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| DIRECTORS' REPORT SPRING TERM 2016 | ITEM NO 18 | FOR INFORMATION | ATTENTION OF: All governors |
| TITLE | Progress Review of Ealing Children's Centres | | |
| SUMMARY | Ealing's 27 children's centres, managed through seven locality teams, have played a huge role in early childhood health improvement, early identification of needs and school readiness. | | |
| KEY ACTION POINTS | Governors are asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make schools aware of the educational attainment impact, through early education and school readiness that is being achieved through local children's centres • Explore opportunities for schools to collaborate with their local children's centres • Ask schools to direct families with children under five and new parents to children's centre services, especially where early help may support circumstances. | | |
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Ealing Children's Centres focus on preventative and targeted services and are geographically located where families face the most disadvantages. The 27 centres, grouped into seven Localities, offer a wide range of accessible, inclusive and non-stigmatising services for children aged 0-5 and their families. For many vulnerable families, attendance at universal services is a critical step towards gaining confidence and trust in the support being offered from centre staff, Ealing Council, the NHS and other partners. This enables families to be more confident in seeking advice and support when needed and increases their participation in activities both at centres and within their community.

Quality of Children's Centre Provision

All the children's centres in Ealing have been judged Good or Outstanding by OFSTED.

Educational attainment - early years foundation stage profile (EYFSP)

Early education outcomes make a fundamental difference to future life chances across all areas of well-being, including health outcomes Ealing was identified in 2013 as providing the sixth highest early years outcomes for children in the country compared against 150 other local authorities.

School Readiness (2014/15)

- The percentage children achieving a good level of development (GLD) at the end of reception in Ealing is 69.6% which is 3.3 % higher than England (66.3%)
- The percentage children with free school meals (FSM) achieving a GLD at the end of reception in Ealing, is 61.0% which is 10 % higher than England average. (51%)
- The percentage of Year 1 pupils achieving the expected level in the phonics screening check in Ealing is 79.0%. 2% higher than England (77.0%)
- The percentage of Year 1 pupils with FSM achieving the expected level in the phonics screening check in Ealing is 72.0%. 7% higher than England (65.0%)

Early Intervention: Early Help Assessment and Plan (EHAP)

Children's centres, through the Early Start Ealing outreach team are playing a critical role in the success of EHAP. For the year 2014-2015 there were 593 EHAPs, an increase of 110% in one year with the introduction of the new EHAP process supported by new materials and increased take up by services.

Health Services

Child health and midwifery clinics and appointments are held in children's centres, supporting health promotion and early identification of needs to prevent an escalation of concerns including developmental delay, speech and language concerns or family stress.

- **Speech and Language:** Individuals assisted 1853; total attendance 4853
- **Baby clinics and developmental checks:** Individuals assisted 15,089; total attendance 25,320
- **Midwifery-post and ante natal support:** Individuals assisted 10,183; total attendance 19,785

Return to work pathways, lifting families out of poverty:

- **Employability support and advice:** Individuals assisted 1506; total attendance 2560
- **Qualifications and functional skills:** Individuals assisted 774; total attendance 7326
- **ESOL and literacy:** Individuals assisted 937; total attendance 9653
- **ICT:** Individuals assisted 185; total attendance 140

Governors can read feedback from their locality or read all entries for a greater overview.

Central Ealing Locality (*Log Cabin Children's Centre, Copley Close, Grange, Hathaway, Jubilee, North Ealing*)

One of the immediate benefits seen in the central Ealing locality following the introduction of the Early Start Ealing multi-disciplinary teams is a greater presence of speech and language therapists. This means families' needs are better met, as the number of queries about speech, language and communication development continues to rise.

Speech and language therapists have trained children's centre staff to ensure opportunities for communication during Stay and Play sessions are maximised. The learning is also being passed on to parents to help them better interact with their child and offer speech and language support at home.

Our strengthened partnership with Adult Education means we offer two courses: *Transition to Nursery* and *Speaking and Listening to Your Child* targeting families from BME backgrounds with little English. The courses highlight the importance of play in language development and identify techniques to support bilingual communication.

These services, alongside the regular Stay and Play sessions which are run by qualified early years professionals, play a significant role in getting children ready for school. In Central Ealing 75% of children achieved a good level of development in 2015 compared with the cross-Ealing average of 63.9%.

