

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**Briefing for Education
Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee
Tuesday 30th September 2014**

**EDUCATION PORTFOLIO PLAN – SUMMER TERM 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.
- 1.2 A refreshed Portfolio Plan for Spring Term 2015 will be presented to Education PDS on 27th January. This will reflect any developments in the market testing exercise.

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.

Summer Term 2014 Update

2.2 Progress can be reported against all priorities as at the end of Summer Term 2014, and a full update is attached as **Appendix 1**.

2.3 Key notable successes include:-

- the Primary School academy conversion programme has achieved 33 conversions with a further 21 conversions in progress and 15 schools exploring conversion;
- 545 new reception places added for September 2014;
- 800 places of early years provision will be created by end of Autumn Term;
- 120 Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans currently in place;
- 75% of schools have published their Local Offer;
- 5 young people with complex needs have been assessed at Bromley College with support of social care and health to ensure a holistic package is in place to enable them to remain within their local community;
- collaborating with 13 community partners delivering 38 courses for adults in 2013/14 enhancing employment and improving life opportunities;
- 80 students enrolled at the new 14-16 provision at Bromley College;
- additional class (8 pupils) in place at Glebe School for September 2014.

As the planning and preparation for the market testing of Education Services has commenced, the scope has expanded to include strategic management functions, the residual functions of the Behaviour Service, the Special Educational Needs Service (including the Specialist Support and Disability Service) and Bromley Adult Education. Market testing will commence in September/October 2014 and it is proposed to use a competitive dialogue process with an indicative timescale for the outcome to be considered by Members in September 2015.

The principle of integrated commissioning across Education, Care and Health Services in the Children and Families Bill will be intrinsic to the provision of services in the future and supported through a joined up planning process and partnership working.

2.4 The table below shows the summary progress for each priority

Priority	Summer Term 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)

Priority	Summer Term 2014 Update (RAG)
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)

2.5 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;
- ensuring young people are able to participate in Education, Employment and Training (EET).