



**Executive  
10<sup>th</sup> April 2006**

**Report from the Director of  
Director of Children and Families**

For Action

Wards Affected:  
ALL

**Extended Services Strategy (2006/8)**

Forward Plan Ref: C&F 05/06-028

**1.0 Summary**

- 1.1 The Extended Services Strategy has been produced in response to the Department for Education and Skills' expectation that all children should be able to access a core offer of extended services through schools by 2010.
- 1.2 The strategy aims to build upon the strong tradition of partnership working in Brent through proposing the model 'Neighbourhood Learning Communities'. This model promotes clusters of schools working together, with a range of other statutory, community and voluntary groups, to offer extended services and activities in their neighbourhood. The strategy has been developed following the piloting of three 'Neighbourhood Learning Communities', which began in September 2005.
- 1.3 The strategy sets out the vision, national and local policy context, current position and targets, breakdown of the core offer, proposals for aligning Neighbourhood Learning Communities with the Primary Care Trust localities, funding and resources available and monitoring and evaluating arrangements.
- 1.4 The strategy has also aimed to reflect the work currently being carried out by the Overview Committee Task Group, 'Community Access to Schools', for example, re-aligning the pilot clusters, identifying funding, encouraging the role of co-ordinators, partnership groups and monitoring arrangements, and increasing consultation.

1.5 The Extended Services Strategy has been made available for public and partner consultation since 7<sup>th</sup> February with the formal consultation period ending on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2006. The Strategy is to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006.

## **2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 Members are asked to approve the Extended Services Strategy and endorse the Neighbourhood Learning Community cluster arrangements and funding allocations.

## **3.0 Detail**

3.1 In May 2005 the Department for Education and Skills published their Extended Schools Prospectus: 'Extended schools: Access to opportunities and services for all', which proposes that by 2010 all mainstream and special schools will provide access to a 'core offer' of extended services:

- high quality 'wraparound' childcare provided on the school site or through other local providers;
- a menu of activities to be on offer such as homework clubs and study support, sport, music, dance and drama, arts and crafts, clubs, visits to museums, volunteering, and enterprise activities;
- parenting support including information sessions for parents;
- swift referral to a wide range of specialist support services such as speech therapy, child and adolescent mental health services, family support services, intensive behaviour support, and (for young people) sexual health services;
- community access to ICT, sports/arts facilities, including adult learning.

There is not a requirement for schools to deliver all these services themselves, nor do they need to deliver from school sites, instead that all children and parents have access to a minimum of services and activities and that schools are able to ensure this access for their children and parents.

3.2 The aim of the Extended Services Strategy is to improve outcomes and widen opportunities for children and young people by providing appropriate services and activities through Neighbourhood Learning Communities.

Therefore our strategic objectives are to:

- improve attainment and well-being in schools and communities;
- encourage greater parental involvement in supporting children's learning;
- contribute to the regeneration of communities by providing more accessible services including lifelong learning opportunities, health services and childcare;
- enhance and support community cohesion;
- protect and support vulnerable groups through local multi-agency provision, in particular Black African and Black African Caribbean groups, looked after children and children with special needs and disabilities.

Through:

- ensuring the 'core offer' is available and is accessible through mainstream and special schools in each Neighbourhood Learning Community;

- promoting participation of children, young people and the local community in extended services and activities;
- increasing engagement of children, young people and the local community in shaping the extended services and activities;
- developing partnership working between schools and a range of public, private and community partners.

3.3 The Strategy recognises that many schools in Brent already offer a range of extended activities, particularly in study support, sport and childcare. Some schools offer family and adult learning programmes through Brent Adult and Community Education Services. Other schools are supported through Children's Fund and On-Track to provide targeted activities. A number of schools offer an extensive range of services and activities and have successfully accessed funding streams to support the development of their provision. Queens Park Community School is our designated full-service extended school receiving funding through the Behaviour Improvement Programme. The Education Action Zone schools are receiving Big Lottery funding and Mitchell Brook Primary has received support from Neighbourhood Renewal funding.

3.4 In order to support all schools in contributing to a locality-based menu of activities and services, the strategy promotes the development of five Neighbourhood Learning Communities. This model promotes clusters of schools working together with a range of statutory, voluntary and community providers. This approach supports:

- the core offer being spread over a number of schools and community venues in each cluster;
- schools offering activities and services that best reflect their capacity, strengths and enthusiasms;
- more effective use of resources;
- community provision rather than only school-based;
- neighbourhood-based multi-agency working;

3.5 The Strategy is proposing that the five Neighbourhood Learning Communities are aligned with the five Primary Care Trust (PCT) localities, which are also aligned with ward boundaries. This will support stronger links with a wide range of PCT practitioners, enable more efficient and effective use of mapping of services and facilities, and will provide closer links with other locality and ward-based initiatives

