

Delegated Decisions by Cabinet Member for Education & Cultural Services - Wednesday, 16 January 2019

Statement of Decision

Present:

Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale, Cabinet Member for Education & Cultural Services

Officers: Barbara Chillman, Lucy Mills and Justine Miniken (Children's Services); Sarah Fogden (Finance) and Deborah Miller (Law & Governance).

Also in attendance: Councillor Jenny Hannaby and Councillor John Howson.

Other Members: Councillor Emma Turnbull

Questions from County Councillors

Summary of representations in person:

Councillor John Howson had given notice of the following question to Councillor Lindsay-Gale:

Could the Cabinet Member list the schools where Key Stage 2 assessment outcome for Writing fell between 2017 and 2018 and indicate whether the school is an academy or other form of governance.

Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale replied as follows:

2018 writing

School	Eligible Cohort		% at least expected standard Writing (TA)		Difference 2017-18 %pts	Writing Progress 2018
	2017	2018	2017	2018		
Oxfordshire	6866	7058	74%	77%	3%	-0.3
Oxfordshire LA maintained (as of 31/12/18)	3918	4013	76%	79%	3%	na
Oxfordshire Academies (as of 31/12/18)	2948	3045	72%	76%	4%	na
National		-	76%	79%		0.0

- Overall 2018 Oxfordshire improved from 74 to 77%
- Oxfordshire LA schools are at national
- Academies are 3% below national

- Academies appear to have made greater gain (4%) but were further behind in 2017.

The LA has targeted writing as a key area for training via:

- Conference on writing in November attended by over 150 schools
- As a result of the first conference a second half day session is arranged for 31st January on 'Teaching spelling' as this appears to a barrier based upon school specific targeted work.

In addition, the Early years team addressed 'Early Writing' as a focus in their November conference.

Some key issues:

For example – small cohort size distorts the data

The Ridgeway school, Childrey, Wantage.

2017 - 7/7 children achieved the standard in 2017 = 100%

2018 8/10 children achieved in 2018 – 80%

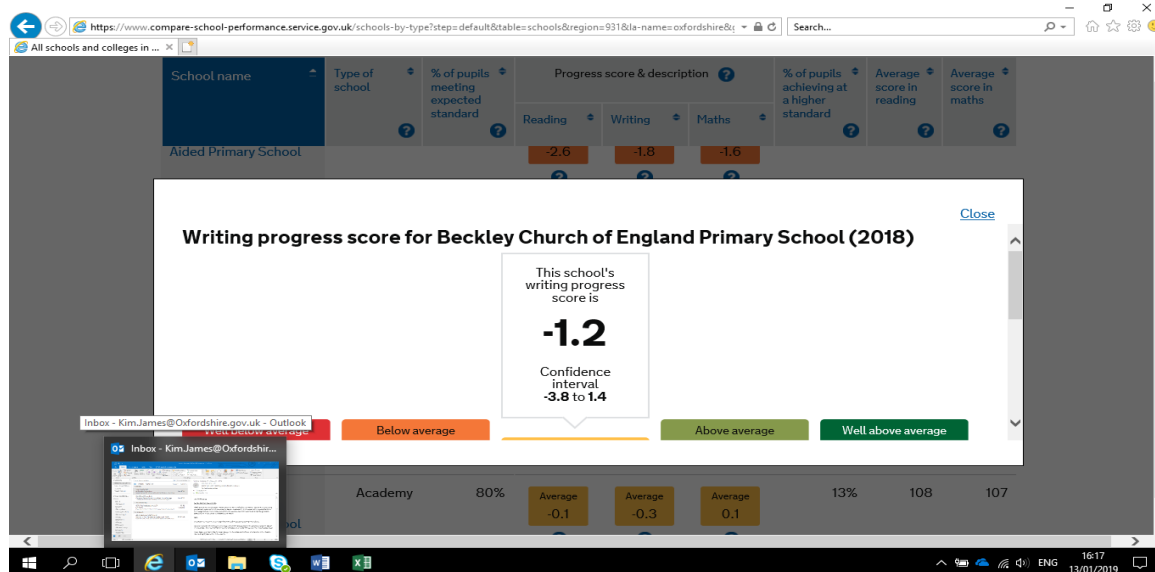
An apparent drop of 2 children – 20% – each worth 10%

More important is the progress the children are making from their starting points. Progress is minus 1 (-1)

