

Committee: Education Board	Date: 15 September 2016
Subject: School Visits Fund Update	Public
Report of: Chair of Learning & Engagement Forum	For Information

Summary

This report provides Members of the Education Board with a summary of progress with the City of London School Visits Fund. The fund was launched in November 2015 and has so far benefitted almost 4,000 pupils from 26 London boroughs, with an average Pupil Premium rate of 49% (national average 26%). Feedback from teachers is extremely positive, with many saying that the visits would not have been possible without the support of the fund.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The following report summarises the activity of the City of London School Visits Fund from its launch on 2 November 2015 to 27 July 2016.

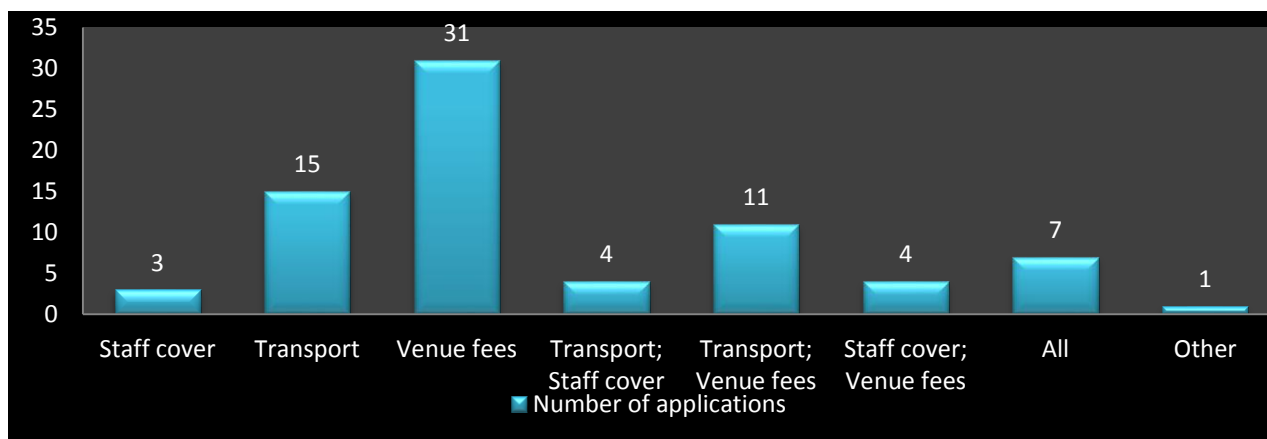
2. **Eligibility criteria**
 - Schools must be within Greater London (within M25)
 - Schools must not have visited their chosen venue in the last three years
 - At least 30% of pupils at the school must be eligible for Pupil Premium (special schools do not need to meet this requirement)

3. **Applications:** 77 successful applications to the fund, benefitting 3,977 pupils
Funds: £40,894 committed. £29,106 remains in the fund until 31 March 2017
Average Pupil Premium rate: 49% (target 30%; national average 26%)

