

Report No.
ED13084

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: Education Portfolio Holder

Date: For Pre-Decision Scrutiny by the Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee on 17th September 2013

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **ACADEMIES AND FREE SCHOOLS - UPDATE**

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Ward: All Wards

1. Reason for report

This report provides an update on the latest Academy and Free School developments in Bromley.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

The Portfolio Holder is asked to note the content of the report.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: £66,000 (Project Management Costs):
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre: 100830, 132562
 4. Total current budget for this head: £317,430 (Controllable)
 5. Source of funding: DSG
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): N/A
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: None:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
-

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): N/A
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: N/A

3. COMMENTARY

3.1 This is the seventeenth report produced since July 2010 to ensure Members are kept up-to-date on the Academies and Free School Programme in Bromley. The Government's Academy and Free School Programme is underpinned by the Academy Act 2010.

3.2 68% 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.

3.3 Four Free School applications have received approval from the Secretary of State to open in Bromley in 2013 or 2014. There are three known potential applications to open Free Schools in Bromley in 2015.

Overview

3.4 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.

3.5 Below is the position in Bromley regarding academy conversion as at 1 August 2013:

Type	Converted		Maintained - Conversion in Progress		Maintained - Potential Conversion		Maintained		Total	
Secondary	16	94%	1	6%	0	0%	0	0%	17	100%
Primary	16	22%	19	26%	12	16%	27	36%	74	100%
Special	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	4	100%	4	100%
Total	32	34%	20	21%	12	13%	31	32%	95	100%

3.6 Appendix 1 provides an overview of individual schools that have converted to academy status and those either in the process of conversion or who are considering conversion.

Academy Developments

3.7 **Parish Primary School** converted to academy status on 1 August 2013 in partnership with Bishop Justus C of E Secondary School. This brings the total of primary schools converted to academy status to 16.

3.8 Thirteen primary schools are expected to convert to academy status in the autumn term 2013 with a further six primary schools in the process of conversion but with the conversion date to be confirmed. They are:

- **Royston Primary School** and **Malcolm Primary School** – on track to convert to sponsored academy status with the Harris Federation for 1 September 2013. Royston will be called Harris Primary Academy Kent House, Malcolm will be called Harris Primary Academy Crystal Palace.

- **Grays Farm Primary School** – on track to convert to sponsored academy status with Kemnal Academies Trust on 1 September 2013.
- **Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants and Raglan Primary School** – planning to convert by September 2013. This is part of a chain of eight schools, the other five schools being Alexandra Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak and Perry Hall.
- **Highfield Juniors** – planning to convert by October 2013. This is part of a chain of eight schools.
- **Alexandra Infants, Farnborough Primary, Manor Oak Primary and Perry Hall Primary** – planning to convert by November 2013. This is part of a chain of eight schools.
- **St Johns CE Primary School** – planning to convert by December 2013 as a sponsored academy with the Diocese of Rochester acting as sponsor. The Academy Order was received in July 2013.
- **Castlecombe** - planning to convert during the autumn term to join the Beaverwod and Hayes Umbrella Trust.
- The Roman Catholic Primary Schools are in discussion with the Archdiocese on conversion to academy status. **St Josephs, St Vincents, Holy Innocents, St Peters and St Pauls** and **St Philomena's** have all logged applications with DfE.
- **Mottingham Primary** has had its application refused by the Minister as a stand-alone academy. Partnership options are being considered.

3.9 In addition to the 19 schools listed above, a further **twelve** schools (detailed in Appendix 1) are progressing towards potential conversion with the majority in the process of consultation with parents.

3.10 Discussions are on-going with all maintained Bromley schools as to possible options for conversion to academy status including formal and informal collaborative groups. This includes discussions with primary and secondary academies as to potential partnership arrangements with other schools that have yet to convert.

