

EDUCATION SERVICE LOCAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2018-19

SUMMARY



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A Message from Councillor Shamin Akhtar

I welcome the revised Education Service Local Improvement Plan for 2018/19. This Plan outlines how we aspire to be an Education Service that provides the best opportunities and outcomes for our children and young people across the County, as a result making us the best Education Service in Scotland. The Plan provides clear direction on how we will do this. We aim to achieve these goals through the actions outlined for the Education Service, our schools and our partner organisations.

As we see more and more expectations placed upon our schools than ever before to address the poverty related attainment gap, we have to ensure that our partner organisations across the county support the Education Service and our schools to achieve this goal.

The most important role of this document will be to provide our schools and early learning & childcare centres with a framework to support their work. Therefore, we all have a shared understanding of the actions that we have to take to ensure that we meet the outcomes for our children and young people and the way that we will measure success. As outlined in the Standards and Quality Report 2017-18 through the self-evaluation activities we know we have many strengths in our schools across the County that we can share and we also know where improvement is required.

The Education Service Local Improvement Plan will help us to deliver on the collective commitment that we have made to “believe, achieve, strive for excellence and care for all” through the actions that we take in our schools and services. I hope that you will find it helpful within your setting.

Councillor Shamin Akhtar

Convener, Education Committee

Introduction

The Council agreed its new strategic plan in June 2017 setting out its priorities and commitments over the next 5 years. This Education Service Local Improvement Plan 2018/19 reports on the priorities for education during this school year and how we plan to do it. This is a summary of the full plan which is available via on the council website.

It includes things like how we make sure we are delivering our service but still providing value for money and how we react to reviewing our service and inspections from outside the council.

Information about the service we provide and our performance is provided the following documents:

- Education Service Standards and Quality Report 2017-2018
- East Lothian Partnership Children and Young People Services Plan 2017 to 2020
- Inspection Reports (Education Scotland and the Care Inspectorate)

The Education Service Local Improvement Plan is informed by and links to the Outcomes in East Lothian Council's Plan 2017-2022, the Integrated Children and Young People's Service Plan, The East Lothian Poverty Commission Report and the 2017-2022 Equalities Plan. The key themes and objectives set out in the 2012-2017 Council Plan continue as the key themes and objectives of the new Council Plan 2017-2022 'Growing our Economy; Growing our People; Growing our Communities; Growing our Capacity'

About East Lothian

East Lothian's population is projected to grow by about 1% a year over the next 19 years from just over 100 000 to over 125 000 by 2037. There will be more people of all age groups but particularly children with the 0-16 year old group increasing by almost a third.



In 2017/18 there were:

- 8,540 pupils in East Lothian Council's 35 primary schools;
- 5,679 pupils in six secondary schools;
- 2,548 children accessing 600 hours of early learning and childcare .

1 Education Resources & Organisation

Our purpose: Believe, achieve, strive for excellence and care for all.

How: We care for all and believe in ourselves and others

We achieve and strive for excellence

We aim to provide the best education service in Scotland through a relentless focus on Inclusion, Achievement, Ambition and Progress for All. We will all work together to Get it Right for Every Child and to ensure that all children and young people are Safe, Healthy, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included. We believe that our purpose will be realised through the actions set out in this Local Improvement Plan and reinforced by the actions taken across our schools and services to improve the quality of experience we provide for children, young people and their families.

We will:

- **Act to open minds to the rights and values of education and help everyone to achieve their potential**
- **Work together to nurture all our children and young people**
- **Be seen as a community working together to make that difference for every child**
- Collectively strive for excellence and equity for all

Our theme for session 2018-2019, **‘Driving Improvement – Inwards, Outwards, Forwards’** will help us collectively deliver on our purpose and vision for education.

Our aim for education within East Lothian Council aligns with Scottish Government Key Priorities:

- **Improvement in attainment, particularly in literacy and numeracy**
- **Closing the attainment gap between the most and least disadvantaged children**
- **Improvement in children and young people’s health and wellbeing**
- **Improvement in employability skills and sustained, positive school leaver destinations for all young people**

We will use our resources to deliver our commitment:

Early Learning and Childcare

Delivers the statutory duty to provide early learning and childcare to eligible 2 year olds and children from the term after their third birthday. Currently East Lothian provides 33 early learning and childcare centres within primary schools and 18 partner providers and childminder options; wraparound care in Dunbar and Tranent areas; 16 playgroups; Tots & Teens.

