

Minutes: Special Educational Needs Working Party of the Governing Body of Dog Kennel Hill School, held at 62 Oakhurst Grove on Monday 12 October 2009 at 6:30

PRESENT

Peter Bibby (Convenor)

Marion Cranmer
Gillian Reeve
Robyn Harrison

Eileen Wray
Linda Ewers

Apologies Jamie Barton

Others Karen Jones
 Heather Hewitt

1. Appointment of minute taker

The Convenor volunteered to take minutes

2. Minutes of meeting Monday 15 June 2009

Noted. **Resolved: To remind Early Years Working Party that we referred the question of admission of children who are not toilet trained to them.**

Noted. Publication of minutes on the web site makes them more widely available. Extra care must be taken with respect to accuracy and confidentiality.

3. SENCO Training

Eileen reported that there is no training for SENCO's about their legal responsibilities organised by the Local Authority. Also there are no local meetings for SENCO's to share experience and best practice etc. Robyn Harrison is not required to have the now mandatory training for SENCOs because she was in the job before September, nevertheless it is desirable that appropriate support and training is identified.

Resolved: Peter to write to Yvonne Ely at Southwark

Robyn reported that she has undertaken a two day course for teachers of children with Down's Syndrome and two days for autistic spectrum disorders. Over the coming year she will be doing a course on dyslexia at Lyndhurst School for one day a week. She had attended a one day SENCO training course at the Institute of Education but had not found this of great use.

4. Annual Reviews

Gillian and Peter reported on annual reviews attended since our last meeting. Robyn circulated dates for annual reviews for the next year. Working party members to agree availability.

5. Secondary Transfer

Transfers of children with statements has been supported by Harris Girls', Haberdashers' Aske's and Kingsdale. Transfer to Charter has again proved to be less than satisfactory. Staff from Charter do not attend transition meetings. Arrangements are not made in advance to support the children from day one.

6. Funding for children with statements

The meeting in July looked at preliminary figures for our expenditure on children with special education needs. With reference to children with funded statements, we are spending about £60,000 (40%) more than our income from Southwark. In order that Peter can discuss this with Southwark we need an accurate table of expenditure on each child with the support hours provided and the number of support hours specified on the statement.

Resolved: To ask Robert Ashdown (and/or Finance and Personnel Committee) to produce current accurate income and expenditure table for children with funded statements.

7. Future and Membership

The working party considered whether it performed a valuable function or whether it should be abolished. We agreed to continue with three meetings a year. Linda said that she would not in future be a regular attender as there are three other members of staff in attendance.

8. Date of next meeting

Next meeting will be Monday 1 February 2010 6:30 at 62 Oakhurst Grove.