

**BRACKNELL FOREST BOROUGH COUNCIL
EDUCATION, CHILDREN'S SERVICES & LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT**

EXTENDED SCHOOLS & CHILDREN'S CENTRES WORKING GROUP

Monday 22 October 2007

(3.00pm – 4.55pm)

Present:	Cllr Alan Ward	Executive Member for Education & Libraries (Chairman)
	Martin Gocke	Assistant Director
	Graham Symonds	Extended Services Coordinator
	Bridget Shepherd	Children's Centres Co-ordinator
	Karen Frost	Early Years and Childcare Manager
	Penny Reuter	Children's Services Manager
	Mary Purnell	Assistant Director, BF Locality Development (PCT)
	Laura Collard	Representative of Voluntary Sector and Children's Fund
	Lesley Doyle	Community Development Officer
	Ed Glasson	Chairman, Federation of Community Groups
	Penny Knight	Area Co-ordinator
	Dawn Day	Area Co-ordinator
	Sheila Ogden	Youth Services Manager
	Helen Tranter	Head of Culture and Visual Environment
	Patsy Woolnough	Advisory Teacher Early Years
	Alison Burnell	Support Officer for Extended Services
Apologies:	Tony Eccleston	Director, Education, Children's Services & Libraries
	Cllr Gareth Barnard	Executive Member for Children's Services
	Allison Fletcher	Assistant Director
	Tina Stevenson	Area Co-ordinator
	Kim Barraclough	Area Co-ordinator
	Sarah Parsons	Children's Services Manager (PCT)
	Mike Purdy	Headteacher Great Hollands Primary
	David Jones	Lifelong Learning Officer
	Kath Nugent	Headteacher The Pines
	Arthur McKee	Chair of the Voluntary Sector Forum

1 Welcome and apologies

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were given.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting (16-07-07)

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4 Newsletter: Issue 4: Annual Report 2006/07

The latest edition of the newsletter had been previously circulated to the group. GS explained that it included the annual report and was a good representation of progress in the last year.

There had been two new parenting initiatives – SHARE and Transition Information Sessions. Area Co-ordinators and other partners had completed the SHARE training and new sessions had started or were about to start. There had been an evaluation of the Transition Information Session pilot and it will roll out to other school next September.

The CAF had been successful in its pilot area (South Bracknell) and was being rolled out to other areas in Bracknell. The Area Co-ordinators had been trained in the process.

The Schools Community Watch had started at Harmans Water Primary School. This was in partnership with the Police. There was a competition to design a logo for the scheme and this will be used when it is rolled out to other schools. There is a new community watch website

where children can send their concerns. They are also hoping to feed the children's views into the neighbourhood forum process.

All the pupils that have taken part in The Youth Spot at The Brakenhale have gained a Youth Achievement Award. Evaluation by the students is very positive and it is hoped that many will attend other youth services and clubs giving the opportunity for further students to participate in this scheme. This service was originally set up following a survey of pupils that attended the library and then a whole school consultation.

Following consultation, a successful health drop has been set up in a toddlers group at St Paul's church. Books and posters have been made available in Urdu to support the significant number of Asian families.

The Nepali women's group has been re-established in Owlsmoor and College Town. They have been asked how partners and organisations can best support them and currently are helping them with basic literacy skills. Good links have been established with the RMA. There is also a Nepali representative on the Area Steering Group.

A successful after school nature club ran at Cranbourne Primary with resources supplied by Reading Museum Service. These are available to other schools.

A science club at Sandy Lane was targeted at year 6 children who had a poor attitude to science. Their end of year SAT results were higher than predicted. The science activities were shared in a network meeting with science subject leaders.

Three schools in Bracknell Forest have been piloting the procedure for obtaining a Quality in Study Support (QISS) kitemark. They are due to go for recognition in January.

Children's Centres have had a two pronged approach to their programme – capital and service.

The capital programme is on schedule with The Rowans opening a couple of weeks ago and The Oaks due to open in January.

There are now three Children Centre Managers in post. They have been consulting with parents and professionals to make sure they meet the needs of the communities in the CC areas. There have been parenting sessions. Some have been taster sessions which have been open to all and others have had a more targeted approach with families being identified by the Family Outreach Workers. There is also a session for young parents with transport provided if necessary.

There are now four Family Outreach Workers in post in partnership with NCH and PACT. They are developing consistent targets.

Links have been made by The Oaks Children Centre Manager and Family Outreach Worker with the Traveller Education Service so that they can work with traveller families in the area. They hope to try a messy play session in the near future.

The CC team are establishing and identifying names for the advisory boards in each area and they have met with health visitors and nurses in the Sandhurst area who are keen to be co-located with CC staff.

The Family Tree will operate on a split site – a modular building at Meadowvale and hopefully services out of Langley Hall. PACT already run services from there.

They need to keep a dialogue open with Health to keep CCs in mind when redeveloping health services from Skimped Hill.

5 Play Strategy

Helen Tranter gave an overview of 'play' in Bracknell Forest and explained that the current Play Strategy is a joint venture between Culture and ECSL. This strategy has been produced through consultation with partners and parents, children and young people.

Gareth Barnard is the Borough's Play Champion and the lead officer is now Karen Frost. They have put in a bid to Big Lottery Fund to promote play in the Borough.

There have been consultations with parents, children and young people on the open spaces in the borough and they have revealed a lot of positive views but also a lot of apprehension about using or allowing their children to use these spaces. The priorities that surfaced included

seating, shelters, education and training. An action plan has been developed and will be regularly updated.

Patsy Woolnough gave a presentation on Jabadao (and papers were distributed) explaining their basic principles on working with children and how the programme could work in Bracknell Forest.

Karen Frost and Helen Tranter submitted a funding approval form (for £15,000 from the extended services budget) to implement this project initially around the Rowans Children's Centre.

The Working Group approved this proposal.

6 Implementation progress – Children's Centres

(a) Highlight report

KF and BS gave a brief report on the progress with Children's Centres over the last two months. (See Progress/Highlight report for more information).

(b) Report from Capital Sub Group 15 October 2007

This was distributed to the group for information.

(c) Open Day at The Rowans for Members and key partners

KF and BS suggested to the group an open day at the Rowans for Members and key partners as the opening had not been well attended. The group agreed this should take place on 29 November 2007 between 1pm and 4pm. BS to send out invites.

7 Implementation progress – Extended Schools

(a) Highlight report

GS and DD gave reports on the work that is progressing across the Borough. (See Progress/Highlight report for more information).

(b) Schools' progress towards meeting 'core offer'

This was distributed to the group for information.

(c) National developments - Guardian Supplement

This was distributed to the group for information.

8 Extended Services Conference

GS informed the group that a local Extended Services conference would be held on Friday 9 November at K2 (Bracknell Family Church). Further details on the contents of the day were shared with the group.

9 Meeting Frequency

The frequency of the working group meetings was discussed to determine if the current bi-monthly arrangement was appropriate.

It was **agreed** that the ESCCWG should meet quarterly.

10 Date of next meeting

Monday 21 January 2008 at 3.00pm at Easthampstead Park (Edinburgh Room)

11 Any other business

There was no other business.