

**Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel,
Tuesday, 9th March, 2021, 10.00 am**

Lead Member PDS Report

Culverhay Site

This remains a site with a lot of potential and the cabinet is committed to ensuring that future use accommodates education priorities.

Short Term

The site is already accommodating the LA's Alternative Learning Provision (ALP). ALP is an education provision for children and young people in B&NES who have been excluded from school or are at risk of being excluded from school. This is a long term commitment for the site.

Other options that are currently being explored include:

- Heritage Services for archive and record storage purposes
- Bath College – potential temporary teaching accommodation
- B&NES Music Service – Requirement for immediate accommodation.
- Bath Film Office – three specific dates required for filming two days in February 2021, 2 days in June and two days in July.
- Bath Hindu Temple – Longer temporary requirement to be identified.
- Bath Artists – No expression of interest has been received, but this was identified as a potential temporary end user.

Planning for the future

Following the work carried out by Avison Young, some progress has been made on the site's future use. The work identified through consultation with stakeholders and Members that alternative education provision and vocational education provision were the site's priorities.

To ensure the Alternative Provision has the best provision it can offer and can expand to include a wider age range, we plan to move this provision to the West side of the site to a building previously occupied by Bath University. Before any moves occur, these buildings will be renovated. We will ensure that we make these buildings fit for purpose and as energy-efficient as possible, in line with our carbon neutral priorities. This will also free up the bulk of the site's central buildings to explore additional development opportunities.

Alongside this, we continue to hold discussions with Bath College to explore how post 16 vocational provision can be accommodated on the site. These are on-going and are a cabinet priority.

Numerous future long term opportunities are presented to any additional space free after education priorities have been considered. To manage this, the LA is seeking to put in place dedicated project management support.

Schools Returning

Primary

All primary schools should now be open. In terms of their preparations, they will be running similar routines to what they were doing between Sept-Dec 2020, carrying out a risk assessment and implementing safe environments for the management of CV 19. The only addition to primary schools is staff testing, carried out at home and not on site. Primary children will not be tested for CV 19 at school or at home. They will only be asked to seek a test when symptoms are present.

Secondary schools

All our Secondary Schools will be open. They have the significant challenge of testing all pupils when they return. The DFE has allowed them, therefore, to stagger their starts to do this. Next week's overall picture for secondary schools will be that children will only be attending school for testing and then returning home. Some schools will have all children back in at the end of the week (Hayesfield, St Gregory's, St Marys). Some of the larger schools (Norton Hill, Beechen Cliff) won't have all children back until March 15th. This approach is permissible under the DFE guidance. During the onsite testing in the first week, pupils will be shown how to test themselves; they will then be expected to test themselves at home twice a week. Testing, however, remains voluntary.

Parents

Some comms have already gone out from our teams regarding returning to school and how testing will work. Many families will welcome the return to school, and I expect attendance levels across the area to be as high as usual. All schools will have some parents who have on-going anxieties about returning and CMES/PH's teams will support them where possible. This happened in September, but most families eventually returned children to school as the term moved on.

All our maintained schools are prepared and ready for the return