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DATE: Tuesday 19 March 2013

EDUCATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER BRIEFING

Meeting to be held on Tuesday 19 March 2013

QUESTIONS ON THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER BRIEFING

The Briefing comprises:

- 1 MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION BUDGET SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON 13TH FEBRUARY 2013 (Pages 3 - 6)**
- 2 UPDATE FROM THE SEN EXECUTIVE WORKING PARTY (Pages 7 - 8)**
- 3 ACHIEVING TWO YEAR OLDS – CAPITAL ALLOCATION (Pages 9 - 10)**
- 4 ECS CONTRACT ACTIVITY REPORT (Pages 11 - 16)**
- 5 DEVELOPMENT OF FREE SCHOOLS - UPDATE (Pages 17 - 18)**
- 6 ACADEMY PROGRAMME IN BROMLEY: UPDATE (Pages 19 - 24)**
- 7 EDUCATION POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGES: UPDATE (Pages 25 - 30)**

Members and Co-opted Members have been provided with advanced copies of the Part 1 (Public) briefing via email. The Part 1 (Public) briefing is also available on the Council website at the following link: <http://cds.bromley.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?XXR=0&Year=2013&CId=559>

Paper copies of this Information Briefing will not be available at the meeting of Education PDS Committee.

Information Items will not be debated at Education PDS Committee unless a member of the Committee requests a discussion be held. 24 hours notice must be given to the Clerk.

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EDUCATION BUDGET SUB-COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.00 pm on 13 February 2013

Present:

Councillor Neil Reddin FCCA (Chairman)
Councillor Nicky Dykes (Vice-Chairman)
Councillors Nicholas Bennett J.P. and David McBride

Councillor Stephen Wells, Portfolio Holder for Education

Also Present:

David Bradshaw, Head of Education and Care Services Finance
Dr Tessa Moore, Assistant Director: Education

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Lydia Buttinger.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairman noted that Declarations of Interest made by Members at the meeting of Education PDS Committee on 12th June 2012 were taken as read.

3 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ATTENDING THE MEETING

No questions had been received from members of the public.

4 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 8th JANUARY 2013 AND MATTERS ARISING

The Chairman noted that a number of the issues arising from the minutes would be considered during the meeting.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2013 be agreed.

5 2013/14 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT

Report ED13024

The Sub-Committee considered a report setting out the indicative allocation for the 2013/14 Dedicated Schools Grant and outlining how this funding would be allocated and expended across the High Needs, Early Years and Schools blocks in 2013/14. A total sum of £228,331,776 had been allocated to the Borough for 2013/14, which was an increase from the previous year due to increased pupil

numbers and the inclusion of additional funding streams which had been incorporated into the Dedicated Schools Grant together with additional responsibilities.

In considering the indicative allocation for the 2013/14 Dedicated Schools Grant, the Chairman noted changes to the allocation of funding for children and young people with special educational needs that meant that additional 'top up' funding from the high needs block, which was based outside the schools' budget share calculations, would only be provided for children with needs over £6k per annum. The Assistant Director: Education confirmed that schools had expressed concern at the way the new funding allocations might impact the funding schools received for children and young people with high incidence, low level needs. The Portfolio Holder for Education noted the importance of ensuring that children and young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties continued to receive the support they needed to remain within a mainstream school setting. Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP also emphasised the need to ensure Head Teachers and Chairs of Governors understood the new funding formula. The Assistant Director: Education confirmed that a letter had been drafted to send to Head Teachers and that information was also being provided to Governors, Parents and other stakeholders in a variety of ways.

Members considered Age Weighted Pupil Unit funding for 2013/14 and noted that funding for the Primary sector in Bromley was low compared to the median range, but that Secondary sector funding was close to the median range. The Head of Education and Care Services Finance confirmed that the decision to use a lump sum of £180k for each school as part of the calculations supported the level of funding received by Primary schools. The minimum funding guarantee would also help ensure that schools did not receive a reduction in funding from the previous year, although this would not protect schools from the impact of any reduction in pupil numbers. It was noted that a new national funding formula would be introduced from 2015/16.

RESOLVED that Members' comments on the latest 2013/14 Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for the Education Portfolio be noted.

6 CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING Q3 2012/13 & ANNUAL CAPITAL REVIEW 2013 TO 2017

Report RES13035

On 6th February 2013, the Executive received the 3rd quarterly capital monitoring report for 2012/13 and were asked to approve the new capital schemes supported by Council Directors as part of the annual capital review process. The Executive agreed a revised Capital Programme for the five year period 2012/13 to 2016/17. The Sub-Committee considered a report highlighting the changes agreed by the Executive in respect of the Capital Programme for the Education Portfolio.

In considering the capital monitoring report, the Portfolio Holder for Education confirmed that the contingency budget for the secondary school investment

strategy for Langley Park Boys School had not yet been spent, and noted that funds of £316k were being held to cover potential cost pressures, including asbestos management and removal on site.

RESOLVED that the revised capital programme agreed by the Executive on 6th February 2013 be recommended to the Education Portfolio Holder for approval.

7 EDUCATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER INFORMATION ITEMS

Report ED13025

The Sub-Committee considered an information briefing outlining the Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG) arrangement and the new arrangements that were to be introduced from 2013/14. The Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant was paid to academy schools to fund the purchase of a wide range of services that the Local Authority was responsible for providing for maintained schools.

