

It's hard to believe that we have reached April already and that it has been one month since our last edition of LAB News; time really does fly when you are having fun! We have been watching closely as the Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) admissions team have navigated their way through the last few weeks, and are waiting patiently for the final list of our founding students. With just under 300 students on our waiting list in mid-March we know that for some of you it has been a difficult few weeks waiting for your offer letters. If you have any questions regarding offers, how to accept your place or your son/daughter's position on the waiting list please contact the RBG admissions team directly at:

school-admissions@royalgreenwich.gov.uk or T: 0208 9218043.

Over the last month we have been very busy interviewing and appointing our academic teaching staff. We have made some exceptional appointments and have a very strong team of experienced subject specialists joining us as founding members of staff in September. I look forward to introducing them to you all in this and future editions of LAB News.

Best wishes

Emma Smith - Principal Designate

Victoria House update

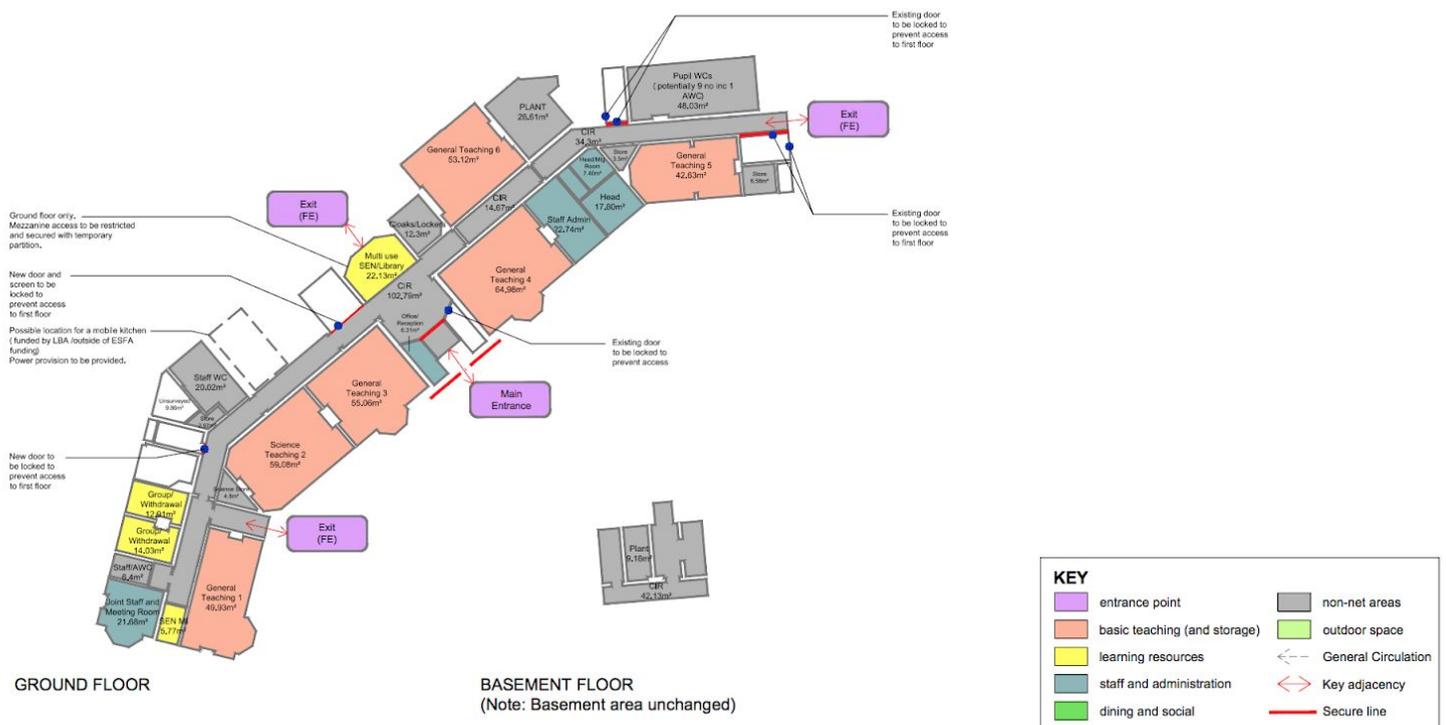
We recently sent out a brief update regarding Victoria House. For those of you who didn't receive this we had some uninvited visitors in February, and they chose to leave the site in a bit of a mess. I am pleased to inform you that no major damage was done to the building and the schedule of works has not been affected as a result. The site will be cleared very soon ready for the contractors to move in and the grounds developed to



