MINUTES OF TOWER HAMLETS ADMISSION FORUM Wednesday 9 December 2020 via Teams

Members:

- 1. Dee Bleach (DB)
- 2. Terry Bryan (TB)
- 3. Sue Ward (SW)
- 4. Penny Harvey (PH)
- 5. Jenny Miller (JMi)
- 6. Alex Nelson (AN)
- 7. Lynn Cottle (LC)
- 8. Shahanur Khan (SK)
- 9. Vacancy
- 10. Dennis Jenner (DJ)
- 11. Shahana Begum (SB)
- 12. Fathima Rofe (FR)
- 13. Vacancy
- 14. Sarah Counter (SC)
- 15. Patrice Canavan (PC)
- 16. Mafijur Rab (MRa)
- 17. John Bradshaw (JB)
- 18. Elizabeth Figueiredo (EF)
- 19. Richard Fitzgerald

Observer: Paramjit Bhutta (PB)

Officers present:

Mohammad Ahmed (MA) Kelly Mack (KM) - Clerk Primary Community Schools* Service Head (Pupil Access and School Sufficiency)* Free/Academy Primary Schools* The London Diocesan Board for Schools* Parents Advice Centre* Voluntary Sector Children & Youth Forum* Nursery Schools* Collective of Bangladeshi Governors* Parent Governor Representative LA Education Appeal Panel Member* Parent Carer Council Representative Parent Carer Council Representative Archdiocese of Westminster Free/Academy Secondary Schools* Secondary Community Schools* **Council of Mosques** Head of LEAP Primary Voluntary Aided Schools* Secondary Voluntary Aided Schools *indicates present at meeting

Secondary Free/Academy School*

Primary Admissions Operations Manager* Secondary Admissions Operations Manager*

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	Actions	
1.	Apologies for Absence Alex Nelson	Clerk
2.	Declaration of Interest 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.	Chair
3.	Minutes of meeting held on 6 October 2020 The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting	Chair
4.	Matters Arising None	Chair

5.	 Pupil Place Planning Update Update on Place Planning and School Organisational change proposals - Terry Bryan - Details of amalgamations in previous minutes. TB to circulate cabinet report Secondary provision 	ТВ
	• Announced today that Westferry site has now been agreed as the permanent site for Canary Wharf College by 2023. The council also announced the rebuild of the George Green School site.	
	Primary	
	 Wood Wharf - School provider to be appointed through competition beginning in Spring.AF have an important part to play. TB advised that a representative(s) from the AF would be invited to serve on the LA assessment panel – SK, JM, DB, EF volunteered. 	
	Special School provision	
	 Cherry Trees – Plans for closure noted in last meeting/minutes. Phoenix – New Upper School site expected to be finished in early 2021 and the college facility for 19-25 by September 2022. 	
	Update on current capacity and surplus across primary and secondary – update from Mohammad Ahmed TB noted that the In Year Team had received almost 1200 in-year applications since the start of the new school year. He thanked the team for their attendance and efforts whilst coping with the effects of COVID.	
6.	LA's Planned School Admissions Arrangements for 2022/23	
	 TB confirmed the arrangements for the determination of LA's Community School Admission arrangements. The LA would not be publicly consulting on its admissions arrangements or planned admission numbers for 2022/23, no changes were being proposed. TB advised that, in the light of COVID, a variation to the Year 7 banding arrangements had previously been with agreed by the OSA for 2020. This variation would remain for 2021, and until the LA next consulted on any changes. 	
7.	Own Admission Authority Consultations for 2022/2023	
	 St Paul with St Luke CE Primary School - notice emailed The proposal is to remove the Foundation and World Faith sections of the admissions policy and therefore the need for a supplementary form to be completed. The AF had no objection. 	
	St Pauls Way Trust Secondary School - notice tabled	
	 The UST would add details to its the processes, in the event of a tie-break situation where the allocation cannot be decided on distance. In the event of a distance tie-break, a random allocation would be used and would be conducted by an independent individual. 	
	 ii) The UST is proposing to include an additional over-subscription criterion for its secondary schools relating to students applying from Trust Primary Schools. The inclusion of this criteria is not unusual for cross-phase Multi-Academy Trusts and is being proposed to help provide a greater opportunity for families to continue on a longer term journey with the Trust should they wish to do so. The proposed UST linked over-subscription criteria would follow immediately after the criterion that relates to siblings. 	

	The AF's opinion is that schools should be serving of their local communities. The AF was concerned that pupils attending new member schools of the Trust, regardless of where they were in distance from SPWT, would have priority for places over local children. These local children could then be disadvantaged as they would have to travel greater distances to access a school place. TB would raise this concern with the CEO of the UST.	
8.	Coordinated Admissions 2020	
	 Secondary Transfer 2020 – KM presented the applications received for TH schools. It was noted that WHS/LEA had received a small number of applications. George Green and Swanlea Schools continued to attract greater numbers of applications this year. Outcomes and offer information at February's meeting. 	
	 Reception – MA advised that figures would be presented at the February meeting 	
	 Nursery – MA advised that figures would be presented at the February meeting 	
9.	Free Schools and Academies – report showing the latest roll and vacancies tabled	
10.	AOB	
11.	Date, time and venue for next meeting	
	Wednesday 24 February 2021 1pm – 3pm via Teams	