London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee Wednesday 23 January 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, Director Education and Care Services

1. Summary

- 1.1 This is the fourteenth 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.

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 13 December 2012:

Туре	Conv	erted		rsion in Iress		ential ersion	Maint	ained	To	tal
Secondary	16	94%	1	6%	0	0%	0	0%	17	100%
Primary	15	20%	2	3%	1	1%	56	76%	74	100%
Special	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	4	100%
Total	31	33%	3	3%	1	1%	60	63%	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 and the Education Portfolio Holder at the Education Seminar of 16 November, there have been a number of developments:
 - Royston Primary School is in the process of converting to academy status as a sponsored academy with the Harris Federation, with a planned conversion date of 1 September 2013;
 - Gray's Farm Primary School is currently exploring conversion to academy status, working with the Department for Education and the Council, as a sponsored academy with the Kemnal Academies Trust; and
 - St Mary's Catholic Primary School is currently consulting on the possibility of conversion to academy status prior to a formal decision by the Governing Body.
- 2.5 Bromley continues to have one of the highest numbers of academy conversions in the London region and nationally.
- 2.6 There have been a number of actions taken since the last meeting of the Education PDS Committee in September 2012 to ensure that the Council's commitment to the Government's academy agenda is fulfilled. The local authority:
 - has established positive working relationships with the DfE academies team to agree a way forward to arrive at all Bromley mainstream schools becoming academies over the next two to three years;
 - has secured agreement from the DfE to make a DfE official available to Bromley to help project plan this work;
 - has established an 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;
 - is working in partnership with Freedom and Autonomy for Schools National Association (FASNA), to host a January 2013 road show for 20 primary schools that are currently making conversion decisions. Headteachers, Chairs of Governors and Finance Officers of these schools will be invited to attend;
 - is preparing a report for the January Education PDS, with a recommendation that the Portfolio Holder removes the restrictions on applications for 'Seed Challenge' capital funding for any school considering conversion, as this is perceived by schools as a barrier to engaging with the academies' programme.

ACADEMY DEVELOPMENTS IN BROMLEY (AS AT 13 DECEMBER 2012)

SECTION 1: Overall Summary

Туре	Conv	verted		rsion in gress		ential ersion	Main	tained	To	otal
Secondary	16	94%	1	6%	0	0%	0	0%	17	100%
Primary	15	20%	2	3%	1	1%	56	76%	74	100%
Special	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	4	100%
Total	31	33%	3	3%	1	1%	60	63%	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 are in the Process of Conversion to Academy Status

Primary Phase Schools

	PRIMARY SCHOOLS	POSITION	TIMESCALE
1	Royston Primary School	Proposed sponsored conversion with Harris Federation. Consultation commencing October 2012 and closing December 2012.	September 2013
2	Gray's Farm	Proposed sponsored conversion with Kemnal Academies Trust.	TBC
3	St. Mary's RC Primary School	Consultation on possibility of academy conversion October 2012 – no formal decision as yet.	TBC

Secondary Phase Schools

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