

LEWISHAM SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16th December 2021

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

		Attendance				
Primary School Headteachers		06/ 05	10/ 06	21/ 10	16/ 12	Date of Appointment
Jacqueline Noakes	John Ball				x	Dec 2021
Manda George	Torridon Primary	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
Sharon Lynch	St William of York	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
Keith Barr	Kender	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2018
Matthew Ringham	Our Lady & St Philip Neri	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022
David Lucas	Trinity	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021
Maxine Osbaldeston	Launcelot	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2021
Nursery School Headteacher						
Nikki Oldhams	Chelwood Nursery	a	a	a	a	Oct 2020
Cathryn Arnold-Kinsey (substitute)	Clyde Nursery				✓	
Secondary School Headteachers						
Naill Hand	Prendergast Ladywell	✓	✓	✓	✓	July 2019
Michael Sullivan	Forest Hill	✓	✓	a	a	Jan 2020
Special School Headteacher						
Lynne Haines	Greenvale	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2021
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	✓	✓	✓	✓	Jan 2022

Andy Rothery	Leathersellers Federation		✓	a	✓	June 2021
VACANT	SPECIAL SCHOOL					
Academies						
Miz Mann	STEP Academy Trust			a	✓	Oct 2021
Ann Butcher	Childeric		✓	*	✓	June 2021
14-19 Consortium Rep						
Asfa Sohail	Lewisham Southwark College	✓	✓	✓	a	Mar 2019
Early Years – PVI						
VACANT						
Diocesan Authorities						
Sara Sanbrook-Davies	Southwark Diocesan Board of Education	✓	✓	✓	✓	Dec 2019
Yvonne Epale	Education Commission – Catholic Diocese of Southwark	✓	✓	✓	✓	May 2021

Observers/Others in attendance		
Director CYP	Angela Scattergood	
Strategic Business Partner	Mala Dadlani	
Business Partner	Lurenco Reynolds-Moxam	
Kilmorie Primary School	Julie Loffstadt	
St Bartholomew's	Daniel Meyer	
LB Lewisham – High Needs	Victoria Redgrave	
LB Lewisham – Early Years	Nikki Sealy	
Head of Finance	Nick Penny	
Director of Lewisham Learning	Sandra Roberts	
LB Lewisham - HR	Diane Parkhouse	
St Bartholomews	Daniel Meyer	
Leathersellers' Federation	Tony Marnham	
Clerk	Tharmini Poopalasingham	

1. Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies

Apologies accepted from Nikki Oldhams, Michael Sullivan and Asfa Sohail.

The Chair along with other forum members welcomed new members of the forum: -
Jacqueline Noakes from John Ball.

Nick Penny recently appointed Head of Service Finance also attended Schools forum

Forum members thanked Lynne Haines and Keith Barr for all the hard work and support given to forum over their term as Chair and vice chair /Member.

The Chair along with other forum members thanked Rosamund Clarke who is leaving after 6 years.

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Schools Forum unanimously agreed

Matthew Ringham – Chair

Manda George – Vice Chair

4. Minutes of the Meeting of 21 October 2021

Agreed

5. Matters arising

Term Time Only – agenda item

6. Term Time Only

The purpose of this report is to provide Schools Forum with an update regarding the Term Time Only settlement and to define the timelines for the next steps.

Mala Dadlani – Strategic Business Partner and Diane Parkhouse – HR Manager provided an update and information on TTO. This included confirmation of the TTO agreement with Trade Unions and next steps to settle payment. Officers noted that the process has been more complicated than originally anticipated, however officers were working hard to support as the process. Expectation is that most payments (subject to individuals agreeing their claims details) should be paid in this financial year.

Leavers have till 28th February to log a claim. Leaver's claims will be assessed individually and most likely to be paid in the next financial year.

Mala will review funding strategy and update schools with potential final position for February/March reimbursements.

Further engagement is required with schools off Lewisham payroll and academy schools.

The report also proposed a method of supporting those schools in extreme financial challenging situations. Method proposed in report has been agreed. Activity on this will take place in 2022/23 post closure of accounts as one key criteria is that the school should be in a deficit. Chair and vice chair will be briefed on the schools in receipt of funding to support accountability and transparency. Schools Forum will receive a high level report. Any unallocated funding will be referred back to schools forum.

7. Dedicated Schools Grant 2020/21 Outturn (update on Early Years) & 2021/22 Provisional Outturn

Mala Dadlani – Strategic Business Partner provided an update on DSG 2020/21 outturn which recognised that for 2020/21 £1.251m was not clawed back for early years. This is an improved position than previously expected (redefined for covid). School Forum has agreed in line with table - net balance of circa £721k to be redistributed amongst all providers. The fairest view would be to consider the total number of hours (pupils) supported by each provider in autumn 2020 and allocate this funding as a one off reimbursement. At present this work has not been done as the announcement was only made last week.

DSG grant outturn and 2021/22 provisional outturn

Central Schools Services Block is expected to be on target for this year largely as some costs are supported from alternative funding streams as one off funding.

Schools block is expected to be on target as previously noted with schools forum.

The expectation continues to be that the High Needs Block will overspend by between £5m to £6m. This would therefore result in a cumulative overspend position of circa £9m.

The number of EHCPs continues to cause a pressure with disproportionate numbers now being placed out of borough. This also places pressure on the general fund as transport is a general fund cost.

The Early Years Block remains provisional.

8. 2022/23 Dedicated Schools Grant Mandate

Main focus is for Schools Forum to consider and agree the main components of the funding formula that will enable Lewisham Council to provide a draft funding formula (known as the APT tool), to the Department for Education (DfE), in January. This report was presented to Forum for information only.

School Forum has agreed in line with the reports on Alignment to the National Funding Formula, De-Delegation, Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) uplift and Schools Contingency.

School Forum has requested an additional report on Lewisham Learning to further consider request for additional de-delegation arising from the anticipated reduction in the school improvement and brokerage grant.

9. Any Other Business

Noted the release of the Schools forum papers for the 20th January 2022 meeting will have a reduced dispatch period of potentially 3 days.

Future meetings

20/01/2022

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

Sub Group meetings

High Needs Sub Group
6th January 2022
10-11:30

Schools Forum Action Summary

Item	Action to be taken	Officer(s) responsible	Outcome/Current position
7 - Schools Forum 10 th June 2021	Devise criteria for consideration by Schools Forum to determine eligible schools that are to be supported by the underspent growth fund of £397k. Can be used to support schools with TTO liability.	Mala Dadlani	Done—next stage