

Learning and Children's Services

Duncan Clark

Interim Strategic Director of Learning and Children's Services

DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO SCHOOL GOVERNORS FOR THE SPRING TERM 2010

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1. EXPANSION OF SCHOOL PLACES UPDATE

Permanent Expansion of Primary Schools

On Tuesday 1 December, the Council Executive met and agreed a strategy for the permanent increase in primary school places. The Governing Bodies of 14 primary schools have agreed in principle to permanent expansion (see table below). The Council will continue to work in partnership with these schools to ensure that consultation is undertaken and to develop expansion plans that will protect and improve the quality of education for all children at school.

While the Executive did not make any binding decisions about individual schools, it started the process for permanent expansion which will include full consultation about the proposals for individual schools and statutory planning applications, starting in early 2010. Final decisions about plans for individual schools would not be expected until late 2010.

The Government recently announced 'stop-gap' funding to provide sufficient primary school places to meet local needs. Kingston's initial allocation of £8.2million grant represents the first allocation needed to fund the entire expansion programme. We anticipate that the total funding available for the expansion programme will be in the region of £70 million, subject to confirmation when the Council's Budget is determined on 25 February 2010. The necessary funding will need to be identified for each school prior to the formal consultation process. We will now work with schools to agree the most effective phasing for the building works that will ensure we have sufficient permanent primary places.

We are aware that many people expressed a preference for new schools to be created, rather than expanding existing schools. Our land agents undertook a thorough review of available space in the Royal Borough and concluded that there are no readily available site opportunities currently on the property market which meet all of the Council's primary school site search requirements. Our Strategy for permanent expansion therefore includes only one new school which it is anticipated will be incorporated within the overall redevelopment plans for the Surbiton Hospital site, on part of the site not required for health services.

PROPOSED STRATEGY FOR PERMANENT EXPANSION			
School Places Planning Area	School	Permanent Change to Published Admission Number (forms of entry)	Expanding to Published Admission Number (forms of entry)
Kingston Town	Latchmere Primary	+30	120 (4 forms of entry)
	Fern Hill Primary	+30	90 (3 fe)
	King Athelstan Primary	+30	90 (3fe)
	Alexandra Infants & St Pauls Junior*	+30	90 (3fe)
	St Matthew's Primary*	+15	60 (2fe)
Surbiton	St Matthew's Primary*	+15	60 (2fe)

	Grand Avenue Primary New School	+30 +60 or +90	90 (3fe) 60 (2fe) or 90 (3fe)
Malden & Coombe	Burlington Infants & Junior Schools	+30	120 (4fe)
	Christ Church New Malden Primary*	+30	90 (3fe)
	Corpus Christi Primary**	+30	90 (3fe)
	Malden Manor Primary	+30	90 (3fe)
South of the Borough	Ellingham Primary	+30	60 (2fe)
	Lovelace Primary	+30	90 (3fe)
TOTAL Permanent Places	Currently 1,575 (52.5fe)	+405 (13.5fe) or +435 (14.5fe)	1,980 places (66fe) 2,010 places (67fe)

**denotes Southwark Diocese Voluntary Aided schools*

***denotes Southwark RC Archdiocese Voluntary Aided schools*

Admissions to Primary Schools September 2010

An additional 300 Reception Year places have been added across 11 primary schools for September 2010 to meet the increase in demand for places.

This is the third year we have had to take such action so that we can ensure there are sufficient places for all children who need one. These are temporary changes to admission numbers at schools that have been made in advance of the outcome of the consultation about permanent expansion of the primary schools referred to above.

Nursery Places

The Early Years and Childcare Service works with school's nurseries and other providers for early years to ensure that there are sufficient places to meet the anticipated demand within Kingston. Since September 2008, six additional settings have been added to the Register of Providers.

The Local Authority does not have specific capital funding to undertake major capital works to provide more nursery places and intends to deliver more places by using the Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) sector. Where there is no capacity within the PVI sector to expand increases to schools' provision will be supported.