The change in funding aimed to use a national average rate of £132 per pupil which would be removed from the Local Authority in respect of every pupil. This amounted to a top slice from funding of £6.581m. The Local Authority, through the Education Support Grant (ESG), would be provided with £15 per pupil for all pupils regardless of where they attended school to fund statutory duties. In addition the Local Authority would receive £116 per pupil for each pupil attending a maintained school. As the Council was a low cost Local Authority with a high academy conversion rate, it would be detrimentally affected. Currently a top slice of Revenue Support Grant of £1.46m was taken from Bromley annually and early indications were that Bromley was likely to lose a further £3.3m in addition to the current top slice for 2013/14. It was also likely that the per pupil reduction would be applied on a quarterly basis rather than annually, which would further impact the level of funding received by the Local Authority and make forward planning of budgets more difficult. It was noted that Members and Officers had been in discussion with Ministers and Officers at the Department for Education to mitigate the impact of this loss, such as the introduction of a cap in the amount of funding that could be removed from a Local Authority, and that some concessions had been made.

The Head of Education and Care Services Finance noted that there was also a need for clarity in identifying the statutory duties the Local Authority had in regard to education services for both maintained schools and academies.

RESOLVED that the information briefing be noted.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

In discussing future areas for the Education Budget Sub-Committee to consider, Members requested that reports on the School Improvement Team and Special Educational Needs Transport be provided to the next meeting of the Sub-

Committee. Other areas to explore in more depth in the future might also include the Access and Admissions Service.

RESOLVED that the issues raised be noted.

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Education Budget Sub-Committee would be confirmed shortly.

The Meeting ended at 7.54 pm

Chairman

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 19th March 2013

UPDATE FROM THE SEN EXECUTIVE WORKING PARTY

Contact Officer: Kerry Nicholls, Democratic Services Officer
Tel: 020 8313 4602 E-mail: kerry.nicholls@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director, Education and Care Services
Tel: 020 8313 4060 E-mail: terry.parkin@bromley.gov.uk

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an update following the meeting of the Executive Member Officer Working Party for Special Educational Needs held on 28th February 2013.

2. THE BRIEFING

- 2.1 A number of areas were considered as part of the meeting:

Special Education Needs Transport

- 2.2 Members considered a report which outlined the current transport provision for children and young people with special educational needs in the Borough and work that was being undertaken around the future development of the service.
- 2.3 It was noted that the SEN Transport Service was working to develop a menu of transport solutions to promote choice, develop independence and align their work with that of the SEN Pathfinder into the future. This included travel training to support pupils to become independent travellers, potential structure changes to the SEN and Adult Transport Teams, and consideration of the type of transport services Bromley would provide into the future.

SEN Pathfinder Update – Education, Health and Care Plans

- 2.4 Members considered a report outlining progress with the SEN Pathfinder, developed in partnership with London Borough of Bexley to test areas within the Children and Families Bill, and providing further information on Education, Health and Care plans, which were a key component of the new SEN and Disability reform agenda.
- 2.5 The SEN Pathfinder had tested the development and application of Education, Health and Care Plans for children and young people with complex needs, and in December 2012, the London Boroughs of Bromley and Bexley were notified that further funding had been granted to take the SEN Pathfinder work forward until September 2014, in line with the timescales for the implementation of the new SEN reforms. During this additional phase of the SEN Pathfinder, Education, Health and Care Plans would be scaled up for full implementation for all

new children and young people by September 2013, linking with the current statutory SEN legislative processes around statements which would remain in place until September 2014.

SEN and Disability Strategy – Specialist Placements In and Out of Borough Settings – Analysis of Need

- 2.6 Members considered a report outlining in and out of Borough pupil placements and providing an analysis of needs and information to support forward planning.
- 2.7 The future strategy for special educational needs was to ensure that local, high quality and cost effective provision was available across the Borough to support children and young people to access pupil placements within their local communities. To enable this, work had been undertaken to develop a wider range of in Borough pupil placements including recent consultation on plans to expand Riverside School to provide places for 8 pupils per year with an autism specific curriculum, and to provide an additional 16 places per year at Glebe School for children with complex learning needs including complex social and communication needs.

SEN and Disability Strategy – Education Funding Reform Implications

- 2.8 Members considered a report which provided an update on the Education Funding Reform implementation and implications for Statements and children with special educational needs in mainstream schools in Bromley.
- 2.9 The Department for Education aimed to simplify the local funding arrangements for 2013/14 and 2014/15 and to introduce a new approach to funding special educational needs that would help to improve transparency, quality and choice for young people and their families.
- 2.10 From 2013/14 the Dedicated Schools Grant funding would be divided into three separate blocks comprising High Needs, Early Years and Schools. The Schools Block would contain Special Educational Needs funds for lower level statement, Action and Action Plus funds. Statements with funding under £6k would not attract direct funding but schools would be required to create a notional special educational needs budget and allocate funds from within their school budget. Statements with a Matrix value above £6k would also be funded by schools but 'top-up' funding would be provided to cover any costs over £6k.

Commissioning of Speech and Language and Occupational Therapy for Pupils in Bromley Schools

- 2.11 Members considered a report which outlined the commissioned provision of speech and language therapy and occupational therapy to Bromley school settings.
- 2.12 The Local Authority provided speech and language therapy and occupational therapy provision for pupils in special schools and schools with unit provision in partnership with Bromley Primary Care Trust. The current Local Authority contract was due to end in July 2013 and following consideration of the report by the Education PDS Committee, the Portfolio Holder had agreed that an exemption be made to competitive tendering to award a new one year contract to Bromley Healthcare, the current commissioned provider for both contracts, to allow the respective London Borough of Bromley and Primary Care Trust contracts to be aligned to enable joint commissioning arrangements to be explored following a review of the legislative frameworks and clarification of funding responsibilities.

