

COMPOSITE MOTION (ADJOURNED 21 JUNE 2018)

Proposed by: Councillor Sarah Merry

Seconded by: Councillor Mike Jones-Pritchard

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.

The Council recognises that there continues to be many young children across the city who do not meet their developmental milestones and whose families require a range of non-stigmatised support, in order for these children to start nursery education at the expected level and stage of development. This council also recognises the impact that poverty can have on young children and their educational outcomes.

This Council recognises the importance of early pre-school support and is working to ensure that the range of early intervention services that exist across the city are integrated and accessible, open to all, and are not limited by a narrow threshold assessment.

This will include:

- Through Families First funding, extending the offer of parenting support to all families across the city that have children aged 0-16 (18 where a young person has been identified as vulnerable).
- Supporting the Cardiff and Vale UHB in the implementation of Healthy Child Wales Programme across Cardiff. This is a universal health programme for all families with 0 – 7 year old children.
- Development of a preventative Support for Families Service, providing assistance that ranges from advice and information to interventions that provide holistic support to families experiencing difficulties below the threshold for statutory intervention.
- Delivery of locally based family support to identify and deliver the right help at the right time.

The combination of these approaches, combined with the continued drive to improve standards is aimed at improving the life chances of our youngest citizens in Cardiff and reducing the attainment gap, so that no child is left behind.