



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
TANDRIDGE**

**ANNUAL EDUCATION REPORT
2007 / 2008**

7 March 2008

KEY ISSUE

To provide the Local Committee with an overview of local educational issues, developments, and attainment in the district.

SUMMARY

The report contains a summary of educational attainment, a synopsis of local education issues and some general information on schools. County Councillors will receive the annual summary of 'good news' stories from local schools later in the term.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee Tandridge is asked to:

- (i) Note the report.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Tandridge district has 32 schools maintained by Surrey County Council. These include 6 infant schools covering Key Stage 1 of the National Curriculum; 3 junior schools covering Key Stage 2; 17 primary schools which deliver both Key Stages; 1 secondary school covering Key Stages 3 and 4 (up to GCSE O level) and 2 secondaries offering Key Stage 5 (sixth form - AS and A level) as well as courses at KS 3 and 4. There are also 3 schools for pupils with special educational needs.
- 1.2 The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) publishes national and school data on its public website. However, to report on school attainment purely by looking at data such as SATs and GCSE results is to only see half the picture as education is about the development of the whole child. So, although some data is included below, this brief report does not go into the fine detail or sophisticated analysis of school performance that would be available to individual governing bodies, for example. It is the governing body of the school that is primarily responsible for monitoring standards. Governors rely on their headteacher to guide them through the data and the FourS School Improvement Partner provides an external challenge and scrutiny of the school's performance.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The DCSF no longer publishes attainment results (SATs) for the end of the infant key stage (KS1). Although some schools may administer the SAT tests the teacher assessment of pupil progress is the key indicator of attainment of young children at this level. The national expectation is that pupils will achieve a Level 2 in reading, writing, maths and science, although in Surrey many children do much better than this and there is an expectation that locally a number of children will achieve a Level 3.
- 2.2 Twelve of the 23 schools with Infant pupils achieved results in line with, or above the national average. Notably, at two schools every pupil achieved a level 2 or above in all four subject areas (**St Peter's Infant and Woodlea Primary**). Eight schools achieved results in line with or above the national averages in all core subjects at Level 3 or above. Of these, three schools achieved results in line with or above the Surrey average in all subjects (**Limpsfield Infant, St Peter and St Paul at Chaldon and St Peter's Infant**).
- 2.3 At Key Stage Two, 11 of Tandridge's 19 schools achieved results in line with or above the national average in all core subjects (Level 4 in English, Maths and Science). Seven of these schools achieved results in line with or above the Surrey average in all core subjects and **Tatsfield Primary** pupils achieved results of 90% and above in all three subjects.

- 2.4 Examining levels of attainment in isolation, however, does not give any indication of the progress pupils have made since their end of Key Stage 1 assessments. Value added measures are intended to allow fairer comparisons between schools with different pupil intakes and provide a better indication of schools' overall effectiveness.
- 2.5 Five of Tandridge's primary schools had a Contextual Value Added (CVA) score within the top quarter of schools nationally (**Marden Lodge, Nutfield, St Francis, Tatsfield and Warlingham Village Primary**). Nutfield Primary was in the top 5% of schools for its CVA score.
- 2.6 The Department for Children, Schools and Families has not yet published the 2007 Key Stage 3 Achievement and Attainment Tables. The following commentary is therefore based on provisional results that are subject to change as not all marking reviews are included.
- 2.7 Two of Tandridge's three mainstream Secondary schools achieved results in line with or above the national average in all core subjects (English, Mathematics and Science) at Level 5 and above. Both schools also achieved results in line with or above the national average in all subjects at Level 6 and above. One of these schools (**Oxted**) was above the Surrey average in all subjects at both Level 5 and above and Level 6 and above.
- 2.8 One of Tandridge's three Secondary schools achieved a 5+ A*-C pass rate in line with or above the national average (**Oxted**). This school also achieved a 5+ A*-C pass rate in line with or above the Surrey average. Two schools had a 5+ A*-C including English and Maths pass rate above the national average (**Oxted, Warlingham**).
- 2.9 Very few pupils leave Tandridge schools without achieving any qualifications. The percentage of pupils achieving at least one qualification is in line with or above the national average in two schools (**Oxted, Warlingham**).
- 2.10 In terms of progress made by pupils between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4, none of Tandridge's Secondary schools had a CVA score in the top 25% of schools nationally. One explanation for this may be that because the primary schools are successful in raising attainment and an increasing number of pupils are leaving primary school with Level 5 SATs, it is harder to demonstrate significant progress in terms of SATs levels.
- 2.11 Beyond the national tests and examinations many schools in Tandridge have achieved specialist curriculum awards and quality standards such as Arts Mark and Eco Schools awards. These will be reported on later in the term in the individual school information summaries.

- 2.12 During the period January 2007 to January 2008, 14 schools in Tandridge were inspected by Ofsted (3 Secondary phase, 10 Primary phase, and 1 Special). Of these, four schools were graded overall as 3 (“satisfactory”), nine schools were graded overall as 2 (“good”) and one school, **Limpsfield Infant**, was graded overall as 1 (“outstanding”).

