

LEWISHAM SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 10th June 2021

Membership (Quorum = 40% i.e. 9) ✓ = present ✕ =absent a = apologies
s = substitute

		Attendance					
Primary School Headteachers		10/ 12	19/ 01	06/ 05	10/ 06	Date of Appointment	
Paul Moriarty	Good Shepherd	a	✓	a	a	Dec 2018	
Manda George	Torridon Primary	a	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018	
Sharon Lynch	St William of York	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018	
Keith Barr	Kender	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018	
Matthew Ringham	Our Lady & St Philip Neri	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018	
David Lucas	Trinity		✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021	
Maxine Osbaldeston	Launcelot		✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021	
Nursery School Headteacher							
Nikki Oldhams	Chelwood Nursery	✓	✓	a	a	Oct 2020	
Dimitrios Kontozisis	Chelwood Nursery				s		
Secondary School Headteachers							
Naill Hand	Prendergast Ladywell	✓	✓	✓	✓	July 2019	
VACANT							
Mark Phillips	Deptford Green	a	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2020	
VACANT							
Special School Headteacher							
Lynne Haines	Greenvale	✓	✓	✓	✓	Oct 2018	
Pupil Referral Unit Headteacher							
Heather Johnston	Abbey Manor	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2020	
Primary School Governors							
Rosamund Clarke	Perrymount	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018	
Peter Fidel	Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Federation				✓	June 2021	

Secondary & Special School Governors						
Pat Barber	Bonus Pastor	a	a	✓	✓	Dec 2018
Andy Rothery	Leathersellers Federation				✓	June 2021
VACANT						
Academies						
Dr Tesca Bennett	Haberdashers' Knights Academy	a	✓	a	✓	Oct 2018
Ann Butcher	Childeric				✓	June 2021
14-19 Consortium Rep						
Asfa Sohail	Lewisham Southwark College	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mar 2019
Early Years – PVI						
VACANT						
Diocesan Authorities						
Sara Sanbrook-Davies	Southwark Diocesan Board of Education	a	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2019
Yvonne Epale	Education Commission – Catholic Diocese of Southwark	a	✓	✓	✓	May 2021- re-elected
Lynne Haines	Forum Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	Oct 2017
Keith Barr	Forum Vice-Chair	✓	✓	✓	✓	Oct 2017

Observers/Others in attendance		
Director CYP	Angela Scattergood	
Group Finance Manager	Mala Dadlani	
Strategic and operational lead	Victoria Redgrave	
Principal Accountant	Lurenco Reynolds-Moxam	
Principal Accountant	Dipesh Gajmer	
Leathersellers Federation	Martin Cunningham	
Leathersellers Federation	Tony Marnham	
Chelwood Nursery	Amanda Furtado	

Marvels Lane	Eddie Dove	
NEU	Kim Knappett	
Clerk	Janita Aubun	

1. Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies

Apologies accepted from Paul Moriarty and Nikki Oldhams (Dimitrios Kontozisis –deputising)

The Chair along with other forum members welcomed new members of the forum: - Andy Rothery from Leathersellers Federation; Peter Fidel from Eliot Bank and Gordonbrock Federation and Ann Butcher from Childeric.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Minutes of meeting on 19th January 2021

Agreed

4. Minutes of meeting on 6th May 2021

Agreed

5. Matters arising

None

6. Schools Forum work plan 2021/22

Schools Forum were advised of the timing of the meeting dates/work plan for the financial year ahead which have been chosen strategically to coincide with important events/announcements, such as year-end closing and DSG announcements.

Schools Forum noted the work plan

7. DSG outturn position, including schools' balance position

The purpose of the report was to provide Schools forum with the outturn position for the DSG 2020/21.

Schools Forum were advised of:-

- Early Years – Provisional underspend of £1.6m and any final uncommitted balance (after claw back) will be recast on the formulaic basis that make up this block, with a further discussion at the next forum meeting. Consideration to support Providers to support pressure from Covid if sufficient funding in the hourly allocation.
- High Needs Block - Overspend by circa £5m, £629k from prior year and £4.3m in-year. The £5m will be the first call on 2021/22 budget. See report elsewhere on this agenda reviewing 2021/22 position.
- Central Block – Spend on budget.
- Schools block – Underspend on growth fund by £397k. It was proposed that this be used to support schools with TTO liability on a case-by-case basis.

- Schools Forum agreed (19 supported) to support schools with difficulty on a case-by-case basis.
- Report is likely to be presented to the December SF meeting once more information is known around TTO. The report will identify criteria for eligibility
- It is intended that based on this criteria LA will administer any payments. Any unused funding will support the wider schools position.

Update from Schools Forum High Need working group

Victoria Redgrave updated Schools Forum on the ways the group has been working to improve position in the High Needs Block, including:-

- The transport board has a focus on decreasing the number of CYP that travel on taxis and increasing the number on Lewisham Passenger Services buses;
- data benchmarking to consistently implement the banding system;
- increasing capacity in special schools by expanding existing provisions;
- working with mainstream schools to have a fair distribution of EHCPs; and
- invest to save projects, for example by keeping Lewisham's EHCP in Lewisham and avoiding sending out of borough.

Schools Forum noted the pressure on high needs block.

The report also discussed the position on schools balances.

8. DSG Grant 2021/22

Schools Forum noted the 2021/22 allocation. In particular the increase in the high needs block funding, and that despite the increase demand estimated is expected to result in an overspend position. Early indication suggests that the projected outturn will remain at £5m. recognising that any increase in funding and actions undertaken continue to be outstripped by the increase in demand.

9. Changes to cash flow allocation to schools

Schools Forum noted the process.

10. Any other business

Schools Forum training –Mala advised that recognising new members to forum since last meeting and this, some training will be put on offer. Janita Aubun to send meeting invites to new governors/head teachers – existing members are also welcome to join.

Manda George and Keith Barr to join the High Needs subgroup.

Future meetings

21/10/2021

16/12/2021

20/01/2022 (Provisional)

All Schools Forum meetings will be held between 16:30-18:30

Schools Forum Action Summary

Item	Action to be taken	Officer(s) responsible	Outcome/Current position
7	Devise criteria for consideration by Schools Forum to determine eligible schools that are to be supported by the underspent growth fund of £397k.	Mala Dadlani	Pending
10	Send meeting invites to new governors/head teachers for Schools Forum Training.	Janita Aubun	To be arranged