

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee Tuesday 2nd July 2014

EDUCATION PORTFOLIO PLAN – JUNE 2014 UPDATE

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1. Summary

- 1.1 This information briefing provides the Education Portfolio Holder and PDS Committee with an updating report on the 2014 Education Portfolio Plan priorities as agreed at the Education PDS Meeting on 12th November 2013. A further update on progress against the Summer Term Portfolio Plan priorities will be presented to the September 2014 PDS meeting.

2. **THE BRIEFING**

- 2.1 The 2014 plan focuses on seven key priorities, covering both the changing environment and the statutory duties of the local authority (ensuring an adequate supply of school places, determining the special educational needs of qualifying pupils), in support of the Education Covenant and Commitments.
- Promote educational opportunity in the borough ensuring all families have a choice of good and outstanding schools and early years providers
 - Work with governing bodies, the Department for Education and others to expand popular and successful schools
 - Use the academy and free school programme to promote and develop further that choice
 - Support all maintained schools to enter into the academy programme to allow them to benefit from the opportunities it presents
 - Encourage parents, faith groups, and others to work with the borough to increase the range and diversity of the outstanding schools on offer
 - Ensure those pupils with special educational needs have good outcomes
 - Ensure high quality provision continues for vulnerable groups, those leaving school and others over the school leaving age whether through preparation for employment, apprenticeships or higher education

June 2014 update

2.2 Progress can be reported against all priorities as at June 2014, and a full update is attached as **Appendix 1**

2.3 Key notable successes include:-

- The Primary School academy conversion programme has achieved 31 conversions with a further 15 conversions in progress and 23 schools exploring conversion
- Created 375 reception places with a further 195 places at three free schools opening for September 2014
- Achieved 85% (6,098) of all school leavers aged 16 and 17 in Education, Employment and Training as at the end of March 2014
- 106 enrolments this academic year for Early Years course for prospective child minders wishing to practice in the borough
- Options appraisal for delivery of Phase 2 of the Bromley Youth Employment completed

2.4 The table below shows the summary progress for each priority

Priority	June 2014 update (RAG)
Promote educational opportunity in the borough ensuring all families have a choice of good and outstanding schools and early years providers	All four actions on track (Green)
Work with governing bodies, the Department for Education and others to expand popular and successful schools	All four actions on track (Green)
Use the academy and free school programme to promote and develop further that choice	Both actions are on track (Green)
Support all maintained schools to enter into the academy programme to allow them to benefit from the opportunities it presents	All three actions on track (Green)
Encourage parents, faith groups, and others to work with the borough to increase the range and diversity of the outstanding schools on offer	All three actions on track (Green)
Ensure those pupils with special educational needs have good outcomes	All seven actions on track (Green)
Ensure high quality provision continues for vulnerable groups, those leaving school and others over the school leaving age whether through preparation for employment, apprenticeships or higher education.	All nine actions on track (Green)

Key challenges remain across all areas with particular focus continuing on:-

- Increasing the supply of primary school places to respond to the significant escalation in pupil numbers in Bromley driven by increases in the dwelling stock, the birth rate and migration.
- Implementation of the SEN Education Reform as laid out in the Children and Families Bill
- Supporting primary schools in the process of conversion, or exploring conversion, to Academy status