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee 19 March 2013

'ACHIEVING TWO YEAR OLDS' CAPITAL ALLOCATION

Contact Officer: Sherryn Arthur, Achieving Two Years Olds Implementation Officer
Tel: 020 8461 7167 E-mail: sherryn.arthur@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director, Education and Care Services

1. Summary

1.1 This briefing relates to funds that form part of the 2013/14 capital allocation to the Education and Care budget.

1.2 The amount totals £557,903 and relates to additional capital funding to support:

- the provision of an increased number of free places for two year old children who meet specific criteria;
- the building of capacity to deliver additional places for 2 year olds within Private, Voluntary, Independent and Maintained Early Years provision prior to this becoming statutory in September 2013 and increasing from 10 to 15 hours.

2. **THE BRIEFING**

2.1 The Department for Education (DfE) has allocated to the London Borough of Bromley a total of £557,903 in Capital grant for a single year (2012-13), to build capacity and support the implementation of Early Years Free Education (EYFE) for two year olds. These funds have been paid to the Local Authority under Section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003.

2.2 EYFE becomes statutory in September 2013 for 20% of two years olds (whose parents are in receipt of benefits eligible for Free School Meals) and Looked After Children (LAC). This entitlement will increase to 40% of two year olds in September 2014.

2.3 The Council will have the same statutory duty to provide sufficient places for eligible two year olds as it does for the universal provision for three and four year olds.

2.4 A capital audit document entitled 'Investing in Bromley's 2 Year Olds' has been sent to all early years providers. Responses have been received to date from 40% of eligible providers.

2.5 The proposed criteria for approving funding is based on five areas:

- Potential to offer additional places for two year olds
- Risk assessment, i.e. is the space safe for two year olds;
- The physical environment, i.e. are resources suitable for two year olds;
- Toileting, i.e. can two year olds easily access toilets, are changing facilities suitable;
- Storage, i.e. is this sufficient to accommodate additional resources

All schemes will be prioritised using the following proposed criteria:

- Quality of provision – settings need to be rated as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted to be involved in providing free education for two year olds
- Poor facilities (e.g. Where the physical environment has a detrimental impact to provide quality provision indoor or out)
- Area of deprivation
- The number of children that the funding will benefit
- The sustainability of the setting.

2.6 The 2008-2011 Quality and Access in Early Years Setting capital funding addressed many of the more expensive changes required to deliver high quality early years provision. It is therefore anticipated that many settings require only small adjustments to be able to cater appropriately for two year olds and this is borne out by the responses to the audit received so far.

2.7 Likely expenditure required will be in items such as:

- Room dividers
- Storage
- Age/height appropriate resources
- Changing stations
- Safety alterations

2.8 It is forecast that approximately 140 settings will be of sufficient quality to be eligible for the capital funding. This indicates an average spend of £3,985 per provider.

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Portfolio Holder 19 March 2013

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES CONTRACT REPORTS – EDUCATION CONTRACTS

Contact Officer: Laurence Downes, Commissioning Manager
Education and Children's Social Care
Tel: 020 8313 4805 E-mail: laurence.downes@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director, Education and Care Services

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Executive and Resources Policy Development and Scrutiny (PDS) Committee has agreed a template report for London Borough of Bromley Contracts. The report details the current status of all contracts with a whole life value of £200k or more, with all relevant contracts identified from the Contract Register.
- 1.2 Executive and Resources PDS has recommended that the PDS Committee for each portfolio reviews the Contract Register report relevant to their portfolio, providing any comments as appropriate.
- 1.3 The Contract Register report for all contracts relevant to the Education Portfolio is included as **Appendix One** to this paper. In addition, the paper provides a brief update on planned contract activity over the next six months.

2. THE BRIEFING

- 2.1 **Appendix One** details all current contracts relevant to the Education Portfolio with a whole life value of £200k or more.
- 2.2 The following table details other Education related contracts with values below £200k but which are of note and that will require action within the next six months. The status is as at the time of writing of this report in February 2013. They are:

Provider	Service	End Date	Annual Value	Actions
Principals Catering	Catering at EDC	31/03/2013	£53,426	Notice given on contract due to closure of EDC. No further action at this time.
Penny Smith-Orr	SACRE	31/03/2013	£11,200	Specification update and request for quotes in progress.

Provider	Service	End Date	Annual Value	Actions
Various	Bromley Children and Family Centre Provision	31/03/2013	Variable	Bromley Children and Family Centres source all provision from a defined menu of activities and an approved list of providers. A min-tender from the Approved List for 2013/14 provision is in progress.
Bromley Mencap	Childminding Network	31/03/2013	£85,000	Market testing has identified a lack of alternative providers and therefore an extension authorisation in progress.
Advocacy for All	Engagement with children, young people and families in service design	31/03/2013	£18,850	Service review in progress.
Burgess Autistic Trust	Support for children, young people and families with autism	31/03/2013	£35,000	A continuation of the current contract is proposed to allow time for service review to be completed. Authorisation in progress.
CASPA	Summer provision for Short Breaks for Disabled Children	31/08/2013	£35,000	Service review to be completed.
Len Blomstrand	Paralegal support for SEN Tribunals	31/03/2013	£40,000	One year extension to March 2014 authorised. No further action at this time.
Children and Families Voluntary Sector Forum	Representative Group for Voluntary Sector	31/03/2013	£18,550	Service review to be completed.
NACRO	Intensive Supervision and Surveillance for Young Offenders	31/03/2013	£71,000	One year extension to March 2014 authorised. No further action at this time.
Bromley Healthcare	Speech and Language Provision	31/07/2013	£310,538	One year extension to July 2014 authorised. No further action at this time.
Royal Borough of Kingston	Advice and guidance to young people	31/03/2013	£140,000	One year extension option available. Negotiations on specification of service going forward in progress.
Flexible Learning - Various	Alternative curriculum for KS4 pupils	31/07/2013	Variable	Tendering process in development.
Supply Teachers – Various	Provision of supply teachers for home to hospital tuition and other settings	31/08/2013	Variable	Call off or tendering process via Framework in progress. Authorisation to spot purchase from existing provider base until Framework contract in place granted at Education PDS January 2013.

