

EXTENDED SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE

Hearing 5

Wednesday 9th June 2010

Witness Guide for Members

Below are suggested themes and questions. They have been provided in advance to the witnesses to allow them to prepare for the types of issues that Members may be interested to explore. All Members are welcome to ask these questions or pose additional ones to the witnesses via the Committee Chairman.

Themes and Questions

Paul Myers, Chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee, Valence School, Westerham

1. Please introduce yourself and describe the roles and responsibilities that your position as School Parent Governor involves.
2. Please outline the extended services that Valence School – in which you are the Chair of the Teaching and Learning Committee - offers to its pupils and to the local community.
3. In your experience, what are the benefits - if any - that extended services bring about to pupils and to the local community?
4. What are the main challenges for Valence School, and for schools in general, when providing extended services to pupils and to the local community?
5. Has the School experienced any particular problems with regard to the safeguarding of its pupils and with regard to security?
6. What are the main challenges for students with special educational needs in accessing extended services?
7. In your opinion, in what ways can all these challenges be overcome?
8. Please describe your experience of the “Swift and Easy Access” element of the Extended Services core offer, when providing support for children and young people who have additional needs?
9. In what ways, if any, may the reduction of Government funding for Extended Services in future years affect the extended services Valence School provides?

10. In your opinion, in what ways can Kent County Council, together with schools and other providers of extended services, ensure the sustainability of extended services into the future?
11. In your view, in what ways, if any, can collaboration between Kent County Council, schools and external partners, such as those in the voluntary and private sector, be made more effective when providing Extended Services?
12. Are there any issues or questions in relation to extended services that you would like to raise with the Select Committee?