Free School Developments

3.11 In the last round of applications, approval has been given by the Secretary of State for four Free School proposals in Bromley. They are expected to open in 2014. They are:

- **Harris Primary Free School Beckenham** – an all-through two form of entry Primary school with 60 places per year. The site is to be determined.
- **Harris Primary Bromley** – an all-through two form of entry Primary school with 60 places per year. The site is to be determined; it is expected to be in the Shortlands area.
- **Harris Aspire** – providing alternative education for 11-18 year olds. 90 places are planned, 30 at KS3, 30 at KS4 and 30 post-16. The site is to be determined.
- **Bromley Bilingual Primary School** - an all through Bi-lingual (French) Primary Free School with two forms of entry (50 places per year) for Reception and Year 1 (possibly Year 2) pupils in the first year. The site has not yet been determined but is expected to be in the Shortlands area. The proposal is in partnership with the Council for British Teachers (CfBT).

3.12 There are three application phases (September 2013, January 2014 and May 2014) for proposed Free Schools opening in 2015. Early indications are that proposals may be forthcoming for:

- A joint bid by the Langley Secondary Academies for a Primary Free School based on the Langley campus;
- A potential proposal by a collaborative group of secondary schools for a Secondary Free School (led by the Secondary Schools Consultative Group – Beaverwood and Hayes);
- A potential proposal from Bishop Justice for a primary CofE Primary.
- A potential proposal by the Archdiocese of Southwark for a Catholic Secondary Free School.

Other Developments

3.13 In line with the Council’s educational commitment to support and encourage all Bromley LA schools to convert to academy status, the Education Service is prioritising any related work. The Service has a dedicated Academy Project Manager and an Academies Programme Board including key officers from Education, Legal, HR, and Finance Departments. These officers meet monthly to ensure well-coordinated support for any converting school and to tackle issues that could impact adversely on the Council meeting its commitment.

3.14 Many of the Borough’s maintained schools are now at various stages of conversion and are making strong collaborative partnerships with other schools for post conversion.

3.15 The local authority is hosting a second Academies’ Conference in autumn 2013, with one of the main objectives being to offer opportunities for those remaining schools to develop partnership arrangements for the future.

3.16 The targets for the Service as outlined in the Education Portfolio Plan is to support all schools that are financially viable to convert to academy status by December 2015 and to ensure that all remaining primary schools will be in discussion with the LA on federations/sponsors by that date. We still remain committed to these targets.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The Academy Programme is supported by a Project Officer employed on a consultancy basis. Funded through DSG, the contract is in place from February 2013 to February 2014 at a total cost of £66,000.

4.2 The Education Services Grant (ESG) is currently expected to be £286k less than budget. The ESG allocation is re-calculated on a quarterly basis, so the grant will reduce in-year as schools convert to academies. The current projection is based on 8 conversions between August and October, and a further 5 in December.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy Implications Legal Implications Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	N/A

Appendix 1: Academy and Free Schools

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
16	Parish Primary School	Conversion	1 August 2013

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

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. Academy Action Plan agreed November 2012.	1 September 2013
2	Grays Farm	Sponsored conversion with Kemnal Academies Trust. Academy Order received 16 April 2013.	1 September 2013
3	Malcolm Primary School	Sponsored conversion with Harris Federation. Academy Order received 11 June 2013.	1 September 2013
4	Alexandra Infants	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Raglan). Academy Order received: 12 June 2013.	November 2013
5	Alexandra Juniors	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Raglan). Academy Order received 17 June 2013.	September 2013
6	Castlecombe	Application received by DfE of Castlecombe joining the Beaverwood/Hayes UT. Application received by DfE (August 2013 list). Awaiting approval from DfE.	Autumn Term
7	Farnborough Primary	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Raglan). Academy Order received 17 June 2013.	November 2013
8	Highfield Infants	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Raglan). Academy Order received 17 June 2013.	September 2013
9	Highfield Juniors	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall	October 2013