	Department	Contract Name	Suppliers	Duration Months	Duration Years	End Date (inc extension)	Original Contract Total Value £	Original Annual Contract Value £	No of Waivers	Value of Contract Waivers Approved	No of Variations / Extensions	Value of Variations / Extensions	2012/13 Budget £	2012/13 Projected £	Cost Difference £	Comments
30022	Education and Care Services_Education Capital	Langley Park Boys School BSF One School Pathfinder	J B Leadbitter & Co Ltd	37	3.08	01-Apr-13	27,674,280	n/a	0	0	61	1,517,561.29	6,568,000	5,568,000		Overall Budget for LPSB BSF Project is £37,806,000 .Budget is solely for LPSB Project, funded primarily by DfE BSF Grant and project is on target to break even.
31121	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Ruskin Private Hire Ltd	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£2,376,960.00	£420,142.00	0	0	0	0	£420,142.00	£420,142.00	0	SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
31124	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Stratfords Private Hire	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£2,162,480.00	£426,850.00	0	0	0	0	£426,850.00	£426,850.00	0	SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
31114	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Kelly Kar Hire	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£2,059,350.00	£436,396.00	0	0	0	0	£436,396.00	£436,396.00	0	SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
31115	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Kensway Tours	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£1,940,720.00	£400,979.00	0	0	0	0	£400,979.00	£400,979.00	0	SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
31112	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Centaur Overland Travel	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£1,685,228.00	£339,108.00	0	0	0	0	£339,108.00	£339,108.00	0	SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
31100	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	1st Class Cars	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£1,432,150.00	£270,485.00	0	0	0	0	£270,485.00	£270,485.00	0	SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
31123	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Stage Two	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£1,216,995.00	£254,333.00	0	0	0	0	£254,333.00	£254,333.00	0	SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.

31105	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Cannon Cars	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£909,163.00	£160,050.00										SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.	
31125	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	The Keen Group	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£620,278.00	£124,892.00						£160,050.00	£160,050.00			SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.	
31101	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	21st Century Cars	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£602,860.00	£104,290.00						£124,892.00	£124,892.00			SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.	
31072	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Speech and Language Provision	Bromley Healthcare	121	1.00	31-Jul-13	£519,438.00	£310,538.00	Four. A large number of individual small value contracts held with Bromley Healthcare and awarded via exemption in 2010/2011 were collated into a single contract and extended to March 2012. A six month contract was awarded via exemption commencing April 2012. This contract was extended by a further year until July 2013 and combined with another relevant contract to make up a single contract, following Portfolio Holder and PDS scrutiny in June 2012.	£994,000 (£474k for the period 2010/11 to 2011/12; £80,943 for the period 1st April 2012 to 31st July 2012; £310,538 for the period 1st August 2012 to 31st July 2013; and £128,000 for the period 2011/12 to 2012/13 for the contract that was combined within the main contract).								Approval has been given via Education PDS to award a further one year contract, commencing August 2013, to align with CCG commissioning timescales.	
31118	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Lightning Cars	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£519,140.00	£117,314.00						310538	310538			SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.	
25022	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Weekend and Holiday Short Breaks Provision	Riverside School	24	2.00	31-Mar-14	£248,406.00	£496,812.00	Three. Riverside School is a Bromley maintained special school and it was agreed, following consultation with Corporate Procurement, that direct commissioning was appropriate as it was utilising a LBB resource in a care and educational setting for children and young people with disabilities. The contract was originally awarded for one year via exemption to Riverside School in May 2010, following approval from the Portfolio Holder and PDS scrutiny, and extended for a further year to March 2012 again following PDS and Portfolio Holder approval. A new two year contract was awarded via exemption commencing April 2012, again following Portfolio Holder approval and PDS scrutiny.	£995,217 (£498,405 for 2010/11 and 2011/12 and £496,812 for the current two year contract).									N/A
														248406	248406				

Education PDS 19 March Contracts Briefing Appendix One

31116	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	Ladybirds	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£262,943.00	£47,129.00										SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
31120	Education and Care Services_SEN & Disability	Home to School Transport for children with Special Educational Needs	P J Yeouli	60	5.00	31-Aug-15	£237,525.00	£45,732.00						£47,129.00	£47,129.00			SEN Transport is sourced through a framework contract with multiple providers. The routes for each provider are agreed on an annual basis and will vary significantly from year to year. The annual contract value quoted on the Register is the most recently available academic year actual (2011/12) and is updated each year as routes are confirmed. The whole life value is extrapolated from the actual spend to date and updated each year.
11486	Education and Care Services_Education	Provision of Music Education	Bromley Youth Music Trust	121	10.08	31-Mar-17	£6,076,800.00	£756,332.00						£45,732.00	£45,732.00			There is a significant difference between the original annual contract value quoted and the confirmed 2012/13 Budget and Projected spend. This is because in prior years the Department for Education Music Grant was routed through LBB and included in the contract value for this provision. For 2012/13, this funding is now passed directly to the provider from the Arts Council. The budget will reduce further in 2013/14 following agreement by Members to reduce the Bromley funding by £40k.
48679	Education and Care Services_Children's Social Care	Post 16 Learner Tracker and Transition Support	Royal Borough of Kingston	9	0.75	31/03/2013 (plus one year extension option - 31/03/2014)	£246,000.00	£140,000.00	N/A	1669000	None	None.		£140,000.00	£ 140,000.00			A new contract is currently under negotiation. This is likely to be a significantly reduced service with an annual contract value below £100k.
48654	Education and Care Services_Children's Social Care	Young Offenders Intensive Surveillance & Supervision	NACRO	24	2.00	31/03/2013 (plus one year extension option - 31/03/2014)	£213,000.00	£71,000.00	One. Contract awarded via exemption due to specialist nature of provision.	213000	None	None to date. Contract providers for a one year extension.		£71,000.00	£ 71,000.00			Extension option of one year approved at Education PDS January 2013.

