

FutureSchools

Building Schools for the Future newsletter



New primary places plans underway

The permanent expansion of primary school places across the borough is now underway following the announcement of an additional £9m of central government funding late last year.

This means the council can begin delivering plans to create 240 additional permanent reception class places in schools across Lambeth. Over the past few years temporary classes have been added in some of the borough's schools where demand is highest. Julian's, Elm Wood and Kingswood primary schools have all taken on additional classes in recent years. In September 2009 additional places were added at Jubilee, Rosendale, Hitherfield, Crown Lane and Immanuel & St Andrew's Primary schools.

From September 2010, two permanent new forms of entry will be provided at Kingswood and two further permanent forms of entry at the new site for Henry

Cavendish, Streatham at the Woodfield Centre. Further additional temporary classrooms are to be provided at Herbert Morrison, Hill Mead, Julian's and Immanuel & St Andrews.

Permanent expansions of one form of entry are also now underway at Stockwell, Jessop and Vauxhall, and should complete in 2011/12. Lambeth's cabinet has also approved plans to build a new primary school providing 2 forms of entry in the Norwood area which it is hoped will be run as part of Julian's primary school.

In addition, we have firm plans for further expansions, including new schools, and are in regular discussion with the government about this.



BSF schools on video



Educational transformation

Welcome



These are exciting times in the BSF programme. We are very close to knowing the bidder who will join Lambeth and the government to make up the Local Education Partnership which will drive forward the next phase of our programme, refurbishing and rebuilding the remaining secondary schools in the borough and bringing about transformational education.

It is also worth reflecting that the Building Schools for the Future division within Lambeth's Children and Young People's Service is responsible for managing the investment in all of Lambeth's schools, and as you will see a great deal of work has been done to make sure the unprecedented demand for Primary school places in the borough is to be met over the coming years.

I hope you enjoy our newsletter, if you have any comments or suggestions please contact Michael Lawler, our Communications manager whose contact details are on the back page.



First parent promoter school moves into brand new building



A moment to remember

Students at The Elmgreen School, the first parent promoted school in the country, welcomed cabinet minister and local MP Tessa Jowell to officially open their brand new state of the art school in early February.

The Elmgreen School opened in 2007 on a temporary site, but moved into it's brand new building from September 2009. The celebration was a momentous day which marked the culmination of many years of hard work by local parents and others. Finally the dream of a new secondary school for their area had been achieved.

Tessa Jowell said at the ceremony: "It is time to celebrate this fanatastic new school that is a fantastic addition to the West Norwood community it will serve."

The new school building provides 1,100 places for 11-18 year olds, including a 30 place hearing support unit and a 200 place sixth form. The school is modelled around a stunning central market place design and also boasts an impressive range of facilities including a dance and drama studio, recording studio, four court sports hall, seven-a-side floodlit football pitch, excellent ICT and sustainable energy features such as wind turbines, bio-mass boilers and grey water harvesting.

BSF about much more than buildings



Above: The Elmgreen School's new building in West Norwood
Right: The school's new library



Transforming the future

A lot of the focus of BSF can be about the excellent school buildings, but of course it is important to understand that BSF is about much more. The buildings are merely the means that BSF can bring about “educational transformation”. This term is used to explain the way stimulating environments and facilities allow every young person to develop their talents and achieve their very best. In turn this will lead to improved life chances.

It is important that schools are given full support from the educationalists on the BSF team both before and during the transformational process. A dedicated educational professional will work initially with the Headteacher and members of the senior leadership team on refining the schools vision.

The Education Team will work with the school and other stakeholders to ensure that during the process the education vision remains at the forefront of people's minds. There will be ongoing dialogue including workshops for staff, students and governors, communication with key stakeholders in the community and programmes planned according to the unique educational needs of the school. Heads of departments will be supported with the transformation of the teaching and learning agenda so that the new buildings will support raising aspirations and achievements of young people.

The Elmgreen School moved into its brand new building in West Norwood in September 2009. It is an example of how

these principles can be put into action. John Wilkinson, Acting Headteacher of The Elmgreen School explained the impact the new building has had. He said: “The new building offers an immense range of possibilities.”

“The range of spaces offered in the building including double space classrooms, breakout spaces and outside teaching spaces have allowed learning to be a far more active experience for students. It has allowed the embedding of independent learning and provided even more opportunities for teachers to be innovative. Students have very quickly felt at home in the school and respect the building.

The addition of excellent sports facilities and outside spaces have changed student's experience of lesson time as well as break and lunch. A large range of extra-curricular opportunities are now on offer. The Library, situated at the heart of the school has been very popular; some 8,000 books have been lent since it opened in September.”

Mr Wilkinson also explained that the figures also tell a story: “The schools key performance indicators show that the new facilities have had a huge impact on, amongst other things, attendance and fixed term exclusions. Attendance is at 96.1%, up just under 2% on the same time last year. Fixed term exclusions have dropped by over 80%.

And, he continues, the school is already establishing itself within the local community: “The facilities and design of the building allow it to be a focus for the community. We already have a number of organisations making use of the building out of hours and the school is beginning to offer activities in the day such as a under 5's story telling group.”

Phase 2 update

Preferred bidder announcement soon

Final submissions were received for the next phase of our programme at the end of January from the two bidders, Willmott Dixon and Engage. They are currently being scored and evaluated by Lambeth's BSF team and our advisers. Lambeth's Cabinet will make a decision on who the preferred bidder will be on 22 March.

BSF: The Movie



We have produced 3 short films of the special educational needs schools opened under the BSF programme.

You can view the films of The Michael Tippett School, Park Campus and The Elm Court School at www.lambeth.gov.uk/bsf and follow the link through to YouTube.

Maggie Harriot, Education Strategy Manager

I have worked in education for 35 years teaching in both Kent and London Borough of Bromley. My last full time school post was that of headteacher in a secondary school in Kent. Three years ago I became an independent consultant working on improvement in schools which needed support following Ofsted inspection. Also during this time I was a consultant to the Barnsley BSF scheme and was a member of the Barnsley Partnership for Learning consortium with Laing O'Rourke. I have an M.A. in Educational Management and I am a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts.

I joined Lambeth in July 2009 as Education Strategy Manager for the BSF team. My role is to support and engage with schools and help them with the transformation agenda for BSF. I'm helping the schools deliver their vision for the future through the design of their schools ensuring that the education experience for all young people in Lambeth is supported to the full. Transformation through BSF should enable the creation of 21st century learners in the context of engaged, vibrant communities where the school is the centre of learning and the community. I encourage schools to be aspirational and take young people and communities beyond their expectations.

I was born and educated in Northern Ireland and first came to England in 1972 to train to become a secondary school teacher. I met my husband Mike in 1974 and have lived in Kent ever since. We have two daughters Michelle 25 and Sophie 23 who are currently living and working in Australia. I lived in Australia for a year in 1980 when I took a late gap year after 5 years of teaching. My hobbies include: golf (I play off a handicap of 24!), hockey, music and cinema.



Spanish

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Portuguese

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Bengali

এই তথ্য অন্য কোনো ভাষায় আপনার প্রয়োজন হলে অনুগ্রহ করে ফোন করুন 020 7926 9186

Twi

Se wope saa nkaeboy yi wo kasa foforo mu a fre 020 7926 9186

Yoruba

Tí ẹ ba fẹ̀ ʼmòràń yíí, ní ʼedé Òmíràn, ẹ̀jò, ẹ̀ kàn wà l'ágogo 020 7926 9186

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