

**School improvement** as a holistic term involves leaders, teachers, other education staff and professionals, culture, resources, pedagogy and the broader school community all working together to change school practices in ways that lead to better outcomes for our children and young people.

It is mainly concerned with the processes through which schools can raise standards: the changes they can make and the strategies they can use to improve pupil outcomes.

School improvement is not just about when schools are performing less effectively or have low standards, it is the practice of continuous improvement for all learners.

School Improvement sits within the Children, Families and Education directorate. As the landscape has changed within Portsmouth to include academies and free schools, the Portsmouth Education Partnership (PEP) has been developed to ensure that by working as a collective we will make the biggest gains

### Why is it important?

The challenges for education in the city are clear. Nearly a quarter of the city's children live in poverty, with the figure even higher in some areas. There is long standing under achievement particularly by White British boys. One fifth of pupils are from black or minority ethnic groups with most of these speaking English as an additional language; over 100 languages are spoken by pupils attending Portsmouth's schools. Expectations of what many young people can achieve - their own, their parents' and those of their community - are often too low.

Whilst 92% of schools in Portsmouth are now graded Good or better by Ofsted, this is not reflected in the standards that are achieved. Our aspirations to improve are high

### How do we do it?

We work with:

- Other services and departments to support children, young people and staff in our schools (e.g. Inclusion, Social Care).
- The Portsmouth Education Partnership set up to align the work of all Portsmouth education establishments.
- External agencies and partners, such as Teaching School Alliances, English and Maths Hubs, Ofsted, other Local Authorities, the Regional Schools' Commissioner and the DfE.
- Effective professionals sharing best practice in clusters and networks.

We offer:

- Support for recruitment and induction of new school leaders appointed to Portsmouth schools.
- School reviews and the opportunity to commission external consultants.
- Preparation for Ofsted inspections.
- Bespoke support and challenge, that is proportional to school effectiveness.
- Key Stage 1 and 2 moderation.
- Resources and guidance materials for schools (e.g. data, policies, planning).
- Continuous professional development, training events and activities

### For more information:

Contact the Head of School Improvement and Early Years on:  
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Or look at our online presence on the Portsmouth Education Partnership website:  
<http://www.portsmoutheducationpartnership.co.uk>