		and Raglan). Academy Order received 17 June 2013.	
10	Holy Innocents Catholic Primary School	Consultation on Academy status on website – March 2013. . Notification that conversion as part of an umbrella trust with local catholic schools is being explored by the Archdiocese. Application received by DfE (June 2013 list) Awaiting approval from DfE.	TBC
11	Manor Oak Primary	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Raglan). Academy Order received 17 June 2013.	November 2013
12	Mottingham	Notification to LA of Governing Body decision on 13 March 2013 to convert as a stand-alone academy. Application received by DfE (May 2013 list). Application refused by Minister as a stand-alone academy. The school may now consider potential partners to support conversion.	TBC
13	Perry Hall Primary	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Raglan). Application received by DfE (April 2013 list). Application approved by DfE.	November 2013
14	Raglan Primary	Conversion to academy status as part of a chain of eight schools (Alexandra Infants, Alexandra Juniors, Highfield Infants, Highfield Juniors, Farnborough, Manor Oak, Perry Hall and Raglan). Academy Order received 17 June 2013.	September 2013
15	St Johns	Sponsored academy with Diocese of Rochester acting as sponsor. Academy Order received 17 July 2013	1 December 2013
16	St Josephs	Consultation on Academy status on website – January 2013. No formal notification to LA. Notification that conversion as part of an umbrella trust with local catholic schools is being explored by the Archdiocese.	TBC

		Application received by DfE (June 2013 list)	
17	St Peter and St Pauls	<p>Consultation on Academy status on website – January 2013.</p> <p>Notification that conversion as part of an umbrella trust with local catholic schools is being explored by the Archdiocese.</p> <p>Application received by DfE (August 2013 list).</p>	TBC
18	St Philomena's RC Primary School	<p>Notification that conversion as part of an umbrella trust with local catholic schools is being explored by the Archdiocese.</p> <p>Application received by DfE (July 2013 list).</p>	TBC
19	St Vincents	<p>Consultation on Academy status on website – January 2013.</p> <p>Notification that conversion as part of an umbrella trust with local catholic schools is being explored by the Archdiocese.</p> <p>Application received by DfE (June 2013 list).</p>	TBC
20	Burnt Ash Primary School	<p>Burnt Ash is consulting with parents on the question of conversion to academy status (March 2013)</p> <p>No formal application logged by DfE as yet.</p>	TBC
21	Primary School (tbc)	<p>Committed to academy conversion and considering potential partners.</p> <p>No formal application logged by DfE as yet.</p>	TBC
22	Hawes Down Infants	<p>Confirmation to LA of intent to submit Expression of Interest to DfE – 31 January 2013</p> <p>Consultation (April 2013) on conversion to academy status potentially as part of an umbrella trust (including Langley Boys, Langley Girls, Pickhurst Infants, Hayes Primary, Hayes Secondary)</p> <p>No formal application logged by DfE as yet.</p> <p>June statement from school states that academy decision has been deferred to a later date (not specified).</p>	TBC
23	James Dixon Primary School	<p>Notification 15 February 2013 of Governor decision to apply for academy conversion</p> <p>No formal application logged by DfE as yet.</p>	TBC
24	Southborough Primary	<p>Southborough is consulting with parents on the question of conversion to academy status (March 2013)</p> <p>No formal application logged by DfE as yet.</p>	TBC

25 to 28	Southborough Schools – collaborative or umbrella academy trust	A potential partnership of six schools including Southborough Primary and Burnt Ash. No formal application logged by DfE as yet.	TBC
29	St Anthony's RC Primary School	Notification that conversion as part of an umbrella trust with local catholic schools is being explored by the Archdiocese. DfE has asked the Archdiocese to consider another RC school to sponsor St. Anthony's in a MAT arrangement within the UT. No formal application logged by DfE as yet.	TBC
30	St. Marys RC Primary School	Formal consultation on academy conversion – 12 October 2012. Notification that conversion as part of an umbrella trust with local catholic schools is being explored by the Archdiocese. No formal application logged by DfE as yet.	TBC
31	Primary School (tbc)	Considering academy conversion and potential partners.	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