<b>Area 1</b> <b>Wards: Queensbury, Fryent, Barnhill , Kenton</b>	<b>Area 2</b> <b>Wards: Welsh Harp, Dollis Hill, Dudden Hill, Willesden Green</b>	<b>Area 3</b> <b>Wards: Kilburn, Queen's Park, Brondesbury Park, Mapesbury</b>
Chalkhill Primary	Avigdor Hirsch Torah Temimah	Anson Primary
Claremont High	Braintcroft Primary	Carlton Centre Nursery
Fryent Primary	Convent of Jesus and Mary RC Infant	Carlton Vale Infants
Grove Park	Donnington Primary	Christchurch Primary
Hay Lane	Gladstone Park Primary	College Green Nursery
JFS	John Kelly Boys Technology College	Islamia Primary
Kingsbury Green Primary	John Kelly Girls Technology College	Kensal Rise
Kingsbury High	Northview Primary	Kilburn Park Foundation
Mount Stewart Infants	Our Lady of Grace RC Infant	Manor Day
Mount Stewart Juniors	Our Lady of Grace RC Junior	Malorees Infants
Oliver Goldsmith Primary	St Andrew and St Francis Primary	Malorees Juniors
Roe Green Infants	St Margaret Clitherow RC Primary	Mora Primary
Roe Green Juniors	St Mary Magdelene RC Junior	North West London Jewish Primary
St Gregory's RC High	Woodfield Secondary	Princess Frederica C of E Primary
St Robert Southwell RC Primary	Wykeham Primary	Queens Park Community School
The Michael Sobell Sinai		Salisbury Primary
Uxendon Manor Primary		St Mary RC Primary
		The Avenue
<b>Total: 17 schools</b>	<b>Total: 15 schools</b>	<b>Total: 18 schools</b>

<b>Area 4</b> <b>Wards: Stonebridge, Harlesden, Kensal Rise</b>	<b>Area 5</b> <b>Wards: Alperton, Tokynton, Wembley Central, Sudbury, Preston, Northwick Park,</b>
Brentfield Primary	Alperton Community
Capital City Academy	Barham Primary
Cardinal Hinsley RC High	Byron Court Primary
Convent of Jesus and Mary RC High	Elsley Primary
Curzon Crescent Nursery	Lyon Park Infants
Fawood Children's Centre	Lyon Park Juniors
Furness Primary	Oakington Manor Primary
Harlesden Primary	Park Lane Primary
John Keble C of E Primary	Preston Manor High
Leopold Primary	Preston Park Primary
Mitchell Brook Primary	St Josephs RC Infants
Newfield Primary	St Josephs RC Juniors
Our Lady of Lourdes	Sudbury Primary
St Joseph RC Primary	The Copland Community School and Technology Centre
St Mary C of E Primary	Wembley High Technology College
Stonebridge	Wembley Manor Infants
Vernon House	Wembley Manor Juniors
<b>Total: 17</b>	<b>Total: 17 schools</b>

3.6 In order to encourage this partnership working a team of local authority officers and teachers have been trained by the National Remodelling Team to deliver a programme of multi-agency workshops. The workshops aim to bring together representatives from schools, statutory bodies, and community and voluntary groups. The workshops will provide a forum for representatives to share what they currently contribute to the menu of services and activities within a cluster, to identify issues, and to provide opportunities for collaborative working in order to further contribute to the 'core offer'. The programme is to be offered to all schools and community partners during the Summer and Autumn term 2006.

In addition the Extended Schools Co-ordinator, based in Children and Families department, will support clusters and individual schools. This role will:

- provide advice and support;
- promote collaboration across agencies;
- inform and influence key stakeholders in adopting and implementing the Extended Services Strategy;
- map existing services and activities;
- identify further sources of funding and additional service providers;
- disseminate good practice;
- publish guidance material on a range of areas, for example, Health and Safety, Governance, Financial Management and Partnership Working;
- liaise with the National Remodelling Team, ContinYou and the DfES to ensure schools and partners receive up-to-date information on national and local developments.

3.7 The DfES has set targets for the number of schools providing access to the core offer. Calculated according to the number of Brent schools, the targets are:

- **2006 (September) - 12 schools**
- **2008 - 34 primary schools and 8 secondary schools**
- **2010 - all primary and secondary schools**

In addition the Local Area Agreement stretch targets for Brent are:

	<b>Number of Primary Schools providing access to the core offer (includes nursery and special)</b>	<b>Number of Secondary Schools providing access to the core offer (includes special)</b>
<b>2006</b>	15 schools in total	
<b>2007</b>	24	8
<b>2008</b>	34	11
<b>2009</b>	55	16
<b>2010</b>	68	16

#### **4.0 Financial Implications**

4.1 Funding available to support the Extended Services Strategy is within the Standards Fund: Grant 106. The funding is to support the Local Authority's Extended Schools Strategy. The Strategy is proposing:

**Total grant 2006 – 2008: £709,686**

	<b>2006 - 2007</b>	<b>2007 - 2008</b>
Allocated to clusters	£275,000 (£55,000 per cluster)	£285,000 (£57,000 per cluster)
Centrally retained	£79,843	£69,843
<b>Total</b>	<b>£354,843</b>	<b>£354,843</b>

