

## **Rotherham Schools' Forum**

**Venue: Rockingham Professional Development Centre**

**Date: Friday 13 January 2023**

**Time: 8.30 a.m.**

### **A G E N D A**

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Welcome by the Chair and introductions by all Forum Members present.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

To receive apologies from any Forum Member who are unable to attend the meeting.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

To invite Forum Members to declare any interests they may have on agenda items to be considered at this meeting, to confirm the nature of those interests and whether they intend to leave the meeting for the consideration of the item.

**4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 11)**

Recommendation:- To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.

**5. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

To consider and report on any matters arising from the previous minutes.

**6. Membership and Constitution of the Rotherham Schools Forum (Standing Item)**

Based on the School Sector Breakdown to include:-

- Dr. Sipra Deb as Private, Voluntary and Independent Sector Nursery Representative (filling the vacancy).

Recommendation:- To consider and approve the amendments/updates to the membership of the Rotherham Schools Forum.

**7. 2023/2024 Early Years Funding Formula (Pages 13 - 20)**

Aileen Chambers and Neil Hardwick to report.

Recommendation:- (1) That Option 1 is agreed.

(2) That the local funding formula is maintained with the TPPG additional element added to the base rate and distributed across all provider types.

8. 2023/2024 Dedicated Schools Grant School Block Funding Formula (Pages 21 - 24)

Vera Njegic and Neil Hardwick to report.

Recommendation:- To receive the report and note the contents.

9. Safety Valve

Nathan Heath and Neil Hardwick to report.

Recommendation:- To receive an update and note the contents.

10. Rotherham's Notional SEN Additional Funding Eligibility Criteria - Mainstream Schools and Academies (Deferred from previous meeting) (Pages 25 - 27)

Neil Hardwick to report.

Recommendation:- To receive the report and note how Notional SEN budgets are calculated and when it might be appropriate to seek additional resources and how.

11. Additional Capital Funding for Schools to Improve Energy Efficiency in Schools in 2022-2023

Neil Hardwick to report.

Recommendation:- To receive an update and note the contents.

12. Any Other Business

Recommendation:- To receive any other items of urgent business.

13. Date of Next Meeting and Future Meetings

Recommendation:- (1) To consider and agree the date and time of the next meeting of the Rotherham Schools' Forum on Friday, 28th April, 2023 at 8.30 a.m. – venue to be confirmed.

(2) To note the forthcoming dates of future meetings for 2023:-

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2023

Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2023

Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2024

Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2024

**ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS' FORUM  
FRIDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2022**

**In Attendance:-**

Steve Rhodes – Winterhill (Academy) (in the Chair)  
 Deborah Ball - Treeton Primary (Primary Academy)  
 Lianne Camaish, Aspire  
 Councillor Victoria Cusworth – Cabinet Member for CYPS  
 Julie Day, Head of SEND, CYPS  
 Guiseppe DiLasio – Wales (Academy)  
 Chris Eccles – Oakwood (Academy)  
 Dean Fenton - Head of ATE, CYPS  
 Lynsey Hadfield – Executive Head, Arnold Nursery (Observer)  
 Neil Hardwick – Head of Finance, CYPS  
 Nathan Heath – Assistant Director of Education, CYPS  
 David Horrigan – Maltby Academy Trust (Primary Academy)  
 Andy Krabbendam – CEO JMAT (Academy)  
 Angela McComb – Primary Maintained Governor  
 Vera Njelic - Principal Finance Officer, RMBC  
 Colin Price – NEU Representative  
 Alan Richards – Secondary Governor  
 Karen Smith – Nexus MAT (Special Academy)  
 Sharon Stones – Head of Arnold Nursery and Children's Centre  
 Pam Ward – Head of Service, Education, CYPS  
 Nathan Williams – Roughwood Primary (Primary Academy)  
 Mark Windle – Badsley Primary (Primary Maintained)

**Apologies were received from:-**

Rachel Booth – The Willows (Special School)  
 Kirsty Peart - Sitwell Infant (Maintained)  
 Steve Scott – Happy Kids (PVI Nursery)  
 Melanie Smith – RNN Group (16-19)  
 Nevine Towers – Diocese of Sheffield

**75. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chair welcomed everyone to today's meeting and introductions were made.