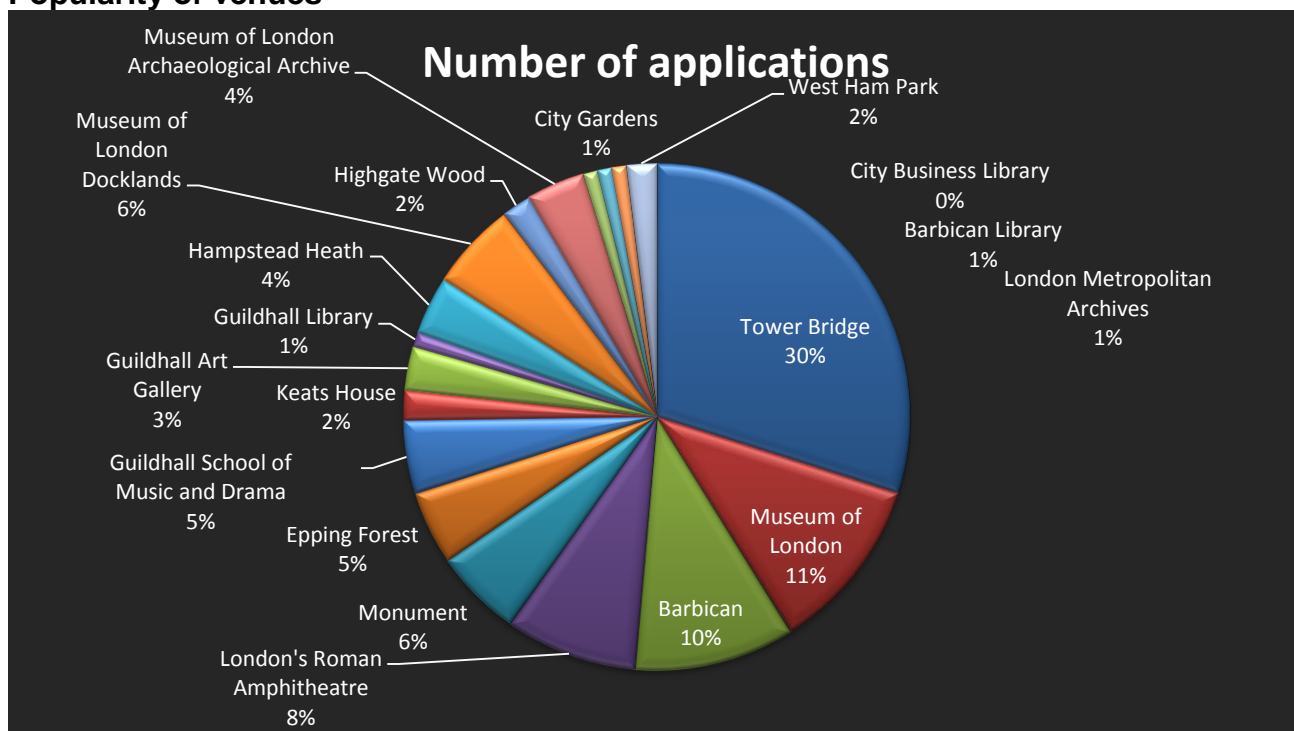
School types:

	Special	Local authority	Academy	Free	Nursery	Primary	Middle	Secondary	Special
Number of applications	7	43	26	1	1	43	1	25	7
% of applications	9.09%	55.84%	33.76%	1.29%	1.29%	55.84%	1.29%	32.46%	9.09%

What the funding is being used for:

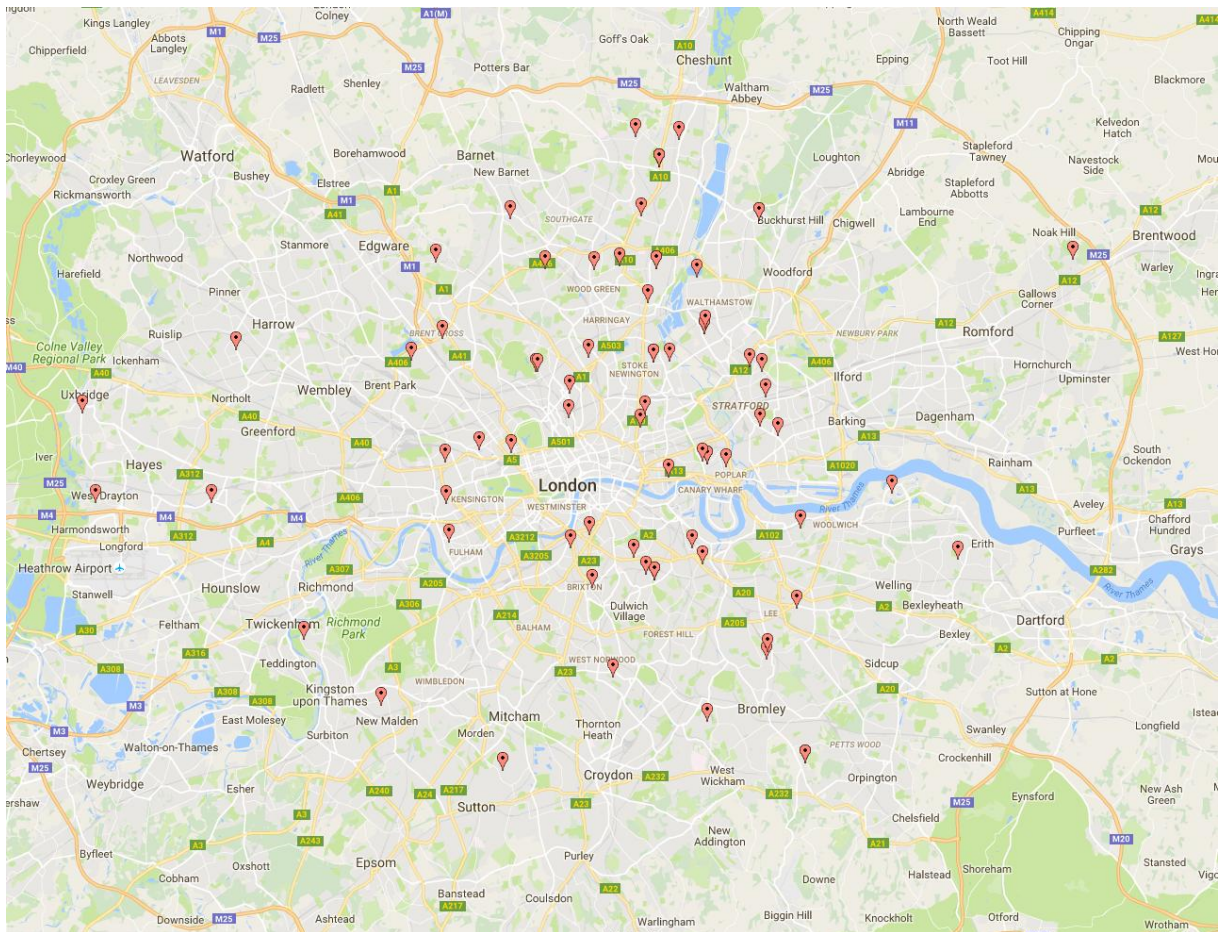


Popularity of venues



Please note that each venue is represented if, for example, a school has applied to visit Tower Bridge; Monument and the Museum of London. A number of applications to the Museum of London were unsuccessful as the schools had visited in some capacity in the last three years – this is the only venue for which this has been an issue.