- 4.2 Cluster allocations may be used to deliver direct services in line with the 'core offer', for example breakfast clubs, after-school activities, and parenting support workshops, or to appoint Cluster Co-ordinators in each locality to support schools with consultation, developing partnerships arrangements with other statutory, voluntary and community providers, as well as supporting the management, co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation of extended services and activities. The centrally retained amount will fund the Extended Schools Co-ordinator and the delivery of multi-agency workshops.
- 4.3 By virtue of section 50 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the governing body of a school with a delegated budget may deploy the resources provided through the school's budget share as it thinks fit, subject only to restrictions as may be imposed by the maintaining LEA's scheme for financing schools, and to the overriding requirement that the budget share is spent only "for any purposes of the school". This requirement is generally taken to mean that the budget share must be spent to the educational advantage of the pupils in the school. This requirement therefore precludes the use of funds from the budget share to support non-school activities, even where those take place on school premises and the governors and head have overall responsibility for their management.
- 4.4 Additional funding has been put into the Schools Standards Grant to help schools meet the challenge of providing access to extended services. From 2006 – 07 schools will have the flexibility to spend their School Standards Grant on community facilities to support extended services that are not eligible for funding through their main delegated budget. Additional funding has also been allocated through the Dedicated School Grant to enable schools to develop a more personalised programme of study support. Schools will be able to use this money to develop study support opportunities.
- 4.4 The DfES believe it is likely that charging will be the main source of ongoing funding for many extended services that are delivered using the schools' power to provide community facilities. As this service cannot be subsidised from the delegated budget, income from charging must be sufficient to cover any appropriate apportionment of, for example, staffing and premises costs.
- 4.5 In order to support the Local Area Agreement stretch targets for Extended Services, additional funding of £80,000 has become available to support the mapping of locally available services, strengthen relationships with voluntary and community organisations and deliver multi-agency workshops. The funding will also support a Funding Officer to support schools in accessing

external funding streams to enable a wider range of activities and services to be delivered in and through schools.

- 4.5 In addition to these funds the Council, schools and other agencies are committed to exploring how existing services and other funding streams can be aligned to maximize the benefit to children and families in Brent. As the DfES has only outlined the Standards Fund allocation to 2008, the Strategy will be reviewed during 2007/2008 when the financial position beyond that year will be clearer.

## **5.0 Legal Implications**

- 5.1. The Education Act 2002 gives governing bodies of all maintained schools the enabling power to provide, or enter into contracts to provide, facilities and services that “further any charitable purpose for the benefit of pupils at the school or their families or people who live or work in the locality in which the school is situated.” Charitable purposes are grouped under four broad headings : the relief of financial hardship; the advancement of education; the advancement of religion; and certain other purposes for the benefit of the community. These will cover the vast majority of the services and activities that it is envisaged schools will provide including childcare , adult and family learning, co-located health and social services, and other facilities of benefit to the local community such as credit unions or ICT access.
- 5.2. The Governors of maintained schools, working with officers of the Council , will have key duties in extended schools’ programmes which are likely to include : locating supplementary funding; safeguarding the school’s delegated budget; securing suitable insurance; and, in the case of foundation and voluntary aided schools where the Governing Body is the employer of staff, appointing extra staff.
- 5.3. The Governing Body of the school controls the use of the school premises both during and outside school hours. The exceptions are where a trust deed allows a person other than the governing body to control the use of the premises, or if a transfer of control agreement has been made. If the Governing Body enters into a transfer of control agreement with another body, known as the “controlling body”, then that other body will control the occupation and use of the premises during the times specified in the agreement.
- 5.4 The Governing Body of the school must not provide any service that might interfere with their main duty to educate pupils or their responsibility to promote high standards of educational achievement at the school.
- 5.5 The Education Act 2002 further provides that the Governing Body must consult with the LEA, school staff and parents of registered pupils of the school and other appropriate persons before it provides community facilities.
- 5.6 Schools will need to consider whether offering extended services could result in additional issues relating to personal data and confidentiality.

5.7 Existing contractual obligations may need to be reviewed for existing staff who wish to become involved in extended school programmes. This would be done with the body that employs the member of staff, that is, Brent Council in respect of community schools and the Governing Body in respect of foundation and voluntary aided schools.

## **6.0 Diversity Implications**

6.1 The Extended Services Strategy is reflective of our diverse community and therefore ensures that the strategic objectives encapsulate these diverse needs. The Strategy further seeks to redress issues of equality to ensure that the needs of vulnerable children and young people are equally considered.

6.2 The Strategy supports the Children & Families Department's equalities action plan developed to support the six strategic priorities within the Children & Young People's Plan and considers all six standards of the Equalities Standards for Local Government.

## **7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)**

7.1 No staffing/accommodation implications arise as a result of this Strategy.

## **Background Papers**

- i) Every Child Matters: Change for Children, 2004
- ii) Extended Schools, 2002
- iii) Extended Schools Prospectus: Access to Opportunities and Services for all, 2005
- vii) Ten Year Strategy for Childcare, 2004
- viii) The National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity Services, 2004

## **Contact Officers**

Any person wishing to inspect the above papers should contact Susan Mackenzie, Extended Schools Co-ordinator, Children and Families Department, Chesterfield House, 9 Park Lane, Wembley, Middlesex. HA9 7RW, Telephone 020 8937 3382

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