

Committee:	Date:
Education Board	11 September 2014
Subject: City of London Academies – Autumn 2014 Events	Public
Report of: Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Summary	
<p>The City Academy Hackney’s first cohort achieved GCSE results in excess of the national average during 2014. Moreover the Secretary of State for Education approved in July the formation of a multi academy trust for City of London Academy Southwark and Redriff Primary School. There is therefore an opportunity to mark both developments with events during autumn 2014 for which the endorsement of the Education Board is sought.</p>	
Recommendation(s)	
<p>Members are asked to note the report and endorse the decision to fund both events using Scheme of Delegated Powers to Officers.</p>	

Main Report

Background

1. **City Academy Hackney.** The first cohort of students at City Academy Hackney sat their GCSEs this summer and achieved excellent results. 82% of students received 5+A*-C grades (including Maths and English), 91% achieved 5+ A*-C grades overall, 66% achieved the English Baccalaureate and 30% achieved 5+ A*-A grades. These results can be compared to a national average of 68.8% of GCSE candidates in England achieving 5 A*-C grades.
2. The success of the City Academy Hackney’s first cohort has prompted the academy’s co-sponsor KPMG to suggest that an event to mark their achievements be held in Guildhall on 12 November 2014.
3. **City of London Academy Southwark – Redriff Primary School.** The Department for Education confirmed in July 2014 that Redriff Primary School could join a Multi-Academy Trust with the existing City of London Academy Southwark as of 1 September 2014, thus creating the City of London’s first all-through primary-secondary academy. There is an opportunity to stage an event to mark this ‘first’ in the City’s education offer and welcome Redriff formally to the family of City Schools.

Current Position

4. **City Academy Hackney.** KPMG have indicated that they are prepared to provide up to £5,000 for the event provided it is match-funded by the City of London Corporation in its capacity as fellow academy co-sponsor.

5. Officers have investigated potential costs and have concluded that an event can be held in the Print Room, Guildhall for around 150 persons at £45 per head plus £800 in hire costs, giving a minimum cost of £7,550 (£3,775 per sponsor).
6. City Academy Hackney have agreed to forgo their Annual Dinner 2014 for Governors and Sponsors in the expectation that the savings will help contribute to the proposed event.
7. **City of London Academy Southwark – Redriff Primary School.** The all-through primary-secondary education offer at COLAS will be a City of London first and therefore it is planned that a celebratory event be held during the autumn to formally mark the establishment of the multi academy trust and welcome Redriff into the City Schools family. The event would be smaller in scale than the City Academy Hackney event but the City of London Corporation would, as sole sponsor, bear all of the costs. It is estimated that these will be around £10,000.
8. Funding for both events is available from within existing budgets. Approval to use these funds falls within the remit of the Director of Community and Children’s Services under the Scheme of Delegation to Officers. Nevertheless in the interests of appropriate member oversight, the endorsement of the Education Board would be welcome before officers proceed with organising these two events.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

9. The proposed events are in line with policies outlines in the Corporate Plan and the Education Strategy 2013-15.

Conclusion

10. This report outlines the GCSE success of the first cohort at City Academy Hackney and the establishment of a multi academy trust involving City of London Academy Southwark and Redriff Primary School. It also outlines two events to mark these developments that are scheduled for autumn 2014 and requests the endorsement of the proposed approach by the Education Board.

Appendices

- Appendices - None

Background Papers:

Un-validated Examination Results 2014 – Report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services to the Education Board – 11 September 2014

Alistair MacLellan

Town Clerk’s Department

T: 0207 332 1416

E: alistair.maclellan@cityoflondon.gov.uk