Based on current population estimates and the latest sufficiency assessment there is currently a need for more places, particularly in Surbiton, New Malden and North Kingston. Private and Voluntary providers are being sought to expand current provision and to register new provision.

In view of the above, the current proposed strategy for expansion of primary schools does not include expansion of nursery provision in the named schools, other than in the proposed new primary school in Surbiton.

New Secondary School in North Kingston

By 2015, the increased pupil population currently in our primary schools will start to transfer to secondary schools creating a need for the permanent expansion of secondary provision. Kingston and Croydon jointly formally entered the Building Schools for the Future Programme in December 2009 with an initial allocation of £100m to progress our priority schemes. Kingston has already prioritised a new £30m secondary school on the North Kingston Centre site that is proposed to open in September 2015 as the first project to benefit from the Building Schools for the Future programme. This is proposed to be a co-educational, non-selective school for 11-18 year olds and the statutory consultation to create the new school was launched on 15 January 2010. The consultation covers the educational details of the school, and explains the competition process to determine the provider of the school.

A copy of the consultation document can be found at

http://www.kingston.gov.uk/browse/education/schools/school_expansion/secondary_expansion

where there is an online facility to respond by 26 February 2010. In addition, a public meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 February 2010 at Fern Hill Primary School, commencing at 7pm.

Thank you to all schools who are involved in ensuring that there are sufficient school places available in Kingston, either through hosting an additional temporary class, or by being involved in the permanent expansion strategy.

The Kingston web site (www.kingston.gov.uk) contains all papers on the process of expansion and additional temporary primary classes, provides regular updates, and answers to questions which are frequently asked about the expansion process.

For further information on the above please contact: Anne Redparth, Head of Resources and Commissioning, on 020 8547 5276 or email: anne.redparth@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

2. MULTI DISCIPLINARY WORKING AND 400 PROJECT

The 400 project is a high-level analysis of the current strengths and areas for development of our multi-disciplinary practice in Kingston. Eponymously, the 400 project refers to the cases of 400 children and young people of all ages who receive services from the local authority and its partners, and whose experiences were reviewed to provide a baseline of what is done well and what needs to improve.

To provide a rounded perspective on current practice the survey was divided into three parts – a high level review of a total of 400 cases of children and young people receiving services at each level of the locally agreed 4 levels of intervention; an online survey of the views of professionals on the current state of multi-disciplinary working; semi-structured focus group discussions with young people themselves.

The survey has taken six months to complete and the final report is due for publication at the end of January 2010. A member of staff from the Extended Schools Service team was seconded to complete the project on a part time basis and as a prelude to initiating

survey activity conducted a literature search to establish some benchmarks of best multi-disciplinary practice against which to assess Kingston's current performance.

The final draft of the report suggests that there is a strong local commitment to multi-disciplinary working as a means of aiming to improve outcomes for children and young people, especially those who are vulnerable or who have additional needs, and that the local authority and its partners in the Children's Trust are well on track towards developing a well co-ordinated set of services with shared goals. However, the survey also showed that there was scope to improve mutual understanding of roles and responsibilities, and information sharing processes in some cases.

The report will require careful study by all partners, and it is intended that service teams will incorporate the findings into their own planning for 2010/11. More details about dissemination and consequent action planning will follow shortly.

For further information on the above, please contact: Duncan Clark, Interim Strategic Director, Learning and Children's Services on 0208 547 5220, or email: duncan.clark@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

3. CLOSING THE GAP

Nationally there have been considerable improvements in standards in the last 10 years with some positive signs of narrowing attainment gaps. More young children are reaching a good level of development and more young people than ever are reaching national expectations at the end of Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 4:

- Results have risen in every local authority in the country
- Schools serving the most deprived communities have made the most progress
- Some underperforming minority ethnic groups have made above average progress

However, there are still issues relating to the attainment of children entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) and those from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Kingston schools are challenged with not just narrowing the gap for these children, but 'closing' the gap', and the picture for Kingston pupils is generally positive.