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London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee 19 March 2013

DEVELOPMENT OF FREE SCHOOLS - UPDATE

Contact Officer: Dr Tessa Moore, Assistant Director (Education)
Tel: 020 8313 4146 E-mail: tessa.moore@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director, Education and Care Services

1. Summary

- 1.1 This briefing provides an update on the development of the Free School programme nationally and information on current applications for Free School provision in Bromley.

2. **THE BRIEFING**

Context

- 2.1 The Free School programme was introduced by the Government in 2010. The Department for Education defines Free Schools as all-ability state-funded schools, independent of local authorities, set up in response to what local people say they want and need in order to improve education for children in their community.
- 2.2 Free Schools can be run by various groups, including charities, parents and businesses. They cannot be run for profit.
- 2.3 Government Ministers were concerned that the programme was being held back because groups coming forward to set up Free Schools could not find suitable premises where there was permission to have a school.
- 2.4 The Government wants to remove barriers to the opening of Free Schools and has, therefore, recently announced its intention to change planning rules in England to make it easier for Free Schools to open in buildings such as offices, hotels and shops from this summer. This will mean Free Schools will be able to operate in buildings for a year without having permission to change their use.
- 2.5 There are about 80 Free Schools open in England now, with another 100 planned to open in September.
- 2.6 There are currently no Free Schools in our Borough. One bid by a group of parents in 2011 to establish a Free School in Bromley under the title "Paxton Academy" was turned down by the Department for Education.

2.7 The window to submit an application to open a mainstream Free School in 2014 closed on Friday 4 January 2013 and the local authority is aware of three Free School applications in the current round. All three applicants will be informed of the outcomes of their applications in May 2013.

2.8 The three applications are outlined below:

Proposer	Details	Proposed location
The Harris Federation	Two forms of entry (60 place per year) Age 5-11 All through Primary Free School	Beckenham area (possibly on the Harris Academy Beckenham site)
The Harris Federation	Two forms of entry (60 place per year) Age 5-11 All through Primary Free School	Central Bromley area (considering several sites including Kingswood House, Shortlands)
Bromley Bilingual Primary School in partnership with the Council for British Teachers (CfBT)	Two forms of entry, opening with two Reception classes, one Year 1 class and one Year 2 class in September 2014 Age 5-7 Bilingual (French) Free School	(Site not known)

2.9 Harris Federation has submitted a successful bid to open an 'alternative provision' Free School in September 2013. It will have 20 places for Key Stage 3 pupils; 30 places for Key Stage 4 pupils and will have 30 sixth form places. It will serve the Bromley, Croydon and Lewisham areas and is proposed to be located in central Bromley, providing education for students who are not succeeding in mainstream schools. Places will be commissioned by local schools or local authorities.

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 19 March 2013

ACADEMY PROGRAMME IN BROMLEY: UPDATE

Contact Officer: Laurence Downes, Commissioner Education and Children's Social Care
Tel: 020 8313 4805 E-mail: laurence.downes@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director, Education and Care Services

1. Summary

- 1.1 This is the fifteenth report produced since July 2010 to ensure Members are kept up-to-date on the Academies Programme in Bromley.
- 1.2 The Government's Academy Programme is underpinned by the Academy Act 2010.
- 1.3 60% of Bromley schools have now either converted to academy status, are in a formal process of conversion to academy status or are actively exploring conversion to academy status.

2. THE BRIEFING

- 2.1 At the start of the 2010/11 Academic Year, there were 95 maintained schools in Bromley which included: 17 secondary, 74 primary phase and 4 special schools. This broad spectrum of schools included Foundation, Trust, Community, Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled. In addition, Bromley maintains a Pupil Referral Service (PRS). The overall pupil population across our school and PRS provision is currently 46,539 pupils (including post-16). Educational standards in Bromley and the outcomes achieved by children and young people across our schools, places the borough in the top quartile of overall performance nationally.
- 2.2 Below is the position in Bromley regarding academy conversion as at 15 February 2013:

Type	Converted		Maintained - Conversion in Progress		Maintained - Potential Conversion		Maintained		Total	
Secondary	16	94%	1	6%	0	0%	0	0%	17	100%
Primary	15	20%	3	4%	22	30%	34	46%	74	100%
Special	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	4	100%
Total	31	33%	4	4%	22	23%	38	40%	95	100%