**76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest reported.

**77. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Consideration was given to the minutes from the previous meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2022.

Agreed:- That the minutes be approved.

**78. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

There were no matters arising.

**79. CONSTITUTION AND COMPOSITION OF THE ROTHERHAM SCHOOLS FORUM**

Consideration was given to the membership and constitution of the Schools Forum and the suggested changes for approval.

Agreed:- That the nominated persons below be approved for a period of four years:-

- Lynsey Hadfield as Substitute for Sharon Stones (Nursery School Head)
- Karen Smith as Substitute for Joel Hardwick (Special Academy Representative)
- Nathan Williams, Head of Roughwood Primary, inclusion as a Primary Academy Representative.

**80. DSG SUSTAINABILITY & HIGH NEEDS FINANCE UPDATE**

Consideration was given to the report presented by Neil Hardwick which provided an update on the latest Dedicated Schools Grant position and the DSG projections as outlined in the DSG Management Plan.

It was pointed out that the DfE expected the plan to be updated and presented Schools Forums and High Needs Sub-Groups regularly.

As part of the Department of Education work to address long term challenges in the High Needs funding within the Dedicated Schools Grant a small number of identified local authorities including Rotherham have been invited to have financial agreement known as a 'Safety Valve'.

Following the negotiations, a 'Safety Valve' agreement was collaboratively developed by the DfE and agreed with Rotherham Metropolitan Borough.

The development of Rotherham MBC Safety Valve Agreement had considered key strategic SEND (Special Education Needs and Disability) priorities, effective and sustainable financial planning, trajectories of cohort growth across SEND in the borough across the next five years, and the ambitions to support the creation of strong SEND locally based provision in Rotherham.

The 2021/22 outturn on high needs expenditure remained at £0.73m as

reported to Schools Forum throughout the year, however after taking account of other balances in other DSG funding blocks resulted in an in-year deficit of £0.11m increasing the net deficit in the DSG Central Reserve of £21.37m, which was ahead of target in terms of the £22.013m estimated in the DSG Management Plan.

However as Rotherham was approved to enter the DfE's Safety Valve programme at the end of the 2021/22 financial year the Authority received funding of £8.53m, reducing Rotherham's DSG Centre Reserve deficit from £21.37m to £12.84m.

In the 2022/23 financial year the DSG deficit remained on plan taking into account the High Needs Block position and use of other DSG reserves.

Clarification was sought on how the overspend compared to other educational services and if they were significant. It was noted discussions had taken place with the DfE in relation to the safety valve arrangement and seven out of the eight were listed as positive trajectories.

The High Needs Block budget was set to provide a £533k contribution to reserves in line with the management plan, which was on target to be delivered, but only after the School Block funding transfer and would be a £2.742m in-year deficit without this funding.

Based on the funding assumptions in the Safety Valve agreement it would still require a transfer from the School Block for the 2023/24 financial years to dampen the in-year financial pressures, to continue to meet the Safety Valve assumptions and avoid a significant increase in the overall DSG deficit over this period.

The pressures were not unique to Rotherham and the Authority welcomed the safety valve arrangements to help reduce the deficit.

**Agreed:-** That the report be received and the contents noted.

## 81. UPDATE FROM HIGH NEEDS SUB-GROUP

Consideration was given to an update from the High Needs Sub-Group by Nathan Heath, Assistant Director for Education.

Key Updates were highlighted:-

- High Needs Safety Valve – update shared and position overview provided – plan on track and Rotherham remained on positive trajectory in Q2.
- Key pressures linked to pay awards and cost of living creating emerging pressures on fixed plan.
- Action – shared Rotherham SEND profile data - Local Area Special Educational Needs and Disabilities report for Rotherham

Metropolitan Borough Council/LG Inform.

