



Haringey Council

The Children and Young People's Service

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 3rd October 2013

**Agenda Item
8**

Report Status

For information/note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report Title: The Closure of The John Loughborough School

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Purpose: To inform Forum members of the closure of The John Loughborough School on 31 August 2013 and the transitional arrangements in place.

Recommendations:

Members are asked to note the closure of The John Loughborough School and progress made in the transitional arrangements.

1. Background.

- 1.1. The Forum received a report on 23 May 2013 on the planned closure of John Loughborough School following sustained but unsuccessful efforts to raise standards in the school. At that time the school's governing body had appealed against the decision to the Schools Adjudicator. The Adjudicator subsequently upheld the Council's decision and The John Loughborough School closed on the 31 August 2013.
- 1.2. The Council set up a project group to oversee the closure of the school and ensure the best outcome for its pupils. The closure went smoothly and this report is a brief summary of the progress made in transitional arrangements at the start of the autumn term.

2. Educational Continuity and Admissions Process.

- 2.1. Initial admissions advice was given to parents shortly after the Council's decision to close the school, but dates for parents to express their school preferences were extended to take account of the Schools Adjudicator's decision. Whilst this did extend the project timescale, all the statutory requirements were completed in sufficient time.
- 2.2. As previously reported Park View have established bulge classes for The JLS's former Year 10 pupils for their crucial Year 11. Planning for the curriculum for the Year 11 bulge classes was initially problematic but following the Adjudicator's decision information became available enabling Park View to prepare for JLS pupils arriving in September.
- 2.3. At the time of writing 42 pupils were accommodated in the bulge classes and initial feedback is very positive.

3. Staff

- 3.1 All staff have been notified of the process to be followed when requesting an employment reference. Requests can be made direct to the Schools HR team who will be able to access the individual's personal file to provide a factual reference to a future employer. This does not prevent individual members of staff giving the details of their previous line manager if they have the contact details.
- 3.2 Redundancy payments will be made at the end of September for all staff.

4. Finance.

4.1. The school's accounts are being finalised and associated costs, including the cost of the bulge classes, are being assessed. A detailed report setting out the financial implications will be made to Forum on 24th October.

5. Recommendation.

Members are asked to note the closure of The John Loughborough School and progress made in the transitional arrangements.