- 2.3 Appendix 1 provides an overview of individual schools that have converted to academy status and those either in the process of conversion or are considering conversion.
- 2.4 Since the last report to the Education PDS Committee there have been a significant number of developments:
- **Malcolm Primary School** is in the process of converting to academy status as a sponsored academy with the Harris Federation, following a formal decision of the Governing Body on 14 January 2013, with a planned conversion date of 1 September 2013;
 - **A number of schools** have commenced consultation with parents on a proposal to convert to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools. The schools in the proposed chain are **Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough Primary, Manor Oak Primary, Perry Hall Primary and Raglan Primary**. The LA understands that all schools are in a consultation process only at this time – no formal decision to convert to academy status has been taken.
 - **A further three** schools have commenced individual consultation with parents on a proposal to convert to academy status. The schools are **St Vincent's RC Primary, St Peter and Paul RC Primary** and **St Joseph's RC Primary**. The LA understands that all schools are in a consultation process only at this time – no formal decision to convert to academy status has been taken.
 - **A further ten** schools have notified the LA of their intent either to convert to Academy status or to undertake consultation on conversion to academy status. At this time formal decisions have not been taken by the Governing Body to proceed and therefore they are not identified in this report.
- 2.5 Bromley continues to have one of the highest numbers of academy conversions in the London region and nationally with 33% of schools having converted and a further 27% of schools either formally in the process of conversion or actively exploring conversion (via public consultation with parents or through informal notification to the LA of resolving to apply for academy status).
- 2.6 There have been a number of actions taken since the last meeting of the Education PDS Committee in January 2013 to ensure that the Council's commitment to the Government's academy agenda is fulfilled. The local authority:
- has issued a press release in January 2013 confirming the local authority's commitment to education including encouragement and support for Bromley schools that wish to convert to academy status;
 - has ongoing meetings of the academy project group of senior officers from education, HR, commissioning, legal and property services to support schools converting to academy status;
 - is completing a 'mapping' exercise of the existing and developing primary school partnerships to plan for conversions of groups of schools;
 - has hosted a road show in January 2013, in partnership with FASNA, for 20 primary schools that are currently making conversion decisions. Head teachers, Chairs of Governors and Finance Officers of these schools attended;
 - has agreed, via the January Education PDS, to remove the restrictions on applications for 'Seed Challenge' capital funding for any school considering conversion, as this was perceived by schools as a barrier to engaging with the academies' programme.

**ACADEMY DEVELOPMENTS IN BROMLEY
(AS AT 15 FEBRUARY 2013)**

SECTION 1: Overall Summary

Type	Converted		Maintained - Conversion in Progress		Maintained - Potential Conversion		Maintained		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Secondary	16	94%	1	6%	0	0%	0	0%	17	100%
Primary	15	20%	3	4%	22	30%	34	46%	74	100%
Special	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	4	100%
Total	31	33%	4	4%	22	23%	38	40%	95	100%

SECTION 2: Schools which have Converted to Academy Status

Primary Phase Schools

PRIMARY SCHOOLS		POSITION	TIMESCALE
1	Hayes Primary School	Conversion	1 July 2011
2	Warren Road Primary School	Conversion	1 July 2011
3	Balgowan Primary School	Conversion	1 August 2011
4	Biggin Hill Primary School	Conversion	1 August 2011
5	Darrick Wood Infant School and Nursery	Conversion	1 August 2011
6	Green Street Green Primary School	Conversion	1 August 2011
7	Pickhurst Infant School	Conversion	1 August 2011
8	Pickhurst Junior School	Conversion	1 August 2011
9	The Pioneer Academy (formerly Stewart Fleming Primary School)	Conversion	1 August 2011
10	Valley Primary School	Conversion	1 August 2011
11	Crofton Junior School	Conversion	1 December 2011
12	Tubbenden Primary School	Conversion	1 March 2012
13	St James' RC Primary School	Conversion	1 April 2012
14	Crofton Infant School	Conversion	1 September 2012
15	Hillside Primary School	Sponsored Conversion	1 September 2012

Secondary Phase Schools

SECONDARY SCHOOLS		POSITION	TIMESCALE
1	Kemnal Technology College	Conversion	1 September 2010
2	Darrick Wood Secondary School	Conversion	1 December 2010
3	Beaverwood School for Girls	Conversion	1 March 2011
4	Bishop Justus CE Secondary School	Conversion	1 March 2011
5	Coopers Technology College	Conversion	1 March 2011
6	Charles Darwin School	Conversion	1 April 2011
7	Hayes School (Bromley) (formerly Hayes School)	Conversion	1 April 2011
8	Langley Park School for Boys	Conversion	1 April 2011
9	Newstead Wood School (formerly Newstead Wood School for Girls)	Conversion	1 April 2011
10	Ravens Wood School	Conversion	1 April 2011
11	The Ravensbourne School	Conversion	1 April 2011
12	Bullers Wood School	Conversion	1 May 2011
13	Langley Park School for Girls	Conversion	1 August 2011
14	Harris Academy Beckenham (formerly Kelsey Park Sports College)	Sponsored Conversion	1 September 2011
15	Harris Academy Bromley (formerly Cator Park School)	Conversion	1 September 2011
16	The Priory School	Conversion	1 May 2012

SECTION 3: Schools Either Considering or in the Process of Conversion to Academy Status

Primary Phase Schools

PRIMARY SCHOOLS		POSITION	TIMESCALE
1	Royston Primary School	Sponsored conversion with Harris Federation. Consultation on proposal completed December 2012. Awaiting confirmation of Academy Order.	1 September 2013
2	Grays Farm	Proposed sponsored conversion with Kemnal Academies Trust.	1 September 2013
3	Malcolm Primary School	Formal Governing Body decision to apply for conversion as sponsored academy with Harris Federation – 14 January 2013.	1 September 2013