School Years

Delivers the statutory duty to provide primary and secondary education through provision in 35 primary schools and 6 secondary schools.

Additional Support Needs

Delivers the statutory duty to ensure additional support needs are met through inclusive practices and support in all schools; specialist provision in 5 mainstream primary schools and 3 mainstream secondary schools and specialist professionals.

Quality Improvement Team

Fulfils the statutory duty to support and challenge of schools to improve the quality of education by quality assurances and self-evaluation; support the development of the curriculum and learning, teaching and assessment; development of local policy relating to education.

Educational Psychology Service (EPS)

Delivers a service making use of sound research evidence to support teaching and the overall wellbeing for children and young people.

Education Business Support Team

Delivers a broad service, including those required to fulfil duties set out in statute including strategic resource planning; professional learning; support for newly qualified teachers, student and supply teachers; recruitment; use of assistive technologies; financial stewardship; specialist music provision; data analysis and performance; pupil placement and admissions; school estate planning; staffing allocations.

East Lothian Works

East Lothian Works, East Lothian's employability hub, brings together all employability-related services under the East Lothian One Council Approach. East Lothian Works is the central point of contact for employment advice, training and skills development, working in partnership with a number of external partners including Queen Margaret University, Napier University, The Edinburgh College, Skills Development Scotland and Job Centre Plus.

2 Meeting Strategic Plan Commitments

The main objective of the Council Plan is 'reducing inequalities in our communities'. The Plan sets out strategic goals which link directly to the Education Service Improvement Plan and will make the biggest impact in achieving the Council's main objective:

- **Reduce unemployment and improve the employability of East Lothian's workforce.**
- **Reduce the attainment gap and raise the attainment and achievement of our children and young people.**
- **Improve the life chances of the most vulnerable people in our society.**

"An even more prosperous, safe and sustainable East Lothian, with a dynamic and thriving economy, that enables our people and communities to flourish." East Lothian Council Plan 2017-2022

Strategic Council Plan Main Objective – Reducing inequalities in our communities	
Strategic Council Plan Goal: Improve the life chances of the most vulnerable people in our society	
East Lothian Poverty Action Plan 2017-2019 – Educated	
East Lothian Council Corporate Parenting Plan 2017 to 2020 – Education and Training	
Council Plan Priority	Actions
Develop a whole school approach to raising awareness of the impact of poverty and develop clear policies to reduce inequality in schools	<p>Review and consider options to address the cost of the school day and holiday hunger within the Child Poverty Action Group and Hunger Poverty Action Group</p> <p>Share good practice in removing barriers to learning through the provision of support both within and out-with the school academic session</p> <p>Promote uptake of free school meals</p> <p>Promote the use of digital technology to develop digital skills</p>
Supporting and developing breakfast, after-school and summer lunch clubs in schools.	With partners consider options for developing activities out-with the school academic term
Develop a range of options for childcare for working parents and carers	Implementation of 1140 Plan in collaboration with key partners to deliver expansion programme and provide the support resources required

<p>Supporting wellbeing to improve attainment and progress of care experienced young people</p>	<p>Deliver a training programme for teachers and staff in all East Lothian schools about how best to support care experienced young people and the importance of relationship based practice</p> <p>Develop and deliver awareness raising sessions for pupils in East Lothian about care</p> <p>Promote achievement of a positive destination for all looked after children and young people on leaving school</p>
<p>Supporting wellbeing to improve attainment and progress of care experienced young people</p>	<p>Continue to work with our FE and HE partners to ensure that the specific needs of our looked after young people are identified and supported</p> <p>Care experienced young people remain a priority for receiving services from East Lothian Works, whilst at school and after leaving school</p>