In Kingston, gaps are narrowing between children entitled to Free School Meals and those who are not. Although the gaps between these groups are wider than the national gaps, Kingston pupils attainment is above the national average of pupils entitled to FSM.

Gaps are narrowing also for those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and for those who speak English as an Additional Language (EAL). There is, however, still a gender issue: Girls outperform boys in all core subjects except Mathematics (in Primary Schools). Nevertheless, Kingston boys' performance is well above the national average for boys.

It is not acceptable to use a child's background as an excuse for underachievement. The challenge for schools is to make a difference, to believe that every child can succeed, to narrow the gaps and to reduce the inequalities in outcomes.

Governors are encouraged to support schools in their quest to narrow the gap by looking at data in their own school, such as RAISEonline, which clearly shows groups of children and their attainment, and focussing on the progress of pupils in these groups. The new Ofsted Inspection framework puts equality of outcomes for all at the core of the inspection process.

For further information on the above, please contact: **Barbara Chevis, Strategic Manager/Inspector - Workforce Development, Learning and School Effectiveness** on 020 8547 5292, or email: barbara.chevis@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

4. SCHOOLS' BUDGET CONSULTATION AND LOCAL AUTHORITY BUDGET UPDATE

Schools Budget 2010/11

The Schools Budget will be considered by the Schools Forum on 28 January and full details may be found in its agenda from the Schools Forum web site http://www.kingston.gov.uk/schools_forum subsequently it will be considered by the Executive on 11 February and the Scrutiny Panel on 23 February prior to consideration and approval by the Council on 25 February.

The headlines are:

- Increase in Dedicated Schools Grant (pre-16) +5.2%
- Cash freeze on post 16 funding on a per student basis (imposed by DCSF)
- Increase in mainstream schools delegated budget (pre-16) +4.0%
- Increase in special schools delegated budget +5.0%
- Increase in central Special Education Needs expenditure +29.3%
- Some SEN expenditure is on an 'Invest to Save' basis
- Funding for 11 additional reception classes from September 2010

Schools Funding Changes

The School Funding Consultation Document was sent to Chairs of Governors on 4 January with a closing date of 19 January. It is also available from the Schools Forum web site. The consultation topics were:

- Introduction of the Early Years Single Funding Formula for maintained nursery classes, maintained nursery schools and private, voluntary and independent (PVI) providers of early education
- Diplomas – Elimination of potential double funding
- Change of data source for Teachers' Upper Pay Scale Sub-formula and for allocation of London Pay Addition Grant

Borough General Fund Budget

The authority's medium-term service and financial plan 2010-2013 "*destination Kingston*" is available from the Council's web site at

http://www.kingston.gov.uk/information/your_council/council_documents.htm

It is due to be considered by the Executive on 11 February and the Scrutiny Panel on 23 February prior to consideration and approval by the Council on 25 February.

The headlines (of interest to Governors) are:

- £3.3m of investment in the BSF programme over three years

- Costs of Primary Capital Programme to be met
- Investment in children's social care services
- Overall budget reductions of £6.2m in 2010/11, £10.5m in 2011/12 and £12.9m in 2012/13

For further information on the above please contact: Anne Redparth, Head of Resources and Commissioning, on 020 8547 5276 or email: anne.redparth@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

5. CARBON REDUCTION COMMITMENT

The Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency Scheme is a new emissions trading scheme for large non-energy intensive commercial and public sector organisations. The government has proposed that state-funded schools in Great Britain will participate within the CRC scheme under the umbrella of their local authority.

Schools have an important role to play as models of good practice for their pupils and the communities in which they live. Schools participation in the local authority carbon reduction commitment is an opportunity to work together to fulfill our duties in this mandatory scheme. The emissions of each school must be covered by an allowance bought by its Local Authority. Schools have a statutory duty to provide reasonable assistance and gather all data which relates to their energy use and provide this each year to their Local Authority.

