

London Borough of Bromley

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Briefing for Education Select Committee
Tuesday 17th January 2017

**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 Select Committee with an updating report on progress against the 2016/17 Academic Year Education Portfolio Plan priorities as agreed at the Education Select Meeting on 15th September 2016.

2 THE BRIEFING

2.1 The 2016/17 plan focuses on being ambitious for the children and young people of Bromley through:-

- Fulfilling our duty of care to ensure the health, wellbeing and achievements of our vulnerable children
- Safeguarding children and young people within schools and the community
- Encouraging excellent educational opportunities from the early years through to further and higher education for all Bromley children and young people, including those with Special Educational Needs.

Autumn Term Update 2016

2.2 Progress can be reported against all priorities as at the end of Autumn Term 2016, and a full update is attached as **Appendix 1**

2.3 Key notable successes include:-

- Of the 10 primary schools yet to convert to Academy status, eight have plans in place to convert by the end of the 2016/17 academic year.
- Edgebury Primary School Phase One building work completed with occupation commencing on 14th December.

- In excess of 50% of Special Educational Needs statements in the statutory specified groups converted to Education, Health and Care Plans.
- Over 60 Independent Special Schools quality assured across the South London Commissioning Group (eight boroughs) improving the delivery of services for children with the most complex and specialised needs.
- Bromley Beacon Academy (Bromley Campus) Key Stages 4 and 5 opened in September 2016 providing a curriculum for pupils whose needs are behavioural, emotional or social.
- Successfully delivered 18 courses within Children and Family Centres aimed at improving the lives of families and communities through better parenting and greater community engagement.

In support of the ‘Keeping Children Safe in Education’ agenda, the Education Safeguarding Advisory Committee (ESAC), an advisory committee of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB), is working with schools to ensure that their functions are carried out with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Work in course includes rolling out a self assessment audit tool to schools to ensure compliance with these principles.

The Bromley Safeguarding Children Board held its annual conference in November 2016 focusing on ‘safeguarding in a digital world – how we keep our children and young people safe on line’. Attendees included representatives from schools, social care, care homes, health agencies, probation, local charities and voluntary organisations who heard about the dangers and risks the internet poses, as well as the benefits, and how young people can be educated to better protect themselves and their peers.

The annual conference forms part of a suite of development material supporting the strategic direction and safeguarding priorities at both national and local levels.

2.4 The Education Portfolio Plan for the academic year 2016/17 comprises 17 aims. Of these, 12 are on track, four require more work and one may not be achieved. The table below shows the summary progress for each priority.

Priority	Autumn Term 2016 Update
Fulfilling our duty of care to ensure the health, wellbeing and achievements of our vulnerable children	Four actions on track One action requires more work in the Spring term
Safeguarding children and young people within schools and the community	Two actions on track Two actions require more work in the Spring term
Encouraging excellent educational opportunities from the early years through to further and higher education for all Bromley children and young people, including those with Special Educational Needs	Six actions on track One action requires more work in the Spring term One action may not be achieved.

2.5 The key challenges remaining to achieve the aims of the Education Portfolio Plan are detailed below:-

- Delays in the Social Care Innovation Fund (Phase 2) have led to the Autumn term action to develop a revised short break model to broaden community inclusion not being progressed at this stage.
- The number of courses delivered through primary schools and Children and Family centres to develop family English, maths and language activities and also those aimed at improving the lives of families and communities through better parenting and community engagement, are below target (65% and 72% respectively). It is anticipated that the position will be rectified during the Spring term.
- More work will be required over the Spring term to implement the Youth Offending Service Management Improvement Plan which was revised in December 2016.
- Ensuring the provision of sufficient school places through a programme of expansion of existing schools and supporting the creation of free schools where they address basic need remains a challenge.
- The number of permanent exclusions from primary schools continues to rise with 9 for the current academic year compared with 15 for the whole of the 2015/16 academic year.