- High Needs budget position shared and considered.
- Recognition from group on pressures across SEND systems nationally and the interlink into High Needs funding.
- Overview provided on balance of funding where dependency on independent special school costs were impacting on High Needs budgets.
- Detailed analysis and discussion of High Needs Block transfers. Rotherham financial plan and forward planning against the set safety valve plan.
- Collective view on High Needs financial plan agreed and how this informed supportive position of sub-group on block transfer in next year – Officers to seek DfE view on block transfers for Safety Valve Local Authorities.
- Overview on communication and interaction outreach discussed with Expressions of Interest for a universal school pilot agreed – Offices to write to special heads to seek provider support.
- Update on SEND Sufficiency Phase 4 provided and special school capacity assessments – Officers to email all special and PRU heads to seek information on all off site provision utilised to inform SEND capacity assessment.

In terms of Next Steps it was noted:-

- Agreement for Nathan Heath to remain chair for next Sub-Group.
- Next Sub-Group to scope SEND Funding workstream for Rotherham – Officers to seek DfE update on other Local Authorities working on this area, (update provided by DfE).
- Request to go Secondary Heads and Primary Heads to seek Sub-Group representation to support triangulation of all updates linked High Needs Funding back into key school leaders groups.

**Agreed:-** That the update be received and the contents noted.

## 82. SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT FUNCTIONS

Consideration was given to a verbal update from Pam Ward, Head of Service for Education, referring to funding to support core school improvement activities previously utilised through the former School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant.

The Local Authorities school improvement activity was divided into core improvement activities and additional improvement services and consultation had been taking place with maintained schools as to whether they wished to de-delegate funds for school improvement activity. Maintained school were given two options:-

- Option 1 - £19 per pupil – additional support through ROSIS
- Option 2 - £29 per pupil – additional improvement services

Of the four schools of the twenty two who responded to the consultation, two chose Option 1 and two chose Option 2.

The decision to be taken forward would be included as part of the consultation responses on the next item on the agenda.

Forum Members in noting the detail expressed their disappointment at responses when a decision was having to be made. Schools had every opportunity to contribute as part of the annual consultation process.

**Agreed:-** That the update be received and the contents noted.

### **83. SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA 2023/24 CONSULTATION OUTCOME**

Consideration was given to the report presented by Vera Njelic, Principal Officer (Schools Finance), which set out the indicative proposals and sought approval decisions (where needed) for two areas of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2023/24:-

- Schools block.
- Central schools services block.

As a result of the Government's intention to implement a national funding formula for school and high needs funding allocations; 2023/24 represented the sixth year of the Government's planned transition towards these proposals.

To comply with the ESFA operational guidance, Local Authorities were required to consult with schools, academies and Schools Forum in respect of planned changes to the schools local funding formula including the method, principles and rules that were to be adopted. The final decisions in respect of the local formula remain with the Local Authority.

The Forum was, therefore, required to decide upon specific elements in accordance with the powers and responsibilities assigned to it by the ESFA and would need to vote on a number of proposals which had been circulated in the report submitted. The proposals were based on the consultation responses received from individual schools and academies and attached as appendices to the submitted report.

In accordance with the regulations, only certain members were allowed to participate in a vote regarding the local funding formula. Other members that did not represent schools could engage and participate in discussions, but were not eligible to vote.

A narrative and rationale for each of the questions was provided along with any clarification as necessary.

Clarification was sought from Forum Members on discussions held as part

of the High Needs Sub-Group and the legal position with regards to the Safety Valve arrangements with the Local Authority.

In addition, further discussion ensued on the responses as set out at Appendix A where consultation responses were received from individual schools/academies and those submitted as part of a multi-academy trust.

**Agreed:-** (1) That the report be received and the contents noted.

(2) That the voting as indicated below be incorporated into the school and academy local funding formula for 2023/24 (as far as was possible) for submission to the ESFA by 20th January, 2023:-

**Question 1** – Do you agree with the principle that Rotherham is adopting in terms of prioritising an increase to the MFG?

**Vote:-**            **12 For**                      **0 Against**                      **0 Abstain**

**Question 2** – Considering a transfer of 1.5% from the schools block to support the high needs block.

**Vote:-**            **10 For**                      **0 Against**                      **2 Abstain**

**Question 3** – Should the Local Authority continue to provide a growth fund in 2023/2024 from reserve?

**Vote:-**            **12 For**                      **0 Against**                      **0 Abstain**

**Question 4** - Do you agree that the Local Authority should continue to provide for a Growth Fund from reserve?

**Vote:-**            **12 For**                      **0 Against**                      **0 Abstain**

**Question 5** – Should funding from this block could be retained for the services outlined above?

**Vote:-**            **12 For**                      **0 Against**                      **0 Abstain**

**Question 6** – Would maintained primary schools wish to de-delegate monies to create a Financial Difficulties Contingency Fund.

