

Minutes: Special Educational Needs Working Party of the Governing Body of Dog Kennel Hill School, held at 62 Oakhurst Grove on Monday 15 June 2009 at 6:30

PRESENT

Peter Bibby (Convenor)

Marion Cranmer  
Gillian Reeve  
Jamie Barton

Eileen Wray  
Linda Ewers

Apologies Karen Jones  
Robyn Harrison

**1. Appointment of minute taker**

The Convenor volunteered to take minutes

**2. Minutes of meeting Monday 23 February 2009**

Noted

**3. Toileting Policy**

We have a child in reception class who is not toilet trained. The special needs nurse is producing a protocol for nappy changing based on Southwark guidelines.

During the discussion it emerged that the nursery suggests to parents that children should not start in the nursery until they are toilet trained, unless the child has special educational needs.

Where parents are entitled to a nursery place, it would be improper to refuse the place on this basis. Additionally, when the basis for funding changes from the number of places to the number of bums on seats, such a policy could reduce funding.

**Resolved: To refer the question of admission of children who are not toilet trained to the Early Years Working Party**

**4. Cost of provision for children with statements**

Eileen circulated a list of the staffing costs for each of our children with statements. The figures range from £16,000 to £21,600. We receive from Southwark £12,417 for a level 4 statement and £14,770 for a level 3 statement.

Peter pointed out that the figures did not include SENCO cost. **Eileen agreed to include these on revised spread sheet such as excel.**

**Note Subsequent: The annual cost of speech and language therapy is given for each child as £207 for 1.5 hours a week. That must be wrong.**

**Eileen, when doing the revised sheet please can you adjust.**

**Also please can you include the number of support hours that we are in fact providing. The figures given don't look right to me. For example**

**LD £17,171 I know has 32.5 hours a week teaching assistant**

**KO £16,796 I know has teaching assistant mornings only**

**Resolved: Peter to take up the issue with Southwark LA (When Eileen has produced revised figures)**

At the last meeting, Eileen circulated a table of in class learning support and other SEN expenditure. (Excluding SENCO). The minutes stated

**The next stage is to separate the in class support into:**

support for children with funded statements

SEN support and

general support

This has not yet been done. Deferred to next meeting.

## **5. SENCO Training**

The meeting noted that Eileen does not attend, and we do not know of, meetings for Southwark SENCOs. Such a meeting would be a place to discuss the funding issue with colleagues.

Robyn will be returning from maternity leave on 6 July and starting as SENCO 2.5 days a week in September. We should be aware of new regulations covering SENCO training.

**Resolved: Linda/Eileen to find out what arrangements exist for collaboration amongst Southwark SENCOs**

## **6. Staffing Speech and Language Therapist**

Lindsay (Wight) will be going on maternity leave in October. We agreed to recruit full time maternity leave cover if possible and to ask Lindsay where we should place advertisement etc.

## **7. Individual children**

We discussed individual children. Gillian had attended annual reviews for two children and Peter for five children. Jamie would be pleased to attend annual reviews where possible.

We have one child who has been having a staged transfer to Highshore Special School. In his case, it was made possible because he is a year 7 child (become 12 between September 2008 and August 2009) and is integrating with the year 7 class that he will be joining full time in September 2009. For the usual primary to secondary change this would not be possible. The phased transfer was valuable both to the child and to DKH, because we have got better knowledge of the expectations of the secondary school.

We should be vigilant to ensure that we encourage the greatest possible level of independence for our children with special educational needs.

## **8. Date of next meeting**

Next meeting will be Monday 12 October 6:30 at 62 Oakhurst Grove.