School Noticeboard

Edition 26: Wednesday 28 March 2018
Inside this issue (click on links below):

**From the Director**

**Email to Headteachers earlier this morning**

**Letter from Rob Connolly, Deputy Returning Officer**

**West Midlands Police Crime Prevention Advice for Educational Sites**

**SAFEGUARDING/RESILIENCE**

**Child Sexual Exploitation Resources from Catch22**

**FINANCE**

**2018/19 Section 251 School Budget Notification**

**2017/18 Early Years Single Funding Formula Spring Term and Final Notification**

**Early Years Noticeboard**

**SENAR: Post 16/19 Transition 2018/19**

**The Auditor: Edition 49**

**TRAINING / EVENTS**

**The Leader of the Future: Diversity in Leadership**

**Future Teaching Scholars – aimed at Maths & Physics A Level Students**

**Weinstein…Westminster…The World: Why words matter**

**Services for Education training courses**

**Supporting suddenly bereaved children and young people seminar: Thursday 28 June 2018**
From the Director

Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the end of the term which we will remember for the extended winter weather and some hard work to keep schools open, I want to wish you all a very Happy Easter. Lots of wonderful Easter celebrations being shared on Twitter by schools. We also celebrate Passover this weekend, Chag Sameach!

Many things to share with you:

We say goodbye to Jill Crosbie, our Acting Assistant Director since 2016, with 37 years loyal service to Birmingham as teacher, headteacher, school adviser and head of A2E. One of the feedback forms from the recent HT briefings said “Even better if all the presenters were like Jill Crosbie” and that sums it up nicely. Jill remains effervescent, ever the glass half full and utterly driven by what’s best for Birmingham’s children. Thank you from all of us. We will make sure that the glasses are more than half full in the coming days.

We will share full details of the Assistant Director succession arrangements in the first Noticeboard of summer term. Planning is well advanced.

Angela Brown who joined Clifton as an NQT in 1978 is retiring at Easter. Angela has had many roles since including head of school. Is that a local record to spend 40 years in one school? A certificate of Outstanding Service from BCC is on its way ☺. We wish you all the very best for your retirement.

The Birmingham Children’s Trust is all set to “go live” on 1 April with the key contracts being signed this week by BCC, BCT and DfE. We wish BCT the very best for the future and look forward to working in partnership to keep our children and families safe. Andy Couldrick, CX BCT, attended Secondary Forum last week and, I thought, struck exactly the right tone about how we can improve working together.

In order to prepare for the arrival of BCT, we have made some changes to our safeguarding in education arrangements and how we engage with the new trust. You may be aware that Jon Needham has moved from the role of Safeguarding Advisor for schools. Jon is staying within the Directorate with his new post ensuring that the contract with the Children’s Trust works well. The initial work is focussed on managing complex correspondence that requires a joined up approach between education, social care etc. Jon has been in post since 2015 following the recommendations ‘post Horse’ and has worked tirelessly to support schools in their safeguarding practice. The work that Jon and his team undertake is of paramount importance to keep children safe in education and we have been fortunate to have such dedicated leadership from Jon.

Julia R Davey will be acting as the School Safeguarding Advisor and the team has been enhanced with another two members of staff supporting schools, and three part time staff supporting the work in CASS.

SHMI James McNeillie attended Primary Forum recently where there was some rigorous discussion about the current OfSTED framework and how it might develop from 2019 onwards. Always good to engage like this with James and really good that he is open to such developmental discussions. He was asked about the outcomes of the short inspections and the table below sets out the picture.

- 73% of schools that received a short inspection stayed as good or outstanding
• 15% of schools that received a short inspection were identified as improving
• 10% of schools that received a short inspection were identified as possible concern
• 1% of schools that received a short inspection had an immediate section 5 inspection

It is Autism Awareness Week and lots of events celebrating your work with children, young people and their families to secure inclusion. We’ve been sharing some of the excellent work happening across the city to support children and young people with autism.

We are now well into the purdah period. Rob Connolly, Deputy Returning Officer for Birmingham City Council, has written below explaining why purdah started earlier than in some local authorities. I think that this letter sets out the record well.

Out and about, I visited Princethorpe Infants School (a DRB Academy) last week. Truly the only school which has its name through a stick of rock like its DNA! A real privilege to be guided around the school by its Y2 ambassadors who were model hosts and showed exemplary hospitality. And lots of wonderful learning going on indoors and outdoors (in spite of the chilly weather!).

Congratulations to St Matthew’s C of E Primary School who won the Egmont Reading for Pleasure Award last week. This was in recognition of coherent school-wide initiatives to dedicate time and space to reading for pleasure in every classroom with staff and students.

I will sign off the term at the Titan Partnership Dinner on Thursday evening. Thanks for the invitation and looking forward to meeting lots of colleagues to celebrate achievements and raise money for the benefit of young people.