North Southall and Hanwell Locality (*Grove House Children's Centre, Dormers Wells, Hanwell, Southall Park, Windmill Park*)

Over the last year, 86% of families with children under five, living in the locality, accessed the centres. Children and families needing targeted support are identified through universal services such as stay and play or through services delivered by partners in the centres.

72% of the children who live within the locality achieved a GLD in 2015 and data shows that those who accessed a children's centre did better compared to those who didn't.

Our priorities in the locality include helping families out of poverty. One of the ways we do this is by providing adult courses such as functional skills, English as a second or other language (ESOL) and employment courses.

South Southall Locality (Greenfields Children's Centre, Havelock)

To enhance the provision for vulnerable two year olds we introduced target sessions alongside universal provision:

- Story Corner is a by invitation series of five weekly sessions for children on our two plus waiting list. The intensive hour-long sessions are held at Southall Library. Bookstart Book Corner resources are used to support families to develop a love of stories, books and rhymes; encouraging parents and carers to read together for pleasure with their children with confidence
- 'Eat Better, Start Better' healthy cooking sessions for two year old children in childcare provision and their parents. The fun cooking activities help parents understand the nutritional requirements of their child as well as learning about the early years curriculum and how to engage with their child through cooking together
- Family learning workshops and outings target those awaiting two plus provision. Outings to visit Ealing heritage parks; healthy cooking workshops; toy making workshops; as well as a Language and Play course have focused on the importance of talking to children; everyday routines; out and about; sharing books and stories; songs and rhymes; pre-writing mark making; and playing together
- Nursery school readiness: for parents to understand the Early Years curriculum and develop ways to support their child in preparation for nursery and for children to develop their social skills, become confident in their environment, able to communicate their needs, and become independent and secure in the learning environment
- Fun and learn, specialist play session for children with additional needs.

Perivale, North Greenford and Hanger Lane Locality (*Perivale Children's Centre, Wood End, West Twyford, Horsenden*)

Getting ready for nursery/school sessions have proved very effective in preparing children and their families for nursery or school. 75% of children who attend these sessions settle easily into school. Ofsted (May 15) stated that, "*The Centre has a positive impact on school readiness. Children who attend the centre's activities have a flying start and do well.*"

The latest findings from the field of psychology make it more clear than ever before just how important early musical engagement is in underpinning language and communication skills, social development, learning and well-being. Perivale Children's Centre (CC) is now delivering weekly music sessions using the Sounds of Intent in the Early Years framework. This is a

framework devised by the University of Roehampton and Perivale is one of ten CCs nationally to be chosen to work with the university on this project. 28 children and their parents have taken part this term with 82% attending weekly. 93% of parents now report that they feel better equipped to communicate with their child and feel empowered to play in the same way at home.

Ofsted recognized the positive impact the centre has on its volunteers and one volunteer recently said:

“The children’s centre has changed my life, it has given me the opportunity to meet and work with different people. It has helped me to improve my communication skills and has increased my confidence. It has also helped me find a career path that suits my personal life as I have two children at school. I am very grateful for all the support throughout my volunteering; it has helped me provide a better future for me and my family.”

Northolt Children’s Centre Locality (Islip Manor, Petts Hill, Northolt Park)

Data analysis in this locality shows that virtually all children in the locality’s reach area attend and access children’s centre services. 102% (April-Sept 15). This includes some of the most ‘in need’ families. *“The care, guidance and support provided for children and families with the most pressing needs are highly effective.” Ofsted December 2014*

The majority of young children who access the free childcare for two-year-olds do so at nurseries linked to children’s centres (57% Autumn 2015).

Early Start Ealing deliver child health and integrated review checks from Islip Manor; midwives deliver antenatal/postnatal care, new parents at risk of postnatal depression access targeted provision to support positive mental health and wellbeing. Childhood obesity has reduced and oral health is targeted through, the “Now you have teeth” programme.

“The centre’s work to promote healthy lifestyles is well reflected in the high breastfeeding rates; reducing childhood obesity and improving dental hygiene.” Ofsted 2014

Ofsted recognized the positive impact the centre has with its collaborative partnerships - which strengthens delivery of services in a climate of reduced funding.

“Strong partnerships and effective collaborative work result in families having a wide range of services right on their doorstep. The feedback from parents who use the centre is very positive.” Ofsted 2014