

TO: EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING
DATE: 12 DECEMBER 2019

**ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE VIRTUAL SCHOOL
2018 – 2019
Executive Director: People**

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To note and approve the Annual Report of the Virtual School for 2018-19.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 **For the Executive member to NOTE and APPROVE the Annual Report on the work of the Virtual School for 2018-19.**

3 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 To ensure ongoing accountability of the Virtual School towards the development of continually improved outcomes overall for children and young people in care in accordance with statutory expectations.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 None considered.

5 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1 The LA has a well-established Virtual School with a remit to ensure that looked after children and care leavers receive appropriate education and achieve well. The attached reports covers the 2018/19 academic year and includes a description of the work undertaken by members of the Virtual School under the leadership of the Virtual School head.
- 5.2 The report has been written to describe the work of the Virtual School and the impact of the service on looked after children. Particular areas of strength include trends around attendance, progress and attainment for children looked after, the proportion of care leavers in (further and higher) education or employment and the partnerships in place with stakeholders who demonstrate a consistent aspiration for our young people to achieve and succeed. The impact of these areas together with the plans for the service over the coming academic year reflect favourably for the Virtual School in comparison to others not only across the region but also nationally.

6 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The relevant legal issues are addressed within the report.

Director of Finance

- 6.2 The Director of Finance is satisfied that no significant financial implications arise from approving the 2018-19 report on the work of the Virtual School

Background Papers

Annex 1 - Annual Report on the Work of the Virtual School 2018 - 19

Contact for further information

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