PRIMARY SCHOOLS		POSITION	TIMESCALE
4	St. Mary's RC Primary School	Formal consultation on academy conversion – 12 October 2012. No formal decision notified to LA as yet. No formal decision to convert as yet.	TBC
5 to 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alexandra Infants • Alexandra Juniors • Highfield Infants • Highfield Juniors • Farnborough Primary • Manor Oak Primary • Perry Hall Primary • Raglan Primary 	<p>Consultation with parents on proposal to convert to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools.</p> <p>Notification given to LA 28 January 2013.</p> <p>No formal decision to convert as yet.</p>	September 2013
13	St Vincent's RC Primary	<p>Consultation on Academy status on website – January 2013. No formal notification to LA.</p> <p>No formal decision to convert as yet.</p>	TBC
14	St Peter and St Paul RC Primary	<p>Consultation on Academy status on website – January 2013. No formal notification to LA.</p> <p>No formal decision to convert as yet.</p>	TBC
15	St Joseph's RC Primary	<p>Consultation on Academy status on website – January 2013. No formal notification to LA.</p> <p>No formal decision to convert as yet.</p>	TBC
16 to 18	Ten other schools	Informal notification given to LA (January and February 2013) of plans to convert or to consult on conversion. Awaiting formal public notification.	TBC

Secondary Phase Schools

SECONDARY SCHOOLS		POSITION	TIMESCALE
1	St Olave's Grammar School	<p>Notification to Local Authority (October 2010).</p> <p>Conversion approval 'on hold' pending resolution of governance composition between the Diocese of Rochester, the School and the Department for Education.</p>	TBC

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London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Portfolio Holder 19 March 2013

EDUCATION POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE CHANGES: UPDATE

Contact Officer: Dr Tessa Moore, Assistant Director (Education)
Tel: 020 8313 4146 E-mail: tessa.moore@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin, Executive Director of Education and Care Services

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is latest report to provide Members with an update on the Government's policy and legislative changes for education.

2. THE BRIEFING

2.1 Children and Families Bill

- (i) On 4 February 2013 the Secretary of State for England introduced the first draft of the Children and Families Bill into the House of Commons. The Bill takes forward the Coalition Government's commitments to improve services for vulnerable children and support strong families.
- (ii) Provision within the Bill include:
- (a) The Bill will extend the system for children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) from birth to 25, giving children, young people and their parents greater control and choice in decisions and ensuring needs are properly met. It takes forward the reform programme set out in *Support and aspiration: A new approach to special educational needs and disability: Progress and next steps* including by:
- replacing old statements with a new birth- to-25 education, health and care plan
 - offering families personal budgets
 - improving cooperation between all the services that support children and their families, particularly requiring local authorities and health authorities to work together
- (b) The Bill will implement enabling measures to support wider reforms to substantially increase the supply of high quality, affordable and available childcare and include introducing childminder agencies to help more childminders into the market and support schools to offer wrap-around care.

- (c) The Bill will require every local authority to have a virtual school head to champion the education of children in the authority's care, as if they all attended the same school.
 - (d) The Bill supports the reforms set out in *An Action Plan for Adoption: Tackling Delay* including by promoting fostering for adoption and improving support for adoptive families.
 - (e) The Bill will implement commitments the Government made in response to the Family Justice Review including by introducing a time limit of 26 weeks when courts are considering whether a child should be taken into care and making sure more families have the opportunity to try mediation before applying to court.
 - (f) The Bill will take forward the recommendations in John Dunford's Review of the Office of the Children's Commissioner (England) including giving the Commissioner a statutory remit to promote and protect children's rights.
 - (g) The Bill will implement the commitments in the Government's response (November 2012) to the modern workplaces consultation.
- (iii) Further information about the Children and Families Bill can be found at www.education.gov.uk/childrenandfamiliesbill. The progress of the Children and Families Bill through the Houses of Parliament can be monitored at <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/childrenandfamilies.html>.

2.2 **Proposals to introduce a new framework for the inspection of local authority services for supporting improvement in schools and other providers**

- (i) On 5 March 2013 Ofsted published a consultation document on proposals to introduce a new framework for the inspection of local authority services for supporting improvement in schools and other providers.
- (ii) The new inspection framework seeks to ensure the quality of services provided by local authorities to schools and other providers, including schools causing concern, so that all children and young people have access to a good quality education irrespective of where they live or their personal circumstances.
- (iii) The closing date for the consultation is 19 March 2013.
- (iv) Further information on the consultation can be found at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/good-education-for-all-inspection-of-local-authority-services.

2.3 **Early education and childcare staff deployment**

- (i) On 29 January 2013 the Minister for Education and Childcare, Elizabeth Tuss, made a significant speech setting out proposed changes to childcare as part of the Government's new vision for early years education.
- (ii) A key part of the announcement is a consultation of proposals to amend the staff/child ratios. The consultation on the proposals can be found at www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/departmentalinformation/consultations/a00220966/early-educ-childcare-staff-deploy.
- (iii) The closing date for the consultation is 25 March 2013.

- (iv) The Government's new vision, *More great childcare - Raising quality and giving parents more choice*, can be found at www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/publicationDetail/Page1/DFE-00002-2013.
- (v) The final report from Professor Cathy Nutbrown's review of the qualifications regime for the early education and childcare workforce, *Foundations for Quality*, can be found at www.education.gov.uk/publications/standard/EarlyYearseducationandchildcare/Page1/DFE-00068-2012 or www.education.gov.uk/nutbrownreview.
- (vi) The Minister for Education and Childcare's speech can be found at www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/speeches/a00220991/trusschildcareratio.

