

Summary Process and Timetable for Public Consultations

Tower Hamlets has a great tradition of excellent education; we value the important role that schools have in increasing the life chances of our children. However the borough is now in a position where there is the need for longer term planning to maintain the success and future sustainability of its schools.

The impact of falling rolls in certain areas of the borough, reductions in education funding and schools in financial deficit, present a number of challenges. It has therefore been necessary to consider making changes that will ensure we have the right provision in the right place at the right time going forward. Provision that can be well resourced is of high quality and will enable schools to continue to thrive and offer the opportunities that children deserve.

The outcome from the review of school places has presented several ways forward for local primary schools, some of which require public consultation on a number of school organisation changes. These changes include proposals for:

- school amalgamations;
- reduction in the planned admission number (PAN) of schools; and
- two or more schools moving to a hard federation, under the governance of a single governing body.

The Local Authority will undertake the consultations in line with current council policy, and the statutory guidance pertaining to school organisation and school admissions.

In early December, there will be a public seminar on 'Future Ambitions for Schools and Shaping High Quality Education in Your Local Area'. This will give parents, governors, education communities, and other interested parties, an opportunity to discuss and contribute to the LA's proposals for school organisation changes going forward.

1. Proposed School Amalgamations

Redlands and Smithy Schools

- Informal public consultation on the amalgamation of Redlands and Smithy primary schools has already taken place.
- LA to carry out a full statutory public consultation should the proposal proceed to the issuing of a Statutory Notice.
- **Method of consultation:** Schools' website, LA website, local press, parents council, Admissions Forum, Heads' bulletin, THEP, school governors, diocesan boards, neighbouring LAs, DfE, any other interested parties and statutory consultees
- **Timescale:** 1st November 2019 to 6th January 2020. Responses will be coordinated for report with recommendations to cabinet in February 2020

St Anne's and Guardian Angels Schools

- LA is awaiting instruction from Westminster RC Diocese over proposal for amalgamation and reduction of 20 places across both schools.

Christchurch and St Matthias Schools

- LA is awaiting instruction from London Diocesan Board for Schools over proposal for amalgamation and reduction of 1FE across both schools.

2. Proposal for Reductions in Planned Admission Numbers (PANs)

The LA will consult on the reductions to the PANs for the following schools, phased from Reception to year 6 over future years:

- Canon Barnett reduction from 45 to 30 places
 - Cayley reduction from 90 to 60 to places
 - Malmesbury reduction from 90 to 60 places
 - Olga reduction from 90 to 60 places
 - Bangabandhu reduction from 60 to 30 places
- LA to carry out a full statutory public consultation should the Mayor in cabinet agree to recommendations.
 - **Method of formal consultation:** Schools' website, LA website, local press, parents council, Admissions Forum, Heads' bulletin, THEP, school governors, diocesan boards, neighbouring LAs, DfE, any other interested parties and statutory consultees
 - **Timescale:** 1st November 2019 to 6th January 2020. Responses will be coordinated for report with recommendations to Mayor in cabinet in February 2020.

3. Proposal for Hard Federation

Hague and Stewart Headlam Schools

- Informal consultation on the hard federation of Hague and Stewart Headlam (with the reduction of 1 FE at Stewart Headlam) primary schools has already taken place.

Method of formal consultation: Schools' website, LA website, local press, parents council, Admissions Forum, Heads' bulletin, THEP, school governors, diocesan boards, neighbouring LAs, DfE, any other interested parties and statutory consultees

Timescale: 1st November 2019 to 6th January 2020. Responses will be coordinated for report with recommendations to the Mayor in cabinet in February 2020

4. Plans for the Expansion of Existing Schools

The LA does have plans to expand existing schools in areas of projected pupil growth (i.e. Poplar and Isle of Dogs) as follows:

- Mayflower from 1.5Fe to 2FE
- St Saviours CE from 1FE to 2FE

The LA will consult on these planned expansions when the capital investment and delivery timescales have been finalised.