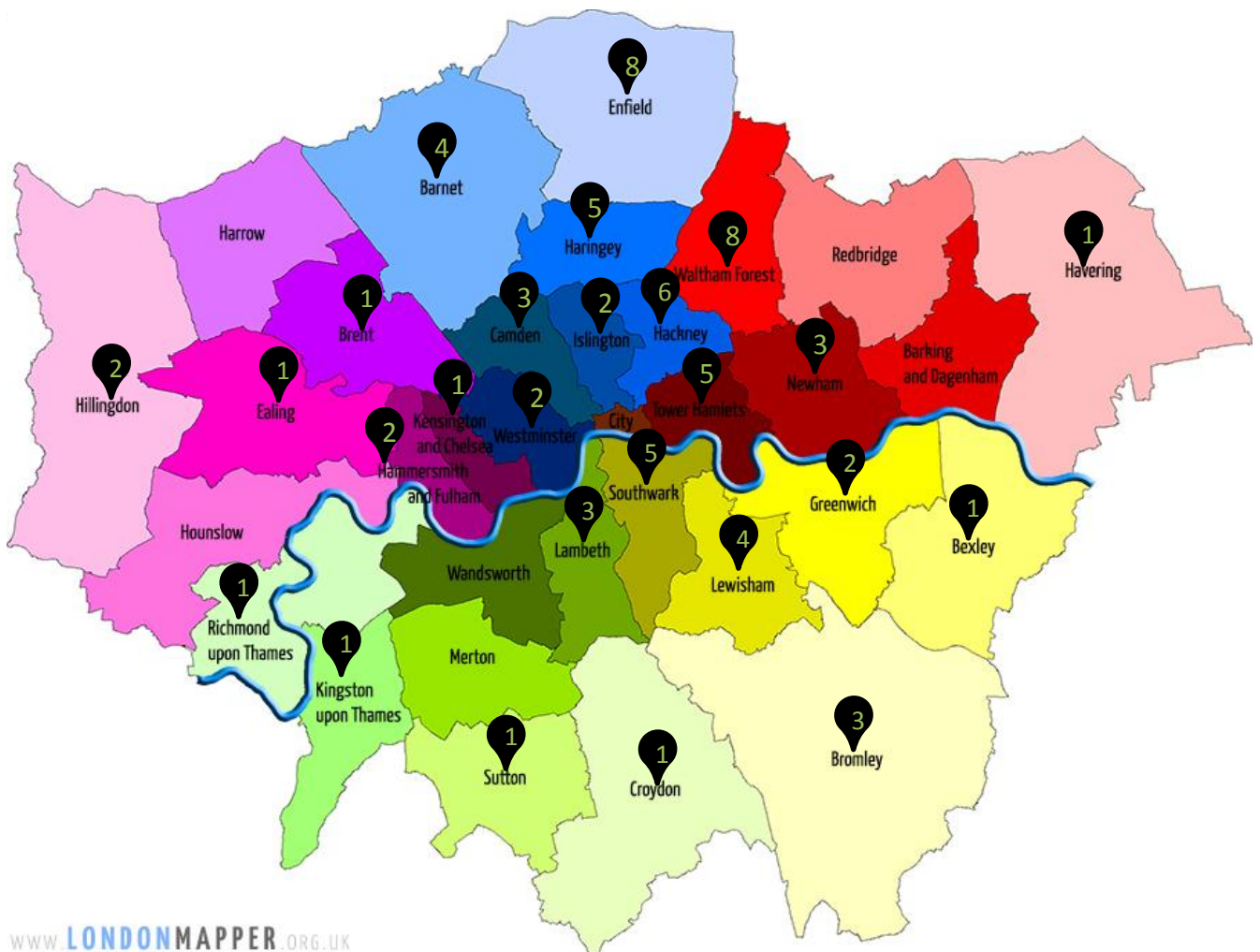
Location of schools that have applied to the School Visits Fund



NB: Schools which have made multiple applications are only represented once on this map.

Breakdown of applications to the School Visits Fund by borough

Borough	Applications	Borough	Applications
Barking and Dagenham	0	Hounslow	0
Barnet	4	Islington	2
Bexley	1	Kensington and Chelsea	1
Brent	1	Kingston upon Thames	1
Bromley	3	Lambeth	3
Camden	3	Lewisham	3
City of London	0	Merton	0
Croydon	1	Newham	3
Ealing	1	Redbridge	0
Enfield	8	Richmond upon Thames	1
Greenwich	3	Southwark	5
Hackney	6	Sutton	1
Hammersmith and Fulham	2	Tower Hamlets	5
Haringey	5	Waltham Forest	8
Harrow	0	Wandsworth	0
Havering	1	Westminster	2
Hillingdon	2	Total	77



NB: Colours do not represent anything in relation to School Visits Fund applications.

Feedback from teachers

4. Each applicant is required to complete an evaluation form before they receive payment. Feedback has been very positive, eg:

- 60% of teachers found the application process 'very easy', and 40% 'easy'
- 78% rated communication with the School Visits Fund Administrator as 'excellent' and 28% as 'good'
- 52% rated the fund website as 'excellent' in terms of ease of use, with 44% saying 'good' and 4% 'satisfactory'
- 56% rated the information provided on the website as excellent, 40% rated it 'good' and 4% 'satisfactory'.