The scheme begins on 1 April 2010 and schools are expected to have established robust data management processes by this date. Throughout the year schools must collate evidence packs which are submitted to the local authority the following April. RBK is looking to support schools in reducing their carbon emissions through workshops, advice, referrals, guidance and programmes.

Each school has already nominated a member of staff to lead on this work and they will be the first point of contact for the Local Authority as the scheme develops over the next few months. Investment priorities and decisions, taken both within schools and by the local authority, will increasingly need to take into account the impact on reducing carbon emissions.

For further information on the Carbon Reduction Commitment, contact Nia Prys-Williams, Senior Climate Change Officer on 020 8547 5766 or email: Nia.Prys-Williams@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

6. SUCCESSION PLANNING

Recruitment of Headteachers continues to be an issue for schools throughout the country. Nevertheless, the picture has improved over the past few years due to the introduction of local and national initiatives designed to encourage senior leaders to become Headteachers.

This has resulted in:

- Vacancy rates and temporary posts stabilised, targets met or exceeded
- Re-advertisement rates reducing
- Aspiration for senior leadership and headship high and rising

However, challenges remain – nationally, retirements are set to rise to 2012, and there are issues for faith (Catholic Schools in particular) and small schools, and there has been little change in leadership diversity.

The situation in Kingston schools:

- 41% of all Headteachers are over 55 years old and more than 22% of Headteachers are expected to retire by 2012.
- There are a large number of young deputies (90%) in the Primary Sector.
- Few senior leaders from Black and Ethnic Minority backgrounds which mean leaders are not representative of the communities they serve

To address these problems, Kingston has developed two programmes, along with the other five LAs in SWLSEP (South West London School Effectiveness Partnership), and with support from the National College. For the third year, SWLSEP is running an Aspiring Headteacher programme and for the first year aspiring deputies are being targeted in order to ensure a good supply of deputy Headteachers.

Seven Deputy Headteachers from Kingston are accessing the Aspiring Headteachers programme and 20 Middle Leaders and Assistant Heads from Kingston are accessing the 'Aspiring Deputies' programme. Outcomes from previous Aspiring Headteachers programmes show that Deputies feel more confident to apply for Headship and 11 Kingston participants have now gained promotion. Teachers in their second and third year of teaching are encouraged to move to middle management and senior leadership roles through programmes such as 'Early Leadership' and 'Moving to Management'.

Governors should consider succession planning within their school and also within the governing body, and include this as part of their school improvement plan. Governors have been asked to develop a policy for Succession Planning and to ensure that this is an agenda item at meetings.

A conference for Governors on Succession Planning is to be held on Friday 9th July.

For further information on the above, please contact: Barbara Chevis, Strategic Manager/Inspector - Workforce Development, Learning and School Effectiveness on 020 8547 5292, or email: barbara.chevis@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

7. GOVERNOR CONSULTATION ON BSF VISION AND AIMS FOR TRANSFORMING LEARNING

Building Schools for the Future: Kingston's Vision and Aims for Transforming Learning

In Kingston, young people's attainment is outstanding and there are numerous examples of exemplary and innovative practice in our schools. However, the success of secondary provision is uneven. Inequality gaps are still a challenge and we do not yet add enough value to some young people's academic achievement. The biggest challenge facing

Kingston is tackling the issue of the young people who leave school dissatisfied and with poor qualifications. Kingston's most exciting opportunity is to personalise learning and support more young people to become:

- Successful learners
- Confident individuals, and
- Responsible citizens

Our vision is based on understanding that:

- Intelligence is not fixed, all children can succeed
- Learning is unique to each person
- Children need to be 'known' as individuals and members of families and communities
- Learning is a social process, requiring effort, resilience and resourcefulness
- Learning is dependent on challenge and skills
- Learning is most successful when it is experiential and collaborative.

For many pupils in our secondary schools, learning needs to be more active and relevant. Pupils need to be allowed and encouraged to make choices, to be creative in their responses and given helpful feedback and support. We intend curriculum, teaching, learning, assessment and pastoral arrangements to reflect these understandings increasingly as we move through the BSF programme.

