



Admissions Forum

Thursday 14th January 2010, 9:30am, Four Oaks, Nailsea

Present

Justin Templer
Geoff Flynn
Sally Varley
Bill McEntee
Mike Newman
Anne-Marie Heath
Caroline Hostein
Jack Dagnall
Tess Robinson
David Gradwell
Chris Hustwick
Julie Fox
Tess Robinson
Terri Knowlton
Vicki Bush

Clifton Diocese
NSC Education Welfare
NSC School Organisation and Access
NSC School Admissions & Transport
NSC School Admissions and Transport
NSC Choice Advice
Catholic Primary Schools
Governor (Clevedon & All Saints)
Diocese of Bath & Wells
Community SEN
NSC Governor Services
Community Primary Schools
Diocese of Bath and Wells
NSC Special Educational Needs
NSC School Organisation

Guest Speakers

Bryony Green
Richard Pinnell

Mouchel Consulting
NSC Building Schools for the Future

1. Apologies

John Wells, Tony Pearle, Anne Kemp, Liz Tunnard, Gillian Quick, Eufron Parry, Trevor Bailey, Tim Pollock, Karen Jarvis.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

Agreed, with minor amendments

3. Matters arising

Bill, Jan, Anne-Marie and Fola's last meeting concerning issues surrounding minority ethnic groups not applying on time and being less likely to obtain a place at their preferred school was cancelled, but will be rescheduled.

Sally will confirm whether neighbouring admissions forums should be consulted on 2011/12 policies. Bill will ask the neighbouring authorities to make the forums aware of policy changes, and will talk to the Admissions Manager in Bristol.

4. Review of Core Membership/Quorate Status of Forum

Justin is now a core member. Jeremy and Fola may swap posts; Tony is waiting on a response.

It was agreed that 5 core members would be sufficient for the forum to be quorate.

5. Verbal update on the provision of education in the communities of Winford and Felton, and the expansions of Birdwell and Trinity Anglican Methodist Primary Schools.

St Katharine's Primary School will close on 31st August 2010. There are approximately 23 children attending the school, 15 of which are North Somerset residents, who have now been asked which preferences they have for an alternative school. The expansion of Winford Primary will help to accommodate the displacement from St Katharine's.

No objections were received to the expansion of Winford Primary, or to the closure of St Katharine's Primary.

Statutory notices to expand Birdwell in Long Ashton have been put up. Work will start in the summer, finishing for September 2011, however 15 extra pupils will be admitted to Birdwell this September, with a temporary classroom being put on site to accommodate them.

The consultation to expand Trinity from a 210 place school to a 420 place school for September 2011 will begin on Monday 18th January. They will be taking 30 extra children from September 2010.

David Gradwell expressed his concerns about sufficient parking for the site, however the car park is deemed big enough by planning regulations.

6. Building Schools for the Future – update

Richard Pinnell took the Forum through a presentation for Building Schools for the Future.

7. Admissions Consultations including presentations from own admission authority representatives including consultation on changes to school APR areas

- VA schools-Tess will circulate the response from the schools adjudicator about the additional information forms.
- C of E schools- Tickenham may not be able to use their additional information form as they did not circulate it in their consultation.
- Foundation/Trust schools- No representatives were present at the forum, however they aim to keep in line with the Local Authority's policies for community schools. Worle and Priory are proposing the same first geographic areas as the Local Authority.
- Catholic schools- They are trying to streamline the policies for all three schools. They have gone out to consultation with the Diocese, and are in discussion with School Organisation about where evidence is sent (meeting next week with Mike and Sally).
- Bill will respond to Corpus Christi about their criteria concerning being baptised/received into the church as there may be an issue with ranking.

Jack Dagnall expressed concerns that atheists, secularists and humanists were being discriminated against as he felt religion shouldn't be involved in education. A discussion was entered into regarding the links between religion and education.

Please see Bill's email of the 30th December which has all policies attached. They are also available on the council's website.

Replacing Weston's shared area with four single areas is now out for consultation. This has been discussed with the secondary heads of Weston, and Churchill, and has been agreed in principle. The areas have been based mainly on the nearest school to the home address, with adjustments for admission numbers. Priority will be given to those who have siblings at the school before 2011 to allow for a change over period.

Broadoak's governors are concerned about their new area having a detrimental affect on the school. Bill is aware of this, but nothing can be done to improve it. The governor's will be able to respond in the consultation.

The main changes that have been made are:

- In year applications will be coordinated (all applications must be made through the Local Authority.
- Primary applications will be coordinated across boundaries.
- Where church proof will be sent (tbc)
- The DCSF are planning to allow 4 year olds to attend school full time or part time at their parents wish, rather than the schools wish, from September 2011.

The consultation ends 1st March, please e-mail Bill if you have any comments.

Bill.mcentee@n-somerset.gov.uk

Admission numbers as changing as follows:

- Birdwell increasing from 30 – 45
- Trinity increasing from 30 – 60
- St Anne's increasing from 25 – 30
- Wyvern increasing from 200 to 240 when it becomes an academy.

The Fair Access Protocol has been updated. Please forward any comments to Bill.

8. In year Fair Access protocols (standing item) Permanent Exclusions and Managed Transfers (standing item)

Pupils excluded for more than five days must be provided with education from the 6th day. All three excluded pupils from Term 1 and 2 did receive education on time (see handouts).

There was a reduction in permanent exclusions from last year. North Somerset has one of the lowest exclusion rates in the country as it has a good relationship with schools and the EOTAS service.

Those pupils who are permanently excluded go to a Short Stay School (PRU) for the sixth day provision until the exclusion process is complete and they can return to mainstream education. There is a problem that some pupils prefer PRUs and want to stay there.

Negotiated transfers are at similar levels to the previous year, with 50-60% successful in going on role at their receiving school, the rest going back to their previous school or going to EOTAS.

9. Fair Access Protocols – Comparative Data Requirements

Geoff will talk to John Wells.

10. Proposed Term Dates for 2011/12 School Year

Due to the extra bank holiday on 5 June 2012 for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the May bank holiday is being moved to 4 June 2012. As a result the half term holiday will be moved from 30 May-3 June, to 4 June-8th June. The exam period is being put back one week to compensate. Please forward any comments to Tony Pearle. Tony.pearle@n-somerset.gov.uk

11. Proposals to establish an Academy and close Wyvern Community Secondary School

Wyvern Academy would be publicly funded, and there would be no financial requirement for pupils. Applicants for Wyvern Community Secondary School would still be admitted to the academy, and current students will stay on. The academy trust is the Cabot Learning Foundation, who would manage the academy, which would be the fourth in the federation. The academy would still be inspected by Ofsted.

The academy would keep Wyvern Community Secondary School's links with primary schools and Weston College, remaining as a sports school, with the view of adding business and enterprise in the future. The academy would not be required to work with the Local Authority, but they would still want to, and coordination regulations would still apply. It would be its own admissions authority, still governed by admissions policy. There would be no faith criteria and it would adopt the Local Authority's oversubscription criteria.

All staff would be protected by TUPE regulations and would be employed by the academy trust. Their pensions would stay with the existing provider.

12. Meeting Dates for 2009/10 Academic Year:

All meetings 9:30-12:30

Friday 5 th March 2010	Kenn Room, Town Hall
Monday 26 th April 2010	The Campus
Monday 14 th June 2010	Four Oaks, Nailsea