**Highlight Report**

**Title of meeting:** PEP Strategic Board

**Date of meeting:** 14th June 2021

**Report from Group / Board:** Early Language and Literacy Development Group

**Report by:** Debbie Anderson

**Reporting Period:** March 2021 - May 2021

1. **Progress in this Reporting Period**
* Progress of 3 work streams (Relaunch of the Portsmouth Early Language Plan on a Page document, developing reading in Portsmouth, improving literacy at transition points) are all progressing at various rates.
* A 'Portsmouth Approach to Reading' document with separate specialist sections to support schools is being drafted for presentation at the PEP Summer Education Conference on 2nd July 2021. Once finalised, it will be hosted on the PEP website.
* Updates on the progress of NELI and Destination Reader programmes have been shared with the group.
* Discussion of a need for progression in Phonics into KS2 and beyond, with the idea of a Portsmouth Progression in Phonics sub-group being required. Also debated, the implications of validated Systematic Synthetic Phonics programmes from March 2022 and issues around Letters and Sounds.
* Partners collaborating around a number of initiatives under the umbrella term of 'Portsmouth Reads' e.g. Library Services' Michael Morpurgo Boy Giant Webinar, linked to PEP Summer Education Conference, Summer Reading Challenge linked to family opportunity as previous adults had Reading Ahead (Six Book Challenge), celebrating and supporting the work of Pompey Pirates with the link to the Portsmouth Cultural Partnership.
1. **Plans for next Reporting Period** (May to October 2021)
* Finalising the Portsmouth Approach to Reading document.
* Developing further layers of the Portsmouth Commitment to Early Language (previously Portsmouth Early Language Plan on a Page) with case study extracts.
1. **Key Issues and Risks for the board to be aware of**
* Health representatives have rarely attended beyond the first meeting, making joined up working across agencies and partners more of a challenge.
1. **Items for decision by the PEP strategic board** (leave this section blank if this paper is for information only)