create our recreation space and multi purpose games area (MUGA).

Please find below a very simple plan showing the agreed development of the ground floor space. As we only require this area during our founding year the top floor will be completely sealed off during the building work.

Plan of Victoria House development



Friends of LAB (Parent/ Carer association)

If you are interested in helping to form our Friends of LAB association we would like to hear from you. Friends of LAB will be for parents, carers and families who wish to support the school by mostly organising and running social and fundraising events. Please contact Cynthia Fasuyi at: cynthia.fasuyi@leighacademyblackheath.org.uk to register your interest.

Meet the team

All of our academic teaching positions have generated a large amount of interest from experienced and talented practitioners. The role of Assistant Principal was no different with over 75 applications for this key leadership opportunity. The competition was fiercely fought from application right through to interview, and we are delighted to announce that Dan Morrison was successfully appointed and will join us as a founding leader of Leigh Academy Blackheath.



Assistant Principal - Dan Morrison

Daniel Morrison is currently working as an Assistant Headteacher, responsible for Behaviour and Pastoral Care, in East Sussex. His contributions to school improvement over the past 3 years have been singled out by Ofsted and other external reviewers. Prior to this, Daniel was Head of English, as well as being responsible for whole-school CPD at Harris Academy Purley: at the time one of the most improved schools in the country. He was also nominated, as an NQT, for a Pearson 'Teacher of the Year' award and is featured in *The Character Conundrum* (Lloyd-Rose: 2017) - a practical guide for developing resilience in the classroom. Daniel is a Teach First ambassador, who is passionate about ensuring all have access to an

academically rigorous education; he has an MA in Leadership from the Institute of Education and is an avid enthusiast of evidence-informed teaching.

Governance

In the last edition of LAB News we introduced you to our team of governors: Tim Snowball, Public Affairs and Communications Consultant; Anne-Marie Duguid, Director of the Empowering Education Partnership; James Ward, Associate Dean – Further Education & Community Engagement at Ravensbourne. This month we are delighted to introduce and welcome local resident Carling Colfer to the Leigh Academy Blackheath governing body.



Governor - Carling Colfer

Carling works on the Debt Capital Markets desk within HSBC and is responsible for structuring public and private debt raising with a focus on European corporates and sub-sovereigns. In his career, Carling has worked across Private Equity, Corporate Banking and Leveraged & Acquisition Financing, connecting customers to opportunities and enabling businesses to expand. Specifically in the Higher Education sector, Carling raised GBP35m for one of the world's leading business schools. He has also assisted a prestigious Oxbridge College in issuing their inaugural GBP30m private placement, locking-in historically low funding costs and arbitraging its endowment fund returns. Finally, last year he supported The University of Southampton in pricing their highly successful GBP300m 40yr debut bond issue - the lowest ever coupon in the public bond market by a UK university. The funds were raised from high quality, real money investors in order for the University to invest in its campuses and estates. As a resident of Greenwich, Carling is delighted to have an opportunity to be part of the Leigh Academy Blackheath governing body. He hopes to help the school with its financial stewardship.

LAB Transition Programme 2018

- **National Offer Day** - March 1st
- **Founders welcome pack** - posted March 2nd
- **Meet the team event** - May
- **Primary school visits** - June/ July
- **Uniform fitting** - June
- **Head Start Day** - July 4th
- **Induction week** - September

Coming up in the next newsletter...

Victoria House update
Digital Learning
Meet the team