

Making the grade: a silver bullet or just plain old hard work?

Nick Whitfield, Chief Executive, Achieving for Children



achieving for children

Champions for children and families

Our vision

“We support children to live safe, happy, healthy and successful lives”

Our promises

- We will put children and young people first
- We will embrace diversity and champion inclusion
- We will be resourceful, adaptable and dependable
- We will nurture strong, responsive and caring relationships
- We will value and invest in our staff to deliver innovative and quality services
- We will work with our customers to deliver the most effective solutions for them

About us

- A Community Interest Company
- Created and owned by Kingston and Richmond Councils
- Established in 2014
- Largest 'spin out' nationally
- Supported by the Cabinet Office Mutuels Programme

Some early successes

- £3m savings in year 1
- The renewing of our partnerships including the LSCB
- Continued success of our partner schools
- Appointed by the DfE as Intervention Advisers
- Won £1.1m of innovation funding to develop new models of foster care

Some early successes

- Launched a portfolio of traded services to councils and schools, with all profits reinvested back into services for children, young people and families
- Improved retention of staff
- Staff satisfaction on the up
- **And... the Ofsted result!**

The Ofsted journey

- Kingston Ofsted inspection result in 2012: **inadequate**
- Re-inspected in 2013 showing signs of improvement but still **inadequate**
- Inspected again in May 2015... **GOOD** across all inspection categories
- Among the highest quality services nationally

“Services to children and their families have been transformed since the last inspections of children looked after services and safeguarding” - Ofsted

Preparing for the inspection

- Thorough quality assurance audits using the Ofsted methodology
- Robust self-assessment and clear learning and improvement plan
- Ensuring staff know their achievements and can tell their story and the story of the children they work with
- An obsession with the accuracy and reliability of Annex A data

Preparing for the inspection

- All documentation checked, catalogued and branded well in advance
- Strict version control on all documents
- A lead co-ordinator allocated, responsible for QA of all documentation
- A clear understanding of roles and responsibilities
- Building strong relationships with partners and ensuring they understand their role during the inspection

During the inspection

- Make sure you tell the story well
- Create good, appropriate relationship with the inspectors to ensure they understand your story
- One person with complete responsibility for logistics
- Regular, clear and honest communications to the organisation and also to key staff to ensure crucial information regarding key lines of enquiry is cascaded quickly

During the inspection

- Make sure your printers work – you'll be printing a lot!
- Keep a tight control on what is being shared, making sure it is filtered to ensure consistent quality
- Maintain the morale – it's a long slog
- Be visible
- Make sure everyone looks after themselves and eats!

Find out more...

Doing It Differently

Our approach to transforming children's services

Date: 14 January 2016, 10am to 5pm

Location: Coin Street Conference Centre, South Bank, London

Register online: www.achievingforchildren.org.uk/Doing-It-Differently

Questions?



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