

School Improvement update

**Director's meeting with Primary
headteachers – 24 April 2014**

School improvement update

1. Vision and aims?
2. OfSTED inspections
3. Other performance issues
4. System issues
5. Staffing issues
6. School Standards Partnership Board
7. School Improvement strategy
8. BPSI school and governance reviews

Vision and aims?

Draft

- ‘We want Barnet to be one of the **best areas** in the country for **high quality education** delivered and led by autonomous schools working together for the common good.’
- ‘We **aim** to be, and remain, in the **top 10 per cent** of local authority areas in England on **all** the key performance measures and to move into the **top 5%** in relation to the percentage of pupils in **good or outstanding schools** by 2018’.

OfSTED inspections - 1

Good and outstanding Primary schools

	Overall	New framework	Difference
	%	%	% points
Barnet	92	71	-21
London	84	69	-15
England	80	65	-15

OfSTED inspections - 2

Good and outstanding Primary schools in Barnet

	Overall	New framework
% points above England	12	6
% points above London	8	2

OfSTED inspections - 3

Good and outstanding Primary schools in Barnet

	Overall	New framework
England Rank	14 th	53 rd
London Rank	8 th	19 th

Other performance issues (Primary)

Pretty good, except:

- RWM – 30th in England
- Writing progress – 65th in England, 28th/33 in London
- FSM gap – 48th in England, 23rd in London
- Attendance – 50 schools below national average, 19 over 1% below, 10 below 1.5% (the bottom 10% for England)
- 1 Primary 'inadequate', 6 Require Improvement, 12 on LA list of Schools Causing Concern (14% of Primaries)

System issues

- The vast majority of **school improvement resources and expertise** now controlled and managed by schools
- Increased **autonomy** and wide **range** of providers and **governance models**
- 16 out of 22 secondary schools are Academies + 2 secondary Free Schools
- 6 Primary Academies, 3 Primary Free Schools, 2 more in 2014, new primary provision in existing Secondary Academies by 2016 (15% of Primaries)
- Interest in other primaries

System issues - 2

- LA small residual team of **Learning Network Inspectors**, who, with limited capacity, are trying:
 - to maintain **links** with all schools
 - while providing more intensive support to the significant number of **schools causing concern**
- National trend towards **new delivery models** for education services and an increasing emphasis on:
 - developing the **system leadership** role of schools, in particular headteachers of good and outstanding schools.
 - **school-to-school support.**

Staffing issues

- **Capacity** - limited capacity of the LNI team to ensure the LA:
 - ‘**knows**’, and maintains links with, all Barnet schools
 - ensures appropriate **support and intervention for schools causing concern** and other schools that are at risk of falling below ‘good’.
- **Leadership** - absence of a post dedicated to leading and co-ordinating work on school improvement
- **School performance data** function absorbed into Children’s Service data team in 2013
- **Proposal** to establish and recruit to:
 - Head of School Improvement
 - School Performance Data Manager

School Standards Partnership Board - remit

- To keep under review those aspects of the **Barnet Education Strategy** that relate to:
 - school **standards** and pupil **attainment, progress and attendance**
 - **narrowing gaps** between disadvantaged pupils and their peers and
 - the LA's **monitoring, challenge and support** of maintained schools
 - other relevant **statutory functions**.
- To review **performance data** across all Barnet schools for all stages and to consider areas where **joint and targeted work** is needed to secure improvements
- To identify and overcome any **systemic barriers** to continuous improvement and consider ways to extend **school to school support**
- To oversee development of an **Annual Report to parents**; to consider ways to **promote a positive image** of Barnet schools as high-performing and highly-aspirational schools that provide excellent standards of education for all pupils.

School Standards Partnership Board - membership

- Director of Children's Service (Chair), LBB (Kate Kennally)
- Lead Commissioner, Schools Skill and Learning, LBB (Val White)
- Education and Skills Director, LBB (Ian Harrison)
- Chair and one other from the Primary Headteacher Forum (Tim Bowden, Gina Newman)
- Chair of the Secondary Headteacher Forum (Martin Lavelle)
- Headteacher of Teaching School (Teresa Tunnadine, The Compton)
- Headteacher of a Special School/PRU (Lynda Walker, Oak Lodge)

School Improvement strategy

- To be reviewed **this term** - **SSPB** to develop thinking
- To include a **mapping** out of the **range of local resource** available – teaching schools, NLEs, LLEs, BPSI, school improvement clusters etc.
- To develop a school improvement strategy that:
 - sets out proposed arrangements for **monitoring, support and challenge**, including the approach to schools causing concern
 - engages **system leaders**, (such as National and Local Leaders of Education, Teaching Schools, etc.) to support and challenge those in need and actively promote **sector led improvement**.
 - involves **full consultation** with schools and agreement on the **priorities** for school improvement.

BPSI school and governance reviews

- Challenge of the **OfSTED** framework
- External reviews led by an **OFSTED** Inspector.
- Part of the **monitoring and challenge** offer from BPSI.
- Valuable in refining and supporting **self-evaluation**
- Good preparation for an OFSTED Inspection - a **sample** experience
- Opportunity to discuss with review team their **expectations** of an Ofsted inspection, and **possible findings** of the review, outside the confines of an official Ofsted inspection and provides the school with a '**snap shot**' of its performance **using Ofsted inspection processes and criteria.**

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