Our key objectives for BSF are to:

- Continue to improve standards of attainment overall and increase inclusion.
- Close attainment gaps between different groups of learners and between schools; in particular accelerate achievement where attainment is lowest
- Improve the quality of provision in all schools so that it is consistently at least good and preferably outstanding
- Improve the quality and range of 14-19 education so that there is good access to the full range of pathways for learners in all schools
- Expand school places, increase choice and diversity to improve access for parents to a good secondary school
- Build sustainable improvement across all schools and subject departments by extending school specialism's and partnerships, and by ensuring there is increased leadership capacity for school transformation
- Ensure all settings provide integrated support and extended services which benefit children and young people with additional needs
- Ensure all schools achieve healthy schools status, provide increased sporting and cultural activities and deliver the requirements for healthy eating, fitness, and physical and emotional health.

BSF provides good opportunity for learning environments to complement transformation in pedagogy. We want to make it easier for schools to support individuals and families with better personalisation, partnerships and multi agency support. We aim to extend the traditional school day to maximise time and space for learning via technology and extended activities. We intend ICT facilities to truly personalise the learning experience for all young people and facilitate 'anywhere anytime' learning, assist in keeping parents and carers regularly informed of progress and engaging them further in their children's learning.

Next Steps

We are committed to engaging the community in debate and consultation about how to 'make learning better'. We want to share our vision and aims and we want to hear the views of children and young people, professionals and the communities they serve. We are committed to using these understandings to developing our BSF plans.

The text above is taken from Kingston's Readiness to Deliver BSF paper. The full text is available at

[http://moderngov.kingston.gov.uk/Published/C00000134/M00005661/AI00013650/B11ABSF1091105KingstonRtDComplete.pdf#search="BSF"](http://moderngov.kingston.gov.uk/Published/C00000134/M00005661/AI00013650/B11ABSF1091105KingstonRtDComplete.pdf#search=)

Governor's views are welcomed. A short consultation exercise will be carried out at the next Partnership Meeting on 17 May. Attached is an information leaflet, 'Transforming Kingston Schools' and a consultation response sheet, 'What makes a great school? 5 Big Ideas for Education in Kingston'.

Responses from individual Governing Bodies are welcomed.

For further information on the above, please contact: Tina Herring, Service Director for Learning and School Effectiveness on 020 8547 5288, or email: tina.herring@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

8. SCHOOL MEALS AND SCHOOL KITCHEN/DINING FACILITIES

Provision of School Meals

Introduction

A national performance indicator (NI 52) was introduced in 2008/9 to assess healthy eating among children and young people by measuring school lunch take up.

Data for this indicator is calculated from an annual survey of local authorities carried out by the School Food Trust, the first survey of which was carried out in May 2009 for the period 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009.

The School meal uptake reported for primary schools in Kingston was 18.8%, which is the lowest in London and the sixth lowest in the UK. The average in the UK is 39.3%.

Data was also requested on secondary schools but only one secondary school provided information. Uptake here is 24.4% but it is not a good indicator of performance as it only includes one school. The average in the UK was 35.1%.

The next School meals survey for 2009/10 will be due in May 2010 and we will be contacting all schools not in the central contract for data on school meal uptake. All schools are requested to provide data so that we can provide accurate information on uptake in the Borough. Governors may wish to ask what the actual level of school meal take-up is in their school and, where necessary, to consider what can be done to improve this.

Grant Update re School Meals

In order, to support increasing school lunch take-up a number of grants have been introduced and these are:

- School Lunch Grant
- School Kitchens Grant
- Kitchen / Dining Room Grant

School Lunch Grant

National funds for the School Lunch Grant have already been allocated for the period 2008/9 and £217,249 is available for Kingston schools for 2009/10. This will be allocated in January 2010; the amount allocated to schools will be based on school rolls according to the January 2009 school census data. Further funding will also be available for 2010/11.

