

Schools Forum			
REPORT TITLE	New Woodlands – Primary PRU Capacity		
KEY DECISION	Yes	Item No. Appendix	5 B
CLASS	Part 1	Date	7 December 2017

1. Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to set out the current position of New Woodlands School in respect of the Transition Plan that was put in place in September 2016 and to inform School Forum that the primary pupil referral unit is full.

This report also seeks the views from HNSG and Schools Forum on the proposal to temporarily reduce the LA commissioned numbers from 112 places to 80 places as outlined in the HNB Forecast Report.

2. Recommendation

The Forum

- Note the current situation in relation to places within the primary PRU phase at New Woodlands.
- Provide views on the LA commissioned numbers of 112 places and the proposal to temporarily decrease the commissioned number to 80 places whilst the school works through the transition plan and the action plan following the recent Ofsted judgement of 'requires improvement'.

3. New Woodlands Transition Plan 2017-2018

- 3.1 NW is now in the second year of the transition plan to a specialist SEMH setting. As agreed the school will continue to operate as a specialist school for KS1-KS3 and a pupil referral unit for KS1-KS2 only for 2017-2018.
- 3.2 An Ofsted inspection carried out in July 2017 has resulted in the school being judged as 'requires improvement'. The Governing Body and the LA are working with the school on the strategic action plan to improve the school in respect of the areas outlined in the Ofsted report.
- 3.3 Since the Transition Plan has been put in place the local authority and the Advisory Board has supported the school in a number of key areas which has led to improved outcomes. These include:
 - Increased the number of children in the school with EHCP by 20% - from 8% (Sept 2016) to 28% (July 2017)

- Secured arrangements and plans for the admission of KS1 and KS2 girls from September 2107
- Improved access to specialist services for children within the school such as Speech & Language Therapy (SLT) and Occupational Therapy (OT) through the MDT
- Continued to improve the admission of pupils through a more transparent system through Fair Access Panel and Pupil Placement Panel cases of children who are at risk of exclusion
- Developed a clear admission policy for all pupils including those with SEND

4. New Woodlands Advisory Board

- 4.1 Members will be aware that in autumn 2016 the New Woodlands Advisory Board was set up to monitor the transition plan and undertake a review of the NW Outreach Services. The work of the Advisory Board will continue through 2017-2018 and will focus on the transition plan and the review of the Outreach Service. Some of you may already be aware that Michael Roach has stepped down from his position as Chair following his new appointment as Interim Director of Lewisham Learning. Keith Barr has taken over as Chair of the Advisory Board and the Lead Officer is Claudia Smith.
- 4.2 During 2017-2018 the Advisory Board will continue to support the school through the transition and will present a detailed report on the findings from the review of the Outreach Service to the High Needs Sub Group (HNSG) and Schools Forum for consideration and recommendations about the future arrangements for the Outreach Service.

5. Next Steps

That the LA continue to work with New Woodlands on the transition plan and preparation for the primary pupil referral unit to be transferred under new management by September 2018. This will enable New Woodlands to focus on being a specialist provision for children and young people with an EHCP for SEMH and other related needs.

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