Have a wonderful holiday. Think of me on the Kop on Wednesday night when LFC host our local “rivals” Man City. We will be in full voice and guarantee a warm welcome for the visitors ☺

YNWA

Colin

@anfieldexile
Email to Headteachers earlier this morning

Earlier this morning we sent an urgent communication to Headteachers regarding a Police matter.

Please ensure you have received and read this email and contact us via education@birmingham.gov.uk if you did not.

Letter from Robert Connolly regarding purdah

Please find attached at the end of this Noticeboard a letter from Robert Connelly, Deputy Returning Officer regarding the pre-election period.

CONTACT: education@birmingham.gov.uk

West Midlands Police Crime Prevention Advice for Educational Sites

Follow this simple checklist when you are open or closed for business to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of crime:

- Be extra vigilant over the holiday period
- Remember to follow your school’s security guidelines
- Keep all keys out of sight
- When you close for any holiday, lock away everything you can
- Leave no unnecessary cash on the premises.
- Close and lock internal and external doors
- Set all security alarms
- Ensure that your CCTV system is fully working
- Check all windows are closed and valuable property is secured from view
- Ensure any school vehicles are securely parked and the keys securely locked away
- Do you need someone to call in and move the post or any deliveries?
- Ensure you leave no rubbish outside your premises that can be used to start fires.
- Remove, or secure, anything from outside that might help a criminal to break in, such as benches, bins, garden tools, ladders.
- Are all your items of IT property marked?
- Do you have an asset list of all your items, including serial numbers?

If you see something suspicious, act upon it, do not ignore it.

In an emergency call 999.
Child Sexual Exploitation Resources from Catch22

Catch22 is a not-for-profit business who have designed and delivered services that build resilience and aspiration in people and communities. Catch22’s vision is a simple one: Everyone needs the same three things to thrive, a good place to live, a purpose and good people around them.

Catch22 have published an A3 infographic about child sexual exploitation that illustrates some of the techniques that the perpetrators of such crimes use.


CONTACT: David Bishop, Head of Service: Alternative Provision, Attendance and Independent Schools
EMAIL: david.bishop@birmingham.gov.uk

2018/19 Section 251 School Budget Notification

Birmingham City Council has updated the individual school Section 251 Budget Statements to include:

• Primary & Secondary School Funding (previously notified 15 February 2017)
• Special School Funding (including academies) (previously notified 15 March 2018)
• Resource Base Funding (including academies) (previously notified 15 March 2018)
• Indicative Early Years Single Funding Formula Funding (including academies)

Schools should ensure that the latest publication, which includes all the funding streams listed above is utilised in setting a budget for 2018/19. Please access the final budget notification from the following link:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20124/working_in_schools/788/budgets_for_schools_in_birmingham/3

All budget queries should be sent by email to: fairfunding@birmingham.gov.uk

2017/18 Early Years Single Funding Formula Spring Term and Final Notification

Notification of the final 2017/18 Early Years Single Funding Formula allocation has now been published on the Birmingham City Council web site and may be accessed via the following link:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/download/1599/early_years_single_funding_formula_actual_allocations_2017_to_2018

All budget queries should be sent by email to: fairfunding@birmingham.gov.uk
Early Years Noticeboard

The latest Early Years Noticeboard is available at https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/downloads/download/1869/school_noticeboard_spring_term_2018_updates.

SENAR: Post 16/19 Transition 2018/19

In line with the process adopted last year SENAR will be sending transitions packs to all Year 11 students as we expect them to remain in Education. These students MUST complete a preference form even if they are remaining in their current provision and submit to SENAR by 3 September 2018.

Any Year 13/14 pupil whose placement is due to end by 31 July 2019 but who needs longer to complete and consolidate their education/training must complete a preference form and submit it to SENAR by 3 September 2018. SENAR will not automatically send packs to these students so it is important that we receive evidence to support the request.

You will find the 2018/19 tools on https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/SENtransferpost16 at the beginning of the summer term 2018. Please print a copy of the booklet and preference form to give to students in preparation for their Annual Review.

All students who are moving/changing provision or leaving education MUST have an Annual Review during the summer term. As part of this process the School Careers Adviser MUST hold a careers advice and guidance interview and issue a Careers Action Plan for all students with an EHCP.

Students/parents MUST complete the Post 16 Preference Form and send to SENAR.

Settings should send the populated EHC template, Careers Action plan, up-to-date school reports, Annual Review Report form and Preference Form to SENAR@birmingham.gov.uk by 3 September 2018.

