

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

**Briefing for Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee
Tuesday 19 January 2016**

EDUCATION PORTFOLIO PLAN AUTUMN TERM UPDATE - INFORMATION ITEM

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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 2015/16 Education Portfolio Plan priorities as agreed at the Education PDS Meeting on 29th September 2015.

2 THE BRIEFING

- 2.1 The 2015/16 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 and create additional early years capacity.
 - 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.

Autumn Term Update 2015

- 2.2 Progress can be reported against all priorities as at the end of Autumn Term 2015, and a full update is attached as **Appendix 1**

2.3 Key notable successes include:-

- 7 more primary schools converted to academies, with one more due in January 2016.
- 150 young people have been supported in developing employment skills through the Bromley Youth Employment Project.
- 40 employability workshops have been delivered by the Bromley Youth Employment Project against a target of 12, up to the end of September 2015.
- 70% of eligible two year olds are taking up the offer of free early education places.
- 550 delegates have attended governor's training during the Autumn term, compared to 368 in Autumn 2014.
- From an overall cohort of 6,802 young people, 6,476 (95.2%) received an offer of education or training. This figure represents an increase of 1.8% on our 2014 September Guarantee achievement.
- Pilot SEND Ofsted inspection undertaken during October 2015, with positive outcomes reported and an action plan in place.

2.4 The table below shows the summary progress for each priority

Priority	Autumn Term 2015 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 and create additional early years capacity	All three actions on track (Green)
Use the academy and free school programme to promote and develop further that choice	Both actions on track (Green)
Support all maintained schools to enter into the academy programme to allow them to benefit from the opportunities it presents	Both 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 three 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	Four out of six actions are on track (Amber) Aims 7a (pg 25) and 7d (pg 28) both have an Amber RAG status.
NB: Aim 7d (Youth Offending Service improvement plan) has an amber RAG status associated with it that cannot be represented in the Education portfolio plan commitment matrix (pg 5 & 6) as it does not align itself with a commitment.	

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.
- Supporting primary schools in the process of conversion, or exploring conversion, to Academy status.