5. Teachers were asked how their pupils benefitted from the trip – a selection of responses are provided below.

6. *Many of the students had not previously visited these institutions and they received a valuable experience. There was a lot of positive feedback from the students who really appreciated the opportunity that the CoL School Visits Fund afforded them. (Kingsmead School – visited Epping Forest, Guildhall, Museum of London Docklands, the Monument, Tower Bridge, July 2016)*
7. *They visited places they hadn't seen before and got more of an understanding of the city they live in. (Starks Field Primary School – visited Tower Bridge, June 2016)*
8. *Most for the first time got to visit a real theatre, enjoy an educational trip outside of school and get to experience a real production of a play they had been studying. (The Crest Academy – visited the Barbican, May 2016)*
9. *They loved it. Learned lots, saw lots, faced fears, enjoyed themselves, saw new things, new experiences, consolidated learning. (Rye Oak Primary School – visited Tower Bridge, June 2016)*
10. *Children became more aware of the history of the bridge and the technology behind it. Children were able to use computing skills to test and evaluate moving the bridge on a small model. Children were able to see a 3D printer, and become more aware of its practical uses. (Oliver Goldsmith Primary School – visited Tower Bridge, April 2016)*
11. *Brilliant workshops with first-hand experience of artefacts. Brought the whole topic to life - brilliant museum that none of the pupils had ever been to. (Lavender Primary School – visited Museum of London, April 2016)*
12. *The children were able to have a visual counterpoint to the information they had been learning in class. Our topic is on London landmarks and it was amazing for them to be able to experience one of London's most famous landmarks first-hand. (Holy Trinity CE Primary School – visited Tower Bridge, March 2016)*

13. *Many pupils at our school do not travel independently outside of the Borough and trips allow them to access a variety of opportunities and life experiences they may not otherwise take up. They were able to take photographs from a different perspective, one that they could not have achieved locally. They were able to take quality photographs to enhance and develop their work. (Kelmscott School – visited the Monument, March 2016)*

14. *A new experience for them along with a better understanding of the river Thames. These children rarely get an opportunity to experience new kinds of activities within London. (Hungerford Primary School – visited Museum of London Docklands, January 2016)*

15. *Teachers were also asked how valuable the City of London School Visits Fund was in helping the school overcome barriers that it faces when conducting school trips.*

16. *Without the financial assistance for these trips we would be forced to seek voluntary contributions from student's families for them to occur. (Kingsmead School – visited Epping Forest, Guildhall, Museum of London Docklands, Monument, Tower Bridge, July 2016)*

17. *Very valuable - our staff were conducting this support as additional hours, both the teaching and the TA involved were extremely impressed with the opportunities this gave our children and our families. (Stebon Primary School – visited the Barbican, July 2016)*

18. *Vital. We wouldn't have been able to do it without the financial support. (Starks Field Primary School – visited Tower Bridge, June 2016)*

19. *Very valuable. If you could not help the trip would not be able to take place. (Rowland Hill Nursery – visited Highgate Wood, May 2016)*

20. *It meant that we could take the children on a trip that they would have been unable to afford due to the pupils' families' socioeconomic situation and the school's funding. (St. Thomas More School – visited the Barbican, July 2016)*

21. *This was invaluable. The school could not afford to send the children on a trip like this. It meant that this very deep learning experience was accessible to the children.* (Oliver Goldsmith Primary School – visited Tower Bridge, April 2016)
22. *Combining the City of London fund with money raised by our PTFA meant that every child was able to go on the trip for free. Money is often a huge barrier when organising trips so it was brilliant that everyone could go for free. Thank you.* (Lavender Primary School – visited Museum of London)
23. *Without the funding this trip may not have been possible.* (Holy Trinity CE Primary School – visited Tower Bridge, March 2016)
24. *We would not have been able to visit the Heath it hadn't been for the grant. We needed to get a coach as it would have been inaccessible by public transport.* (Ark Atwood Primary School - visited Hampstead Heath, March 2016)
25. *We couldn't have done this trip without the fund, thank you.* (Oxford Gardens Primary School - visited Tower Bridge, March 2016)
26. *Very, it took away the cost which is often a barrier for these children and their families.* (Whitehall Junior School – visited the Barbican, March 2016)
27. *Extremely valuable as it helped towards the hire of the coach and children contributed a minimal amount towards the visit.* (Fleecefield Primary School – visited London's Roman Amphitheatre, March 2016)