The Auditor: Edition 49


CONTACT: Karen Smith
EMAIL: karen.p.smith@birmingham.gov.uk

Call for secondary school participants for BBC2 TV series

We make BBC2's hit series Back in Time for Tea, currently on iplayer. We're looking for local participants for our next exciting time travelling adventure: Back in Time for School.
We’ll be filming in the Birmingham area in school holidays this year... as participants experience the school lessons, uniforms, trips and dinners of yesteryear. Our intrepid class will attend school from the 1890s to the 1990s, and undoubtedly learn lots along the way!

If you’re a teacher at any level of the profession, or you have a class of Year 9 and 10 students who would be interested and you would like to find out more about how to apply, please visit walltowall.co.uk and click on Take Part. Additionally we are looking to set up 10 minute presentations in schools to spread the word about our casting, perhaps in an assembly or tagged on to the end of a class – and we would love to come and see you – please call 0117 906 4316 so we can arrange it.

Closing date for applications is 20 April 2018.

Thank you, and good luck!
The Back in Time for School Team.

The Leader of the Future: Diversity in Leadership

Ambition School Leadership is an education charity dedicated to improving the quality of leadership in schools in challenging contexts. Titan Partnership, through an inclusive approach to leadership and teacher development and meaningful engagement with employers, is transforming the life chances of young people across Birmingham. In partnership with Birmingham City Council we are running an event exploring the diverse skills leaders need in order to deal with the current and future challenges in education, as well as exploring the massive benefit of developing a diverse group of leaders at all levels.

You will hear from keynote speakers:

- **Colin Diamond CBE**, Corporate Director Children and Young People at Birmingham City Council
- **Heath Monk**, Executive Director of the Schools of King Edward VI
- **Ava Sturridge-Packer CBE**, Former Executive Head Teacher at St. Mary’s CoE Primary School and Education Consultant

[More information is available in the flyer attached to this Noticeboard](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/leaders-of-the-future-diversity-in-leadership-tickets-43161553368) Places are limited and can be booked using the link below.

**BOOKING LINK:**  
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/leaders-of-the-future-diversity-in-leadership-tickets-43161553368

Future Teaching Scholars – aimed at Maths & Physics A Level Students

Bishop Challoner Teaching School Alliance (BCTSA) are just one of the few venues nationally working with FTS (Future Teaching Scholars) offering current Sixth Formers the chance to be supported through University and into a career teaching Maths or Physics.

Recruitment continues throughout this term for keen Maths and Physics students, with the chance to gain a generous bursary to help students through their degrees - £5,000 per year of a 3 year
Honours degree. Scholars then come together at various points in their degree to gain teaching skills and experience. Once graduated, scholars are supported through a School Direct PGCE place and directly into teaching.

BCTSA has been working with the FTS programme since its inception and believes it is a strong way to encourage and retain Maths and Physics teachers into the future.

See more at www.futureteachingscholars.com.

**Weinstein...Westminster...The World: Why words matter**

Challenging misogyny, breaking gender stereotypes & promoting equality of the sexes with Sarah Hewitt-Clarkson at Anderton Park Primary School.

Wednesday 25th April 2018
9.30am - 12.30pm or 1.30 - 4.30pm
Or
Tuesday 12th June 2018
9.30am - 12.30pm

COST: £50 per person (delicious snacks provided)

To book, contact Jogita Ubhi at j.ubhi@anderton.bham.sch.uk

**Services for Education training courses**

**Mental Health in the Workplace: A free introductory briefing**

Do you feel confident and equipped to talk about mental illness with your staff? Do you want your school to be organisation that understands, manages and promotes mental health as an integral part of working life?

Mental health is a key determinant of the workplace environment as it affects employee retention and team relationships, and every year mental health issues will affect around one in four of us.

- 6 in 10 teachers say their job has impacted on their mental health in the last 12 months
- 1 in 10 teachers say they have been prescribed anti-depressant drugs to cope with the pressure of their job (NASUWT)
- 88% of all staff working in education have suffered from stress (Education Support Partnership)

Compounded by 61% of employers responding reactively rather than proactively to mental ill health.

Services for Education in partnership with Mental Health at Work delivers practical and skills based mental health training. This 90 minute free introduction will present an outline
of the full training, details of whole school follow up sessions and describe a delivery model suitable for MATs, School Consortia, Teaching Alliances as well as individual schools.

DATE: 19 April 2018
TIME: 8am – 9.30am
VENUE: 3 Holt Court, Holt Street, Birmingham B7 4AX
COST: No charge

To book visit
https://servicesforeducation.co.uk/index.php/component/com_advancedopenportal/id,af42c258-b9d9-9f6f-605b-5a9d5ae2a9/view_showevent/

Paediatric First Aid
This two day course delivered by the Red Cross covers the first aid skills for responding to accidents and how to deal with certain medical conditions in children and babies.

