable children and young people, including those with SEND. Once the Ofsted report is published we will share with you.

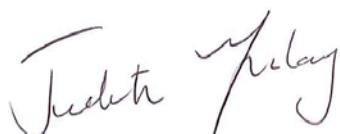
High needs funding is designed to meet the needs of children and young people with the most complex educational challenges. With the increasing numbers of children presenting, we all need to redouble efforts to make sure that the funds are distributed fairly, transparently and are effective in improving outcomes for children and young people with SEND.

We are rightly proud of the social care provision in Ealing and despite the many challenges, strive to provide a quality first service. New initiatives going forward include the Contextual Safeguarding pilot, an approach to understanding, and responding to, young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families. Ealing is one of 11 authorities (four in London) that is looking at developing practice in this area, which will be evaluated by the Behavioural Insights Team who have been commissioned by the Home Office. In addition, lessons learnt from the Mentors in Violence Prevention (MVP) pilot (with four high schools), will be hopefully rolled out to other schools.

As always, I wish to thank the young people and staff and governors for their commitment to ensuring no learner is left behind. This is despite the continuing challenges in terms of funding levels and teacher recruitment. Working effectively in partnership is a clear driver for the council and as and or schools through ELP. To this end we are delighted that the governors and leaders conference this year will provide an opportunity to hear from Baroness Estelle Morris, Chair of Birmingham Education Partnership, on the importance of building civic responsibility and a commitment to place for children and young people. It will also be a focus for further consideration on how your school might reap long-term benefits from being part of Ealing Learning Partnership - building professional capital through focused collaboration – sharing success and working together on common challenges.

I look forward to continuing to work with you all as we move to the next phase of partnership working and in further realising the strength of collective ambitions for our children and young people.

Best wishes



Judith Finlay
Executive Director Children, Adults and Public Health