The School Lunch Grant can be used for any of the direct costs of a school lunch. This could include not only ingredients but also the increased costs of additional hours to prepare fresh food, increased rates of pay for employees with higher skills levels or for small pieces of extra equipment needed to provide a hot meal.

School Kitchens Grant

In 2008, Kingston secured £752,000 grant funding to build new school kitchens that can act as hub kitchens providing hot meals to other schools. The grant can only be used for 'new' kitchens and not upgrades of existing facilities, and therefore is targeted at those primary schools without a kitchen. The Local Authority is required to match fund the grant and has allocated the contribution in the approved capital programme. The grant has to be used over 2009/10 and 2010-2011. Schools were consulted in January 2009 and June 2009 regarding this proposed funding. To date works are progressing at Castle Hill Primary and Coombe Hill Junior Schools to create new kitchens. A number of other schools have expressed an interest in hosting a kitchen and these requests are being considered taking into account the building programme necessary to provide additional primary school places.

Kitchen/Dining room Grant

This funding is to be specifically used for improved uptake of school lunches by achieving one or more of the following goals:

- Improving the quality of food
- Increasing the seating capacity of dining areas
- Improving the dining environment
- Decreasing queuing time

Kingston has secured a grant of £486,346 which required 50% match funding. Schools have already submitted bids and these have been prioritised against criteria to ensure that projects to be funded should have the greatest impact on school lunch take up. The Local Authority has however been unable to identify the 50% match funding necessary and schools whose bids were considered high priority will now be contacted to determine if they are able to provide match funding to take up some of the grant. In the event that some schools are unable to do so, the grant will be allocated against the prioritised list of initial bids to those schools who can provide match funding.

School Meals contract

School meals for primary schools in Kingston are either managed directly by the school (either through external contractors or in – house provision) or through a central contract operated by Cygnet Catering and managed by the Authority.

There are 26 schools serviced from the central contract with Cygnet catering. 13 schools have no kitchen facilities (using hot plates and delivery boxes), 7 have minor portable regeneration facilities (called Cygnet Simplicity) and 2 are within the main hub kitchen (St Andrews and St Marks and Maple Infants) .A further 4 primary schools receive packed lunches through the same contract for free school meals provision. Cygnet also provides hot meals for two special schools in the Borough, Dysart and St Phillips.

The current contract with Cygnet Catering is due to end in 2011 and already work has started in procuring the new contract. Recently a School Meals Working Group was established which includes representatives from schools, parents, voluntary groups and Council Officers. The first meeting of this Group was on the 12th January 2010. A report on the first meeting will be circulated at a later date to all primary schools and further consultation is planned with schools regarding options for the future contract.

As part of our partnership working with Cygnet Catering a school meals consultation event was held on the 21 October 2009 to examine ways to encourage increased school meal uptake. Feedback from the event was incorporated into School Meals Action Plan which is being developed in conjunction with Cygnet. A number of initiatives have been identified to increase school meal uptake and these will be piloted in a number of schools, and where effective these will be offered to other schools.

For further information on the above please contact: Tim Woodhead, Contracts Manager Learning & Children's Services on 0208 547 5308 or email: Timothy.Woodhead@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

9. GOVERNOR UPDATES

Consultations

The following consultations are currently taking place. Governing Bodies wishing to respond are advised to note the relevant closing date for responses.

Consultation on handling complaints

This consultation seeks views on draft regulations underpinned by legislation set out in sections 206-224 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 (The Act). The Act extends the remit of the Local Government Ombudsman to enable investigation of complaints from parents and young people in relation to individual school matters. **The closing date for responses is 5 February 2010.**

[Consultation on Regulations and Guidance on School Governing Bodies' Power to Refer Pupils to Off-site Provision to Receive Education or Training to Improve their Behaviour](#)

Section 154 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 gives school governing bodies the power to require a pupil to attend premises outside the school for the purpose of improving behaviour. It also gives the Secretary of State powers to make regulations to impose restrictions in relation to governing bodies' exercise of this power. This is a consultation on these regulations and on the accompanying guidance.