Venue: 3 Holt Court, Holt Street, Birmingham B7 4AX
Dates: May 15th & 16th
Times: 9am – 4pm
Charge: £115

Booking link:
https://servicesforeducation.co.uk/index.php/component/com_advancedopenportal/id,f0d70c09-68da-30e5-0c32-5a3239f5af66/view_showevent/

Supporting suddenly bereaved children and young people seminar: Thursday 28 June 2018

Brake are holding a seminar in central Birmingham on Thursday 28 June 2018, which will provide an introduction to how children and young people experience and express grief, and how to support them through bereavement.

Speakers will cover best practice methods in supporting suddenly bereaved children, and will discuss symptoms and emotions commonly experienced after a sudden bereavement. Crucially, the event will also include sign-posting to a range of helpful services, resources and organisations.

Topics covered at the event will include content on cultural and religious issues that school staff may encounter when supporting suddenly bereaved children, an academic insight into how young people experience and process grief and also content on the impact that suicide bereavement can have on children and families. Attendees will also benefit from insights into how children with additional needs can best be supported following a bereavement.

CONTACT: Jack Kushner
EMAIL: jkushner@brake.org.uk
28 March 2018

Dear Head Teacher

I understand that my decision to publish the Notice of Election on 21st March has caused some concern and therefore I thought it helpful if I explained my reasons behind that decision.

Firstly it is a matter for each Returning Officer (rather than the authority itself) to determine when to publish the Notice of Election which then triggers the pre-election period (purdah). As you may be aware the last date that the Notice can be published for the elections in May is 27th March. Birmingham has, historically, always published its Notice before the last day simply because of its size and the logistics involved.

When determining when to publish the Notice of Election I consulted with the political parties represented on the City Council. As I had to confirm by mid-January the provisional timetable with both our printers and Royal Mail for the printing and delivery of our poll cards (some 750,000), it was agreed in December last year that we would bring forward the publication date by nearly a week.

As a matter of interest, just in the West Midlands, Coventry also published their Notice of Election on the 21st; Dudley and Walsall published theirs on the 23rd with Solihull, Sandwell and Wolverhampton publishing their Notices on the 27th.

The other influencing factor for Birmingham publishing its Notice before the last day was due to our particular circumstances and the unique nature of this year’s polls, especially as all Council seats are up for election. Due to legal requirements nominations cannot be submitted until after the Notice of Election has been published. Had I waited until the 27th this would only have allowed us and the political parties 6 working days (due to the Easter holidays) to deliver and process some 700 nomination papers. That would have created a number of significant risks which I was not prepared to take.

Similarly Manchester City Council are having to elect all their Councillors following a boundary re-organisation and they too, for exactly the same reasons as those mentioned above, chose to publish their Notice of Election on the 21st.

The first I knew of the Save our Schools campaign was when it was raised with me on 15th March. I do not know who is coordinating the campaign but I suspect that someone made the assumption that all Returning Officers would be publishing their Notice on the 27th. There is heightened sensitivity around the election in May and care must be taken to avoid potential legal challenges. As you will appreciate the last thing I would want is for the Council and/or any individual school/Head Teacher to become embroiled in any costly and time consuming litigation post-May.

I hope this letter goes to reassure you that there was no ulterior motive in my decision to issue the Notice of Election on the 21st.

Robert Connelly
Deputy Returning Officer
Birmingham City Council
Ambition School Leadership in partnership with Birmingham City Council and the Titan Partnership invite you to

The Leader of the Future: Diversity in Leadership

Thursday 3 May 2018
8:00am to 10:00am

North Birmingham Academy
395 College Road
Birmingham
B44 0HF

We will be gathering local school leaders from across Birmingham to explore the diverse skills leaders need to deal with the current and future challenges in education.
Ambition School Leadership is an education charity dedicated to improving the quality of leadership in schools in challenging contexts.

Titan Partnership, through an inclusive approach to leadership and teacher development and meaningful engagement with employers, is transforming the life chances of young people across Birmingham.

In partnership with Birmingham City Council we are running an event exploring the diverse skills leaders need in order to deal with the current and future challenges in education, as well as exploring the massive benefit of developing a diverse group of leaders at all levels. You will hear from keynote speakers:

- **Colin Diamond CBE**, Corporate Director Children and Young People at Birmingham City Council
- **Heath Monk**, Executive Director of the Schools of King Edward VI
- **Ava Sturridge-Packer CBE**, Former Executive Head Teacher at St. Mary’s CoE Primary School and Education Consultant

Time will be dedicated to Q&A and group discussion.

This event presents an excellent opportunity for local school leaders to network and share their perspectives on the development of diverse skill sets and workforces.

Through diversity at all levels we can improve educational standards and make an area wide impact on pupil achievement.

If you would like to attend this event, please register online.

Places are limited to 50 so please secure your place now.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Kindly supported by: WESLEYAN

we are all about you