

Committee:	Harrow Admissions Forum.
Date:	21 October 2009
Subject:	INFORMATION REPORT – HAF Working Party on nursery admissions
Responsible Officer:	Heather Clements, Director of Schools and Children’s Development
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Anjana Patel, Portfolio Holder for Schools and Children’s Development
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix 1 : Survey of Nursery Class Headteachers

Section 1 – Summary

This report updates Members of the Admissions Forum of the work of the Nursery Admissions Working Party.

FOR INFORMATION

Section 2 – Report

At their meeting on 23 February 2009 the Harrow Admission Forum agreed that a Working Group should be retained to consider admission arrangements, including the over-subscription criteria for nursery places.

The Working Group met on 9 July 2009 and the following points were raised:

1. The Group felt that a clearer definition of their terms of reference should be requested from the Admissions Forum and that the Admission Forum decision should be formally minuted.

2. Members of the Group also felt it would be helpful to have more headteachers co-opted onto the Group. The Head of Service for Integrated Early Years and Community Services agreed to raise this with nursery headteachers at their next meeting.
3. Officers were requested to present a report on how nursery arrangements are currently working, based on a survey of nursery headteachers (see Appendix A). A meeting was scheduled for 29 September 2009 but by that date only 12 responses had been received from the 28 forms sent to headteachers. In the circumstances, it was agreed to cancel the scheduled meeting in order to give those schools who had not responded time to do in order that the Working Group could have a full picture of how nursery admissions are working across all schools.

Section 3 – Further Information

A further, more detailed report will be presented to the next meeting of the Admissions Forum.

Section 4 – Financial Implications

There are no financial implications from this report, as this report is for information only.

Name: ...Emma Stabler.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: ... 8.10.09..		

Section 5 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Madeleine Hitchens, Manager, Place Planning & Admissions 020 8424 1398

Background Papers: N/A



Paul Clark
Corporate Director
Children's Services

TO: Headteachers of all Schools with Nursery Schools

Date: 2.9.09

The Harrow Admissions Forum has established a small Working Group to review the oversubscription criteria and other arrangements for admission to nursery classes attached to Harrow Infant/Primary Schools. It would be very much appreciated if you could complete the following questionnaire to provide the Members of the Working Group with information about how you feel nursery admissions are working currently and how they could be improved. Your input is crucial to ensuring the process is responsive to current needs.

QUESTIONNAIRE ABOUT NURSERY ADMISSIONS

Please let us know what is working well in relation to admission to your nursery class?

Please tell us what is not working well in relation to admission to your nursery class?

As far as you are aware what are the areas of nursery admissions that are working well across the authority?

As far as you are aware what are the areas of nursery admissions that are not working well across the authority?

.....continued overleaf

Is your nursery usually oversubscribed?	YES / NO
If yes, please provide the following information:	
Number of applications received	Date of birth of youngest child admitted
2008/9	
2007/8	
2006/7	
Are there issues you would like to raise about full-time / part-time/ am/ pm provisions?	
Do you think the current oversubscription criteria are appropriate?	YES / NO
If no, what changes do you think should be made?	
How are nursery applications administered by the school / across schools?	
ANY OTHER COMMENTS:	

Headteacher's name: _____ School _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Please return by 23 September 2009 to Madeleine Hitchens, Room 243, Civic Centre