3 TANDRIDGE CONFEDERATION

- 3.1 The Tandridge Confederation of schools has had another successful and productive year. The Confederation has officially developed into an Extended Services Confederation and is now offering a range of activities across the five core areas (delivering a varied menu of extra-curricular activities, enabling community access to facilities and events, swift & easy access to specialist services for pupils and families and providing parenting support and childcare either directly or through a third party).
- 3.2 Sarah Sadler, Headteacher, Nutfield Primary, has taken on the role of Confederation Chair and the confederation’s activities are managed and co-ordinated by Sarah Davison. All schools are involved. Sarah has done a lot of work to develop an identity and action plan for the confederation and has initiated many activities locally which have directly benefited young people and their families.
- 3.3 Highlights during 2007 included the Confederation Day in October when a “Carousel of Learning” opportunities were offered to school staff. The innovative learning and training opportunities included a workshop on “Inspirational Leadership” using the theme of Shakespeare’s Henry V.
- 3.4 The Confederation website (www.tandridgeconfederation.org.uk) went live during 2007. This contains lots of useful information about the schools and Confederation projects.
- 3.5 Activities for the Confederation during 2008 include the establishment of a Tandridge Pupil Council and developing further opportunities for adult learning within the area.

4 EDUCATION ISSUES

- 4.1 The issue of Admissions is still a perplexing one in Tandridge. The new Code of Practice made the equal preference scheme a legal requirement and this change to a new system proved extremely challenging for all admissions authorities. The Information Technology 'glitches' now seem to have been addressed and the process has reportedly gone much more smoothly this year (i.e. admissions for September 2008). At the time of compiling this report it was not possible to give an indication of allocations of school places. Letters will be sent to parents of primary aged children on 28th February 2008 and to secondary parents on 3rd March 2008.
- 4.2 It is important to remember that, despite last year's difficulties with the change to the Equal Preference system of allocating school places, in Tandridge 80.7% of secondary applicants received their first preference and 85% received their first preference for primary school admission. Overall, across Surrey, 95% of secondary and 98.5% of primary applicants gained one of their three preferred schools last year. The Local Authority's aim is always to offer the highest number of parents their choice of school.
- 4.3 All three secondary schools are proving popular with parents. We know that **de Stafford school** has received more first preferences this year than its Published Admission Number (150) and its continued improvement and strong leadership was recognised by Ofsted in its recent inspection. Parental confidence in the school is now high and it has become a school of choice.
- 4.4 **Warlingham School** is also likely to be oversubscribed, and **Oxted School** is subject to a Schools Adjudicator's ruling which attempts to address the difficulty in accommodating all the children within its agreed catchment area. There has been a wide public consultation on this matter and discussions with Headteachers continue locally. The Local Authority recognises that there is a need for more secondary places in the south of Tandridge and around the border with Reigate and Banstead. Primary places currently appear to be sufficient in Tandridge. The Education Planning team is monitoring the situation closely.
- 4.5 Teacher recruitment in Surrey continues to present a challenge. Nevertheless since last year's report there have been four new, high calibre Headteachers appointed to schools in Tandridge: Georgina Steinthal at **Marden Lodge**, Stephanie Gibson at **St Catherine's**, Guy Nelson at **Oxted** and Lynis Williams at **Limpsfield Grange**.

- 4.6 A number of schools have had, or are undertaking building projects: for example **Oxted, Whyteleafe, Godstone Primary, St Mary's** and **Warlingham** have all made improvements to their accommodation. Most of this work has been financed by schools using their Formula Capital allocation. **Whyteleafe School** was recently the subject of an attempted arson in which an external building and play equipment were seriously damaged. There are ongoing land transfer issues with the proposed rebuilding of **Tatsfield Primary School**.
- 4.7 All schools in the District buy into the Local Education Officer Team support package and therefore are entitled to enhanced support and guidance. Heads use the service well and we maintain good contact and very positive relationships with all schools in Tandridge.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The total delegated schools budget for 2007/8 was around £479 million. This included £32 million for the Learning and Skills Council to finance post-16 education. The non-delegated budget retained by the council to pay for school transport, special educational needs, specialist advisory and officer support for schools etc. was £64 million. As most of the education budget is now delegated to schools the council retains minimal control over how the money is spent. However, schools are subject to stringent financial regulations and routine audit which scrutinises their expenditure using Best Value criteria.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Surrey is a county of changing racial and ethnic population. Tandridge schools include pupils from other ethnic communities and teachers are increasingly developing the curriculum to reflect the multi-ethnic aspects of society. All schools by law have an Equal Opportunities policy that includes protocols to prevent disability discrimination. Increasingly children with special needs are included in local mainstream schools, with appropriate support, so that they may be educated with their peers.
- 6.2 The secondary heads in south east Surrey all meet twice per term to place pupils who are excluded or without a school place. In addition to this the three Tandridge secondary heads have set up a system of 'managed moves' between the schools in order to avoid permanent exclusion of pupils with the most challenging behaviour.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Preventative work in schools is prominent. In Personal, Social and Health education lessons students are taught about what constitutes good citizenship and responsible, safe behaviour. This is part of both the primary and secondary curriculum. Schools are using a range of anti-bullying strategies and headteachers are fully engaged with partners such as the police and the Youth Service and Youth Justice Team to try and help reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

8 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 Tandridge schools are providing a good education for pupils and parents. The attainment of all schools is generally good and many schools have features of outstanding practice. One school in the District is on the Additional Support and Intervention programme to help resolve some difficult staffing issues, however its educational attainment has been judged by Ofsted as good.
- 8.2 All schools in the District buy into the Local Education Officer Team support package and therefore are entitled to enhanced support and guidance. Heads use the service well and we maintain good contact and very positive relationships with all schools in Tandridge.

LEAD OFFICER: Melanie Harris, Local Education Officer
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01737 737960
E-MAIL: melanie.harris@surreycc.gov.uk