The closing date for responses is Thursday 4 March 2010.

[Statutory guidance for local authorities and schools on Information Passports, Personal Learning Plans and the Core Entitlement for all pupils in Pupil Referral Units and other Alternative Provision](#)

The White Paper, Back on Track, announced plans to introduce information passports, personalised learning plans and a core entitlement for all pupils in alternative provision. The core entitlement includes the curriculum, the number of hours provision pupils should have per week and the maximum waiting times for placement in alternative

provision and for the engagement of support services. The statutory guidance, for consultation, sets out the Government's expectations in these key areas.

The closing date for responses is Thursday 4 March 2010.

Recording and Reporting Incidents of Bullying Between Pupils, and Incidents of Abuse against School Staff

The purpose of this consultation document is to gather the views of a wide range of stakeholders who work with local authorities, school staff and children and young people on bullying and staff grievance issues, on the scope of these new duties, and how best to support schools in implementing them. We want to ensure that the new duties meet our central policy objective, which is to keep school staff and pupils safe from bullying and harassment, while at the same time keeping any additional bureaucratic burdens on schools to a minimum.

This policy highlighted in the document only applies to England. The policy highlighted in the document is devolved, in differing settlements, to the administrations in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. It is the benefit of devolution that the Devolved Administrations can tailor their policies and thus deliver public services to meet the specific needs of their countries.

Government and the Devolved Administrations will continue to work closely together to build a more prosperous, stronger, fairer UK, whilst recognising their particular and varying responsibilities. **The closing date for responses is Thursday 4 March 2010.**

Consultation on the introduction of the pupil and parent guarantees

The pupil and parent guarantees (PPG) bring together in one place an account of the key components of a good education. The focus throughout is on the entitlements and the responsibilities of pupils and parents. The guarantees will help to ensure that parents and pupils know what they can expect from schools. The guarantees also spell out what schools can expect from parents and pupils in terms of their responsibilities to support schools. This consultation sets out the full text of the pupil and parent guarantees and seeks views on whether the requirements for pupils, parents, schools and LAs are clear and understandable, whether all the 'musts' and 'shoulds' detailed in the guarantees are correct and whether the responsibilities and entitlements for schools, pupils and parents are correctly balanced. **The closing date for responses is 5 April 2010.**

Further details on all consultations can be found at

<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations>

For further information on any of the above items, please contact:

Hatija Bhatia, Principal Admissions & Governance Officer on 0208 547 5284, or email: hatija.bhatia@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

10. SPECIAL SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

The Southwest London School Effectiveness Partnership (SWLSEP) is a cooperative and collaborative partnership between the London Boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Sutton and Wandsworth in association with the Southwark Diocesan Board. This partnership allows individual Southwest London authorities to build their capacity for school improvement, through co-operation and joint project work.

The Governor Support teams within SWLSEP have organized a conference for Special School Governors on **25 March 2010 from 4 pm to 7 pm** at Linden Lodge School, 61 Princes Way, Wimbledon Park SW19 6JB.

The conference theme is:

- Planning, monitoring and evaluating performance in light of the new Ofsted Framework
- Measuring attainment in the context of Special schools
- What community cohesion means for Special schools

The speakers are:

- Andy Beckett, Senior Regional Adviser, SEN/LDD (Cross-Phase), National Strategies.
- Adam Newman Turner, Principal Associate, The Institute of Community Cohesion (iCoCo)

We hope colleagues from the Special Schools will attend this event which promises to be an interesting conference and offers the opportunity to network with colleagues from other Special Schools within SWLSEP. Places are being offered on the basis of 3 per Special School within SWLSEP.

For the booking application form, please visit

http://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/downloads/file49/application_form

or telephone 020 8871 8743. The course code is GT61.