**Vote:-**            **1 For**                      **0 Against**                      **0 Abstain**

**Question 7** - Would maintained schools wish to de-delegate funds, once again, for trade union facilities time rather than buy back from the portfolio of services.

**Vote:-**            **1 For**                      **0 Against**                      **0 Abstain**

**Question 8** - Do maintained schools wish to de-delegate funds again for



school improvement activity?

Option 1 rate of £19 per pupil  
Option 2 rate of £29 per pupil

**Vote:- 1 For 0 Against 0 Abstain**

**Action:- Vera Njelic**

**84. ROTHERHAM'S NOTIONAL SEN ADDITIONAL FUNDING ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA - MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES**

This item was deferred to the next meeting and would be included on the agenda by the Clerk.

**85. TEACHERS AND NJC PAY AWARDS**

This item was deferred to the next meeting and would be included on the agenda by the Clerk.

**86. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chair invited Forum Members to share any other items for business.

**(a) Free School Meals**

Nathan Heath again provided a summary of the continued support for those children eligible for Free School Meals.

Arrangements would be made shortly to passport details through to schools for Christmas to distribute to the vulnerable group of pupils. Details would be included on what arrangements were in place to redeem the vouchers/funding.

Agreed:- That the information be noted and appropriate action taken.

**87. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Agreed:-** That the next meeting of the Schools' Forum take place on Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2023 at 8.30 a.m. at Rockingham Professional Development Centre.

(2) That the date of the future meetings of the Rotherham School Forum at 8.30 a.m. be noted:-

Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2023

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<h1>BRIEFING</h1>	<b>TO:</b>	Schools Forum
	<b>DATE:</b>	13th January 2023
	<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	Aileen Chambers Head of Service – Early Years and Childcare
	<b>TITLE:</b>	Updated Early Education Funding Proposals 2023-24

## 1. Background

1.1	The purpose of this report is to detail the statutory guidance in place for the allocation of early education funding; the current position and proposals for the 2023/24 allocation.																												
1.2	The Department for Education (DfE) have consulted on changes to the National Funding Formula for 2023/24. The outcome of the consultation was published on 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 and includes some changes to the National Funding Formula.																												
1.3	Local Authorities (LAs) are required to allocate the funding to early education providers based on a local funding formula made up of a single base rate and a mandatory deprivation supplement (for 3/4 year old early education). LAs can retain 5% of the 3 / 4 year old early years funding allocation to fund central services.																												
1.4	Local authorities are required to consult providers on annual changes to their local formula. Schools forums must also be consulted on changes to local early years funding formulas, including agreeing central spend by 28 February, although the final decision rests with the local authority.																												
1.5	<p>The DfE National Funding Formula was published on 16<sup>th</sup> December and the rate changes are detailed below:</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>2022/23 Rate</th><th>2023/24 Rate</th><th>Increase</th></tr><tr><td>3/4 Year Olds</td><td>£4.61/h</td><td>£4.89/h</td><td>15p + <b>13p TPPG</b></td></tr><tr><td>2 Year olds</td><td>£5.57/h</td><td>£5.63/h</td><td>+6p</td></tr><tr><td>Early Years Pupil Premium</td><td>60p/h</td><td>62p/h</td><td>+2p</td></tr><tr><td>Disability Access Fund</td><td>£800 / year</td><td>£828 / year</td><td>+£28</td></tr><tr><td>MNS Lump Sum</td><td>£5.53/h</td><td>£5.71/h</td><td>+18p</td></tr><tr><td>MNS TPPG (to be included with lump sum) *calculation based on Universal 3 year olds only.</td><td>N/A</td><td>38p/h*</td><td></td></tr></table>		2022/23 Rate	2023/24 Rate	Increase	3/4 Year Olds	£4.61/h	£4.89/h	15p + <b>13p TPPG</b>	2 Year olds	£5.57/h	£5.63/h	+6p	Early Years Pupil Premium	60p/h	62p/h	+2p	Disability Access Fund	£800 / year	£828 / year	+£28	MNS Lump Sum	£5.53/h	£5.71/h	+18p	MNS TPPG (to be included with lump sum) *calculation based on Universal 3 year olds only.	N/A	38p/h*	
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1.6	The DfE have ‘mainstreamed’ the Teachers Pay and Pension Grant that schools previously received directly (to cover the cost of the increase in the employer contribution rate of the Teachers’ Pension Scheme in September 2019) within the Early Years Block. It is up to local authorities to determine how to distribute this through their local Single																												