2.4 **Planning changes for Free School applications**

- (i) On 25 January 2013 the Government confirmed that it intends to use the Growth and Infrastructure Bill (expected to receive Royal Assent in June) to change the planning regulations for Free Schools.
- (ii) The changes are designed to make it easier for new Free School applicants to convert empty and under-used buildings and move more quickly into their preferred site. The new measures will allow Free Schools to open in almost any building for a year without needing planning permission, as a way of removing concerns that schools cannot open in time.
- (iii) At the moment, parents, teachers and charities who want to open a Free School have to go through the planning application process to get local authority permission to move into buildings earmarked for use but that are not already schools, which can cause uncertainty for both the Free School and parents.
- (iv) The new permitted development rights will also give Free Schools extra time to win the permanent planning permission required to remain in their buildings after that first year. In addition, new Free Schools will also be able to open permanently in a wider range of buildings – such as offices and hotels – with the introduction of an easier, more streamlined approval process. Local planning authorities will have to carry out only a limited assessment that will consider noise and traffic issues.
- (v) The changes are part of wider reforms due to come into effect in June after the Growth and Infrastructure Bill is passed, and will benefit those who are successful in applying to open a Free School during this year's application round. These Free Schools will have a better chance of moving into their permanent sites well before they are due to open.
- (vi) The press release can be found at www.education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a00220598/planning-changes or www.gov.uk/government/news/planning-changes-to-help-open-free-schools-gates-faster.
- (vii) Further information on Free Schools can be found at www.education.gov.uk/schools/leadership/typesofschools/freeschools.
- (viii) Further information on the Growth and Infrastructure Bill can be found at <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2012-13/growthandinfrastructure.html>.

2.5 **Introduction of the proposed Traineeships programme**

- (i) On 10 January 2013 the Government published a discussion paper regarding the proposed national Traineeship programme.
- (ii) Traineeships are a proposed programme to help young people aged 16 to 24 to develop the skills they need to secure Apprenticeships and other sustainable employment. For those aged 16 to 19, Traineeships would fit within broader study programmes for young people.

Proposals

- (iii) The new Traineeships programme, which could be in place by September 2013, would provide young people aged 16 to 24 with a tailor-made package of support that will give them the confidence, skills and experience to compete in the labour market with more experienced adults. A Traineeship could be seen as a crucial stepping stone to an Apprenticeship – a job with training to industry standards – or other jobs, for those young people who currently lack the necessary skills.
- (iv) Employers, education and training providers, and young people have been invited to comment on the Government’s proposals to help develop the new programme. The discussion paper sets out the Government’s vision for Traineeships, which would include:
 - Focused work preparation training – e.g. CV writing, interview preparation, job searching, inter-personal skills.
 - High-quality work experience – giving young people real-life work placement to enhance their skills and confidence.
 - English and maths – for young people who have not achieved a GCSE grade C or equivalent or better.
- (v) The initiative is part of the Government’s wider aim to ensure the future workforce possesses the skills that employers want in their apprentices and employees.
- (vi) The Government wants the programme to be open to a wide range of young people including those not in education, employment or training (NEET), those interested in a course with an education or training provider or those looking for a job.
- (vii) The length of a Traineeship would reflect the specific needs of participants, but they are expected to last around six months.
- (viii) Further information is available from www.education.gov.uk/traineeships.
- (ix) The discussion paper can be found at <http://media.education.gov.uk/assets/files/pdf/t/traineeships%20discussion%20paper%20-%20january%202013.pdf>.

2.6 **Educating children with special health needs**

- (i) On 4 January 2013 the Government published Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on ensuring a good education for children who cannot attend school because of health needs.
- (ii) Local authorities must have regard to it when carrying out their duty to arrange suitable full-time education (or part-time when appropriate for the child’s needs) for children who are

unable to attend a mainstream or special school because of their health. This duty applies to all children and young people who would normally attend mainstream schools, including Academies, Free Schools, independent schools and special schools, or where a child is not on the roll of a school. It applies equally whether a child cannot attend school at all or can only attend intermittently.

(iii) The Statutory Guidance sets out that:

(a) Local authorities **must** arrange suitable full-time education (or as much education as the child's health condition allows) for children of compulsory school age who, because of illness, would otherwise not receive suitable education.

(b) Local authorities **should**:

- Provide such education as soon as it is clear that the child will be away from school for 15 days or more, whether consecutive or cumulative. They should liaise with appropriate medical professionals to ensure minimal delay in arranging appropriate provision for the child. Ensure that the education children receive is of good quality, as defined in the statutory guidance Alternative Provision (2013), allows them to take appropriate qualifications, prevents them from slipping behind their peers in school and allows them to reintegrate successfully back into school as soon as possible.
- Address the needs of individual children in arranging provision. 'Hard and fast' rules are inappropriate: they may limit the offer of education to children with a given condition and prevent their access to the right level of educational support which they are well enough to receive. Strict rules that limit the offer of education a child receives may also breach statutory requirements.

(c) Local authorities **should not**:

- Have processes or policies in place which prevent a child from getting the right type of provision and a good education.
- Withhold or reduce the provision, or type of provision, for a child because of how much it will cost (meeting the child's needs and providing a good education must be the determining factors).
- Have policies based upon the percentage of time a child is able to attend school rather than whether the child is receiving a suitable education during that attendance.
- Have lists of health conditions which dictate whether or not they will arrange education for children or inflexible policies which result in children going without suitable full-time education (or as much education as their health condition allows them to participate in).

(iv) This guidance replaces the previous guidance, *Access to Education for Children and Young People with Medical Needs (2001)*.

(v) Further information can be found at www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00219676/special-health-needs-education.

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