For further information on the above, please contact:

Hatija Bhatia, Principal Admissions & Governance Officer on 0208 547 5284, or

email: hatija.bhatia@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

11. GOVERNOR TRAINING FOR THE SPRING AND SUMMER TERMS 2010

Please find listed below the Governor training courses that are available during the Spring and Summer terms 2010. Please reserve your place by speaking to your CPD coordinator and/or Headteacher depending on what the arrangements are for booking courses at your school.

All governor-training courses can be viewed on KIMS at the following link:

[http://www.rbksch.org/KIMS/\(S\(jkvx1m45xs5xjwvk5kgfvmid\)\)/kHome.aspx](http://www.rbksch.org/KIMS/(S(jkvx1m45xs5xjwvk5kgfvmid))/kHome.aspx)

click View Courses, click Governor Training and Development. The venue for all training is the King Charles Centre, 19.00pm – 21.00pm unless otherwise stated.

Leading in Partnership

Dates 03 February 2010 09:00 - 16:00, King Charles Centre

Course code G09/016

Governors to bring their school's SDP, SEF, Prospectus and a recent report written by the headteacher for the Governing Body

Safer Recruitment for Governors

Dates 06 February 2010 09:30 - 17:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/007B

[This is the link to access the Safer Recruitment on-line training at Children's Workforce Development Council \(CWDC\):](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/safeguarding/safer-recruitment/e-learning)
<http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/safeguarding/safer-recruitment/e-learning> **click on the e-learning portal link, which can be found under the heading Register/Login**

Premises Management

Dates 10 February 2010 19.00 – 20.00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/026

The Funding Formula and Setting the School Budget - Governors

Dates 23 February 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/017

New Ofsted Inspection Framework

Dates 25 February 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/006B

Governors to bring their schools' SEF; either the old or new version

Inclusion: Pupils at Greater Risk of Underachievement

Dates 09 March 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/018

Governing Body Self Review

Dates 24 March 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/019

Healthy Schools - Governor Training

Dates 25 March 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/020

How Governors Can Make Every Child Matter

Dates 28 April 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/021

Governors to bring their school's SEF & SDP

Governors Perspective on Managing Grievance, Discipline and Capability Issues

Dates 05 May 2010 19.00 – 21.00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/008B

Training for School Governors, Information Sharing and Integrated Working (CAF1)

Dates 06 May 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/022

Effective Governing Bodies

Dates 11 May 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre
Course code G09/023

Governors to bring an agenda, set of minutes & Headteacher's report from a recent full governing body meeting to work on in the session (no confidential items)

Governors Partnership Meeting

Dates 17 May 2010

Additional information **Please note that it is not necessary to book places at this meeting**

Course code G09/001C

Vetting and Barring for Governors

Dates 19 May 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre

Course code G09/002B

From Good to Outstanding

Dates 20 May 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre

Course code G09/024

Governors to bring latest Inspection Report, SEF and SDP

Governors' Perspective on Performance Management for Headteachers

Dates 26 May 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre

Course code G09/003B

Monitoring the School's Budget

Dates 09 June 2010 19:00 - 21:00, King Charles Centre

Course code G09/025

Induction Training - The New Governor (Modules 1, 2 and 3)

Dates 12 June 2010 9.30 - 16.00, King Charles Centre

Course code G09/011B

Governors to bring their school's SDP & Prospectus and Activity Sheet IA*

Succession Planning

Dates 09 July 2010 9.00 - 16.00, King Charles Centre

Course information will be on KIMS when finalised

Induction Training - The New Governor (Modules 1, 2 and 3)

Dates 10 July 2010 9.30 - 16.00, King Charles Centre

Course code G09/011C

Governors to bring their school's SDP & Prospectus and Activity Sheet IA*

- SEF – School Evaluation Plan
- SDP – School Development Plan (sometimes known as the School Improvement Plan)
- *Activity Sheet 1A – the activity sheet will be forwarded to Governors nearer the time

For further information on the above please contact: Hatija Bhatia, Principal Admissions & Governance Officer on 0208 547 5284, or email:

hatija.bhatia@rbk.kingston.gov.uk