

COUNCIL

21 JUNE 2018

MOTION 2

Proposed by: Councillor Mike Jones-Pritchard

Seconded by: Councillor Joel Williams

This Council recognises the positive steps set out in the Council's Capital Ambition document to make sure every child in Cardiff goes to a good or excellent school and that around half of schools are either good or excellent. It also recognises the good work of officers, teachers, governors and others, involved in education in Cardiff that has brought about the improvement in standards in recent years and the continuing need and drive to further improve standards across all levels and in all areas of Cardiff.

This Council recognises that Capital Ambition states that:

- We will close the attainment gap in schools so that no child is left behind
- Education is one of the surest routes out of poverty
- Education is everyone's business
- We must invest in aspiration and life chances from an early age
- We must work to align funding from across the public and third sectors ... around what each individual child and family needs
- Early intervention is critical
- We need to provide lasting solutions to complex problems
- That every citizen will have the chance to fulfil their potential and
- That the key to long term success and prosperity of a city lies in how it chooses to invest in aspiration and life chances from an early age.

This motion calls upon the Cabinet to be even more ambitious and to deal with a critical need, not referred to, or identified, in Capital Ambition, which is the deplorable situation of the significant number of children, in all areas of the city, who join nursery with limited language and social skills, who have minimal self-help or personal care skills, with many unable to use the toilet or hold a cup.

It calls upon the Council to work across service areas and, with other organisations, to develop, and put in place, an initiative to enable those parents and carers of pre-school age children, to have ready access to Flying Start, or similar provision, in every primary school in Cardiff where there is the need. A provision where support and guidance on positive parenting, child care and development etc. can be accessed without stigma, to enable us to ensure that all children in Cardiff, whether they live in an area classed as deprived, or not, and whose parents or carers need help, have the opportunity to start nursery at the expected level and stage of development.