

MINUTES OF TOWER HAMLETS ADMISSION FORUM Wednesday 11 December 2019 2pm

Venue: Parents Advice Centre, Greatorex Street E1 5NP

Members:

1. Dee Bleach (DB) Primary Community Schools* 2. Terry Bryan (TB) Head of Pupil Services and School Sufficiency* 3. Sue Ward (SW) Free/Academy Primary Schools* 4. Penny Harvey (PH) The London Diocesan Board for Schools* 5. Jenny Miller (JMi) Parents Advice Centre 6. Alex Nelson (AN) Voluntary Sector Children & Youth Forum 7. Lynn Cottle (LC) Nursery Schools* Collective of Bangladeshi Governors 8. Shahanur Khan (SK) 9. Salma Mahbub (SM) Parent Governor Representative* LA Education Appeal Panel Member 10. Dennis Jenner (DJ) Parent Carer Council Representative 11. Shahana Begum (SB) Parent Carer Council Representative 12. Fathima Rofe (FR) 13. Mary Ryan (MR) Archdiocese of Westminster 14. Sarah Counter (SC)/ Floyd McDonald (FM) attended Free/Academy Secondary Schools* 15. Patrice Canavan (PC) Steven Farmer (SF) attended Secondary Community Schools* Council of Mosques 16. Mafijur Rab (MRa) 17. John Bradshaw (JB) Head of Pupil Referral Unit

Observer:

Paramjit Bhutta (PB) Secondary Free/Academy School

Officers present:

18. Elizabeth Figueiredo (EF)

19. Richard Fitzgerald

Mohammad Ahmed (MA) Primary Admissions Operations Manager Kelly Mack (KM) - Clerk Secondary Admissions Operations Manager

Primary Voluntary Aided Schools

*indicates present at meeting

Secondary Voluntary Aided Schools

Actions

	7.00.0110	
Order	Actions	Person
1.	Apologies for Absence – Dee Bleach (DB) Lynne Cottle (LC) Mary Ryan (MR)	Clerk

AF Minutes

2.	Declaration of Interest	Clerk
	This item gives opportunity for forum members to declare an interest in any agenda item which directly affects the school at which they are a governor, member of staff or which their children attend, or in which they might have a direct pecuniary interest.	
	 SW and FM, representatives from the Tower Trust and Canary Wharf College Group respectively, advised of their organisations interest in some of the potential sites for new schools. 	

3.	Minut	tes of meeting held on 11 October 2019	Chair
	•	Dennis Jenner (DJ) noted that he had sent his apologies	
	•	The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting	
1.	Matte	rs Arising	Chair
		None not already covered on the agenda	
5.	Pupil	Place Planning Update	
	•	Primary Review Advisory Group (PRAG) – Terry Bryan	TB
		Stewart Headlam and Hague - Stewart Headlam and Hague have been through the consultation process, the outcome was positive and agreement reached to hard federate. The Governing bodies will dissolve at the end of December and a new Federated Governing Body will commence from 1 January 2020.	
		CONFIDENTIAL ITEM	
		St Matthias and Christchurch - Diocese is working with the schools and we are awaiting an outcome from their financial review.	
		Guardian Angels and St Anne's - The governing bodies of both schools met to discuss options, they agreed to go to consultation with the proposal to amalgamate. They are in middle of the informal consultation it will be completed in December.	
	•	Secondary	
		London Dock - TB advised that along with the consultation to increase the PAN at Oaklands from 120 – 180 from as early as September 2020 the new planned 6FE School at London Dock – this will ensure that there will be sufficient secondary places, even when allowing for some of the changes that could result when decisions are determined over the future of existing schools, including the current proposal to consider the closure of Raine's Foundation School	
		Westferry - LA is aware of the need for improved accommodation at both the secondary schools in the Isle of Dogs area. The LA is in discussions with the DfE to find a solution, given the competing priorities and the need to provide high quality education for all.	
		Primary	

Wood Wharf - Cabinet has already agreed to open from as early as September 2022.. Increase of 2FE (60 places)

Update on current capacity and surplus across primary and secondary

MA

Primary – MA presented the tabled reports Secondary – MA presented the tabled reports

6. LA Consultation on School Admission Arrangements for 2021/22

The AF responses were noted on the survey with the following comments:

1. Planned Admission Numbers for Schools in Tower Hamlets in 2021/22

Primary Schools - Do you agree with the proposal to reduce the Planned Admission Numbers (PANs) at each school?

AF Response: Yes

Secondary Schools – Do you agree with the proposal to increase the PAN at Oaklands Community Secondary School?

AF Response: Yes

2. The Admissions Policy and Over subscription Criteria for Community Nursery Schools/Class

No changes are proposed but do you have any comment or feedback?

AF Response: No

3. The Admissions Policy and Oversubscription Criteria for Community Primary Schools

No changes are being proposed but do you have any comment or feedback:

AF Response: No

4. The Admissions Policy and Oversubscription Criteria for Community Secondary Schools

No changes are proposed but do you have any comment or feedback?

AF Response: No

5. Proposed Schemes for the Co-ordination of Applications and Admission Decisions for Nursery, Reception and Year 7 in 2021/22

No changes are proposed but do you have any comment or feedback?

AF Response: No

6. Proposed Schemes for the Co-ordination of In Year Admissions and School Transfers in 2021/22

No changes are proposed but do you have any comment or feedback?

AF Response: No

7. Other Admission Authority Consultations for 2021/2022 Notices for the following schools were circulated in advance of the meeting Sir William Burrough - no objections St Luke's CE School – no objections Bishop Challoner Federation of Schools – DJ noted that to include priority for Tower Hamlets 'feeder schools' the school must list the feeder schools by name. RF advised he was consulting with the primary schools first and would add names as soon as possible. St Peter's CE School - no objections Sir John Cass CE Primary School - removal of item 3b as noted on the policy 8. **Coordinated Admissions 2020 Secondary Transfer** KM updated the forum on applications made at secondary transfer. It was noted which schools had received more applications than places available (over subscribed) and those schools who had received a very low number of applications (undersubscribed) Reception MA updated the forum on the applications currently received for reception - 1921 Nursery MA noted the applications received for Nursery - 1472 **Raines Foundation School** 9. TB updated the AF on the latest situation regarding Raine's Foundation School. The statutory notice to close had drawn 8 responses mainly regarding Church of England faith provision in the borough and why the LA cannot sustain the school through additional funding. Outcome due from Cabinet on 29 January 2020. If a decision is made to close the school then all children will be guaranteed a place at Oaklands. TB paid tribute to the headteacher (Patrice Canavan), staff and pupils at Oaklands School who have exemplary managed a difficult transition period. Parents, including those parents of children with Education, Health and Care Plans, have advised the Parents Advice Centre that they are very happy with Oaklands and that standards have improved already. Parents and children at Raines Foundation School have also been happier with how the school is being managed now. TB thanked Bishop Challoner Head (Richard Fitzgerald) for stepping in to quickly admit Raines children when needed. 10. Free Schools and Academies - report on the latest roll position at free schools/academies in Tower Hamlets 11. **AOB**

AF Minutes

12.	Date, time and venue for next meeting	
	Thursday 27 February 2020 2pm	
	Bishop Challoner Catholic Collegiate School	
	352 Commercial Road E1 0LB	