DfE	School	School Type	MAT	Eligible Cohort		% at least expected standard Writing		Difference 2017-18 %pts	Writing Progress 2018	Notes
				2017	2018	2017	2018			
	Oxfordshire			6923	7062	74%	77%	3%	-0.3	
	Oxfordshire LA maintained (as of 31/12/18)			2903	3005	77%	80%	3%	na	
	Oxfordshire Academies (as of 31/12/18)			3886	3958	74%	78%	4%	na	
	National					76%	79%	3%	0.0	
10 3256	Beckley CofE Primary School	LA		18	19	89%	63%	-26%	-1.2	
11 3350	St John's Catholic Primary School, Banbury	LA		41	33	88%	64%	-24%	-4.8	LA stratgey group in place
12 3828	Dr Radcliffe's CofE Primary School	Academy	Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust	29	30	93%	70%	-23%	0.2	
13 3231	The Ridgeway CofE (C) Primary School	LA		7	10	100%	80%	-20%	-1	
14 3420	Holy Trinity Catholic School, Chipping Norton	Academy	The Pope Francis MAC	25	33	100%	82%	-18%	-3.9	
15 2254	Gateway Primary School	LA		37	35	76%	60%	-16%	-1	
16 3851	Ashbury with Compton Beauchamp CofE (A) Prim	LA		9	11	89%	73%	-16%	2.4	
17 2597	Manor School	Academy	Oxfordshire Primary Education	65	69	74%	59%	-15%	-3.3	
18 2207	Longfields Primary and Nursery School	LA		42	46	95%	80%	-15%	-0.4	
19 3912	Willowcroft Community School	Academy	Oxfordshire Primary Education	38	47	74%	60%	-14%	-1.5	
20 2562	Faringdon Junior School	Academy	Faringdon Academy of Schools	63	70	90%	76%	-14%	0.7	
21 3065	Fritwell CofE Primary School	LA		21	21	90%	76%	-14%	1	

Beckley primary – the largest fall in the LA in 2018 – (see above) 26%. However – based on the starting points of the cohort, they achieved a 'progress score' of minus

1.2 (-1.2) which means that they are in the 'average range' – See DfE table below.



The schools that we are concerned about are those who have had 'weak' progress for more than one year.

Highly Provisional 2018 Key Stage 2 Writing Progress - sorted low-high
 Source: Nova - based on incomplete national picture so 2018 progress figures expected to change.

DfE	School name	Writing Progress				Difference 2017-2018
		2018 Progress Cohort	2016	2017	2018	
	Oxfordshire	-	-1.2	-0.8	-0.4	0.4
	National (State-funded)	-	0.0	0.0	nya	nya
	National (All schools)	-	-	-	-	-
3657	Wootton-by-Woodstock Church of England (Aided) Primary School	3	-1.0	-2.8	-5.3	-2.5
3213	New Hinksey Church of England Primary School	14	-3.7	-0.6	-4.6	-4.0
2401	Sandhills Community Primary School	51	-8.7	-7.6	-4.5	3.1
3350	St John's Catholic Primary School, Banbury	31	-1.1	0.9	-4.5	-5.4
2009	Wheatley Church of England Primary School	44	-9.1	-6.7	-4.5	2.2
2303	Tower Hill Community Primary School	27	2.3	-3.5	-4.4	-0.9
3555	St Christopher's Church of England School	15	-1.6	-3.8	-4.3	-0.5
3420	Holy Trinity Catholic School, Chipping Norton	32	1.6	2.1	-4.2	-6.3
3040	Finstock Church of England Primary School	4	-5.7	-0.2	-4.1	-3.9
2594	Stephen Freeman Community Primary School	45	-5.8	-5.4	-4	1.4
2004	Cotteslowe Primary School	35	-2.8	-2.1	-3.9	-1.8
2597	Manor School	58	-3.1	-0.5	-3.6	-3.1

For example:

Stephen Freeman – an LA school

6 weekly LA Strategy meetings around the school currently. The LA has a clear insight into the work that school are carrying out to improve outcomes.

It would not be appropriate to go into detail here but support in place at this school re leadership (Including Governance as there is a new chair), Maths and English teaching.

Councillor Howson asked the following supplementary question:

Writing has been an area that we have been most concerned with and Oxfordshire should be above the National average. Four Roman Catholic schools have worrying

Cabinet Member’s Comments

I was very impressed with the new proposed sponsor for the school and have been involved in the process the whole way through and am therefore very happy to approve the recommendations.

Decision

Having regard to the arguments and options set out in the documentation before me, the representations made to me and the further considerations set out above, I confirm my decisions on this matter as follows:

to approve the preferred provider to be submitted to the Secretary of State for Education for final agreement.

Signed
Cabinet Member for Education & Cultural Services

Date