Strategic Council Plan Goal – Reduce unemployment and improve the employability of East Lothian’s Workforce	
Theme: Growing our Economy	East Lothian Local Plan Theme: Prosperous
Council Plan Priority	Actions
Continue to work with partners and local employers to implement East Lothian's Young Workforce Strategy and Action Plan; maximising opportunities for young people through support for craft and modern apprenticeships, and school work experience within the Council and in local businesses; and, through the continued use of Community Benefit clauses in Council contracts.	<p>Improve the participation of 16-19 year olds in education, training or work through new skills pathways</p> <p>Increase employment and further learning for Looked After Children</p> <p>Liaise with City Deal Skills Development Project to increase progression pathways for young people</p>
Strategic Council Plan Goal – Reduce the attainment gap and raise the attainment and achievement of our children and young people	
Theme: Growing our people	
Council Plan Priority	Actions
Continue to prioritise improving educational attainment and achievement and reducing the attainment gap at all stages	Continue to prioritise improving educational attainment and achievement and reducing the attainment gap at all stages
Ensuring secondary school curriculum meets the needs of young people	<p>Consult on common school day to harmonise with partner delivery and enhance senior phase offer</p> <p>Review of secondary school curriculum design</p>
Recognising the importance of supporting early intervention in improving pre-school children's readiness to learn, for example, through using the Council's library service to provide focused support in reading skills in pre-school children and more vulnerable children.	Develop an early intervention strategy for literacy
Work with the Scottish Government to enable provision of	Implementation of 1140 Plan in collaboration with key partners to deliver

<p>1140 hours of early learning and childcare for all 3 and 4 year old children, by continuing to support the provision of suitable childcare and early years facilities and initiatives such as Support from the Start, and the implementation of the new Play Strategy, within the context of the Council's Early Learning and Childcare Strategy.</p>	<p>expansion programme and provide the support resources required</p> <p>Review the family support offer across the county</p> <p>Develop and implement Play Strategy</p>
<p>Meet positive destinations targets and continue to develop the positive partnerships with Edinburgh College and Queen Margaret University and the business sector to further develop the senior phase and provide vocational opportunities through creating a common school day/timetable and the development of vocational pathways and a 'digital school' to be based within the new secondary school</p>	<p>Continue to build employer and school connections and opportunities</p> <p>Increase the opportunities for vocational training</p> <p>Develop the links between Youth employability programmes and schools to ensure a seamless service</p> <p>Develop a Digital Skills Strategy in partnership with City Deal Digital Data Innovation Project</p>
<p>Work with other local authorities to develop common approaches to improve practice and share educational resources and facilities where possible</p>	<p>Continue to develop and implement the South East Improvement Collaborative Plan</p>
<p>Build a new secondary school in Wallyford and new primary schools in Letham Mains, Wallyford and Craighall and extensions or upgrades at local secondary and primary schools as required.</p>	<p>School Estate Strategy Board established and review of school estate to be undertaken to ensure school buildings are fit to deliver excellence and equity in education</p>
<p>Take action to tackle obesity in children through a multi-agency and multi-faceted approach, including improved diet and nutrition in early years, exercise and physical activity.</p>	<p>QMU research project P1 Obesity</p> <p>Child Poverty Action Group Plan</p>
<p>Prioritise actions to reduce mental ill-health in our community, particularly amongst young people.</p>	<p>Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Plan – Theme 4 Mental Health</p>

Promote opportunities for Healthy Living throughout East Lothian by implementing the Physical Activity Strategy and maximising use of East Lothian's natural health service - the outdoors.	Continue to deliver integrated PEPASS to promote out of school hours activity
Council Plan Strategic Goal – Improving the life chances of the most vulnerable people in our society	
Theme: Growing our Communities	
Council Plan Priority	Actions
Continue to support the development of the Area Partnerships with devolved funding to implement priorities identified in their Area Plans.	Implement the new Guidance Area Partnerships Raising Attainment Fund

3 Other priorities

In addition to playing our part in helping to deliver Council Plan commitments, the Education Service has identified a further five priority areas:

Attainment and Achievement

- Develop a self-improving system and monitor its effectiveness in driving forward improvement and raising attainment
- Improve learning, teaching and assessment
- Close the poverty related attainment gap in the broad general education

Ensuring Wellbeing, Equality and Inclusion (GIRFEC)

- Better target resources in order to achieve a greater impact on children and families
- Improve integrated service delivery to meet the needs of children and families better
- Support the physical, social and mental wellbeing of all children and young people, particularly those most at risk

Employability

- Strengthen transitions and pathways to employability and other positive destinations for young people
- Offer a range of vocational and academic opportunities and experiences that meet the needs of all learners
- Increase attainment of key qualification sets within the senior phase

Leadership

- Improve the quality and impact of leadership at all levels
- Further develop a collaborative culture throughout our learning communities

Finance and Resources

- Consider how best to maintain and increase the service workforce to continue to raise attainment and achievement
- Develop and maintain a school estate strategy