



CHILDREN & FAMILIES
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11 April 2008

Dear Anthony

**BSF – BRENT'S EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR AN EARLY START FOR
WAVE 7 TO 9**

I am writing further to our letter dated 4th March 2008 expressing an interest in an early start in BSF. Brent Council is excited by the potential for educational improvements offered by BSF and welcomes the opportunity to demonstrate our readiness to engage in the BSF programme at the earliest opportunity.

I enclose a copy of the Council's Readiness to Deliver statement.

Brent is a high performing Borough with a successful culture of working closely with all its stakeholders, including schools with whom it has strong collaborative arrangements. It has excellent working relationships with the private sector, which has led to the delivery of a number of successful joint projects, including PFI funded schemes and also a vibrant and ambitious regeneration strategy. We also have a proven track record of working well with one of our most important stakeholders, our pupils, for example our well established and committed Youth Parliament is already working with us to improve our services. Our students are at the heart of improvements we wish to deliver through BSF. We want to use BSF to engage, excite and raise aspirations within our students and a key focus would be to involve them in all aspects of programme delivery from design aspects, to materials research, to consultation processes.

Our excellent track record for delivery and engagement , together with other strategic investment programmes such as PCP, TCF, Modernisation, Children's Centres and other pathfinder initiatives will enable the BSF programme to deliver educational transformation within the Borough and improved quality of life for all in and around Brent.



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The Council is on the grant floor for Formula Grant distribution from 2008/09 to 2010/11. We also anticipate this is likely to continue beyond this period. It is therefore essential that the financial support to the Council for the BSF programme is in the form of specific grant rather than supported borrowing. If the latter were the case the Council is unlikely to receive any additional resources for the years it was on the grant floor to fund the BSF Programme. We would therefore wish to have an early confirmation that grant would be payable before committing significant resources to the programme.

The attached RtD statement provides limited scope to demonstrate the Council's capacity, willingness and readiness to deliver this ambitious programme. I look forward to the opportunity to further demonstrate the Council's readiness.

Yours sincerely,



John Christie
Director of Children & Families



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