



## MINUTES OF TOWER HAMLETS ADMISSION FORUM

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2020 2pm

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Venue: Bishop Challoner Catholic Collegiate School  
Commercial Road, E1 0EB

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### Members:

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| 1. Dee Bleach (DB)            | Primary Community Schools                          |
| 2. Terry Bryan (TB)           | Service Head (Pupil Access 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*                             |
| Aleha Khanam attended         |  |
| 6. Alex Nelson (AN)           | Voluntary Sector Children & Youth Forum            |
| 7. Lynn Cottle (LC)           | Nursery Schools*                                   |
| 8. Shahanur Khan (SK)         | Collective of Bangladeshi Governors                |
| 9. Salma Mahbub (SM)          | Parent Governor Representative*                    |
| 10. Dennis Jenner (DJ)        | LA Education Appeal Panel Member                   |
| 11. Shahana Begum (SB)        | Parent Carer Council Representative*               |
| 12. Fathima Rofe (FR)         | Parent Carer Council Representative                |
| 13. Mary Ryan (MR)            | Archdiocese of Westminster                         |
| 14. Sarah Counter (SC)/       | Free/Academy Secondary Schools*                    |
| 15. Patrice Canavan (PC)      | Secondary Community Schools*                       |
| 16. Mafijur Rab (MRa)         | Council of Mosques                                 |
| 17. John Bradshaw (JB)        | Head of Pupil Referral Unit                        |
| 18. Elizabeth Figueiredo (EF) | Primary Voluntary Aided Schools*                   |
| 19. Richard Fitzgerald        | Secondary Voluntary Aided Schools*                 |

*\*indicates present at meeting*

### Observer:

- |                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Paramjit Bhutta (PB) | Secondary Free/Academy School* |
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### Officers present:

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

Order	Actions	Person

1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> – Mary Ryan (MR), Dennis Jenner (DJ), Shanhanur Khan (SK). KM advised that MR would be retiring this year and would no longer be able to attend meetings of the Forum. AF wish to send a note of thanks to MR for her work over the years.	Clerk  Clerk
2.	<b>Declaration of Interest</b> 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SW and SC, 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.</li> </ul>	Chair
3.	<b>Minutes of meeting held on 11 December 2019</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RF noted that he did attend the meeting</li> <li>The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting</li> </ul>	Chair
4.	<b>Matters Arising</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Item 7 - RF noted that two schools in Newham had refused to be included in the Bishop Challoner Admissions Policy list of feeder schools and a C of E School on the Isle of Dogs had also refused.</li> </ul>	Chair
5.	<b>Pupil Place Planning Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Primary Review Advisory Group (PRAG)</b> – Terry Bryan TB made a presentation to the AF – paper copies circulated and attached. Discussion on the proposed amalgamations of Smithy St - Redlands and Guardian Angels – St Annes TB will present a ‘heat map’ showing Tower Hamlets housing developments to a future meeting later in the year and include the latest data from the GLA. TB will also provide map showing all new school developments.</li> <li><b>Update on current capacity and surplus across primary and secondary</b> Primary/Secondary – MA advised that reports will be circulated to the AF outside of this meeting.</li> </ul>	TB  TB  TB  MA
6.	<b>LA Consultation on School Admission Arrangements for 2021/22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TB reported that the LA’s School Admission Arrangements had now been determined after Cabinet in February</li> <li>The only changes were the increase in PAN at Oaklands and reductions in PAN at some primary schools</li> </ul>	
7.	<b>Coordinated Admissions 2020</b>  <b>Secondary Transfer 2020</b>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KM updated the AF on offers made for TH secondary schools as at National Offer Day 2<sup>nd</sup> March</li> <li>• KM noted the percentage offer outcomes as: 1<sup>st</sup> pref = 67.85% (68.33%) 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> pref = 88.90% (88.29%)</li> <li>• Comments were made on the low number of applicants and offers to Wapping High School, London Enterprise Academy.</li> <li>• Congratulations to Stepney Green for securing 25 girls in its first year of mixed intake.</li> </ul> <p><b>Reception</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA will report back to AF at next meeting on the offers for Reception intake 2020</li> </ul> <p><b>Nursery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MA will report back to AF at next meeting on the offers for Nursery intake 2020</li> </ul>	
<p><b>9.</b></p>	<p><b>Raines Foundation School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TB Advised that the decision, made by Cabinet on 29 January, to close Raines after a period of consultation has been referred to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator (OSA), following a request from the Raine’s Foundation Trust. The OSA can overturn the decision, if it finds that the LA hasn’t followed due process. TB was confident that this would not be the case and that Raine’s would therefore close on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020.</li> <li>• The council cabinet decision of the 26<sup>th</sup> February agreed the increase of the PAN at Oaklands from 120 to 180 from September 2021. This would enable Oaklands, as a popular school, to meet the likely pupil demand and improve the quality and sustainability of its provision going forward. Although there was the possibility for Oaklands to expand from as early as September 2020, this was not necessary to accommodate the displaced pupils from Raine’s.</li> <li>• Oaklands had been supporting Raine’s to ensure the continuity of good education as well as provide high quality leadership. TB took a moment to place on record the LA’s thanks and admiration to PC and all her staff for their continued dedication to the pupils at both Raines and Oaklands, in spite of the relentless campaigns waged against them from members of the Raine’s campaign group and the subsequent misreporting in the local media. PC and her team had shown tremendous fortitude and courage in very difficult and challenging circumstances.</li> </ul>	

10.	<b>Free Schools and Academies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>MA advised that the report on the latest roll position at free schools/academies in Tower Hamlets will be circulated at a later date</li></ul>	
11.	<b>AOB</b>	
12.	<b>Date, time and venue for next meeting</b> <b>Thursday 18 June 2020, 10am</b> <b>Via Zoom (details in email invitation)</b>	