Funding Formula. The DfE acknowledge that local authorities might chose different approaches to distributing this funding e.g. through a Quality supplement or through an increase to the base rate (DfE LA Funding Webinar 10.1.22).

1.7 See Appendix 1 for the extracts from the DfE Early Years Funding Operational Guidance 2023/24 which outlines expectations.

1.8 Historically schools have received TPPG based on the total number of 2,3 and 4 year olds on roll at January census. The TPPG element mainstreamed into the EY Block has been calculated based on all 3 and 4 year olds accessing early education across the school and PVI sector at January census.

1.9 The current local funding formula, as detailed below, was consulted on prior to introduction in 2017/18 and the deprivation supplement was reviewed again in January 2018.

<b>3 / 4 year olds &amp; 30 Hour Allocations:</b>	
5%	Centrally Retained to contribute to Early Years and Childcare Service running costs
2%	Passed to eligible providers as a Deprivation Supplement
93%	Passed to providers as Early Education Base Rate
<b>Two year old Allocations</b>	
100%	passported to providers in line with DfE guidance with no additional supplements

1.10 **Other LA's Proposals:**

Due to the lateness of the DfE consultation feedback and National Funding Formula announcement, all LA's are currently preparing their proposals for consultation / approval.

The following Yorkshire and Humber LA's have shared details of the current proposals for information:

Local Authority	Options under consideration	Preferred Option
	Add TPPG to base rate Introduce Quality Supplement Increase Deprivation Supplement	1
	Add TPPG to base rate Introduce Quality Supplement	1
	Add TPPG to base rate (Calderdale have recently consulted on removing the Quality supplement that they previously had in place)	
	Add TPPG to base rate Introduce Quality Supplement	1
	Increase Base Rate by 23p Increase Base Rate by 22p and Deprivation Supplement by 1p	
	Add TPPG to base rate Introduce Quality Supplement	
	Add TPPG to base rate Introduce Quality Supplement	1
	Add TPPG to base rate Introduce Quality Supplement	1

Proposals																							
2.1	The following options have been considered:																						
	<b>Option 1:</b>																						
	Retain the current local funding formula in 2023/24 as follows with the TPPG added to the base rate to be distributed to all providers:																						
	<table><tr><th colspan="2">Single Funding Formula</th><th>Rate Providers would receive</th></tr><tr><td>Retention for Central Spend</td><td>5% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets</td><td>N/A</td></tr><tr><td>3 / 4 year old hourly rate</td><td>93% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets</td><td>£4.56 (Inc of 27p per hour)</td></tr><tr><td>3 / 4 year old Deprivation Supplements</td><td>2% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets to be distributed as an additional hourly rate as detailed above.</td><td>To be calculated based on Jan census: currently 16p High Deprivation, 11p Medium Deprivation</td></tr><tr><td>2 year old hourly rate</td><td>100% passported to providers</td><td>£5.63 (increase of 6p per hour)</td></tr><tr><td>Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS)</td><td>Lump sum to be passported to 3 nursery schools as required by guidance.</td><td>£5.71 / hour (increase of 18p)</td></tr><tr><td>MNS TPPG</td><td colspan="2">The MNS portion of the teachers' pay and pensions grant funding has been rolled in to MNS supplementary funding, and they should avoid double-funding MNSs through this supplement at a rate of 38p/hour. An adjustment would be required to take into account the element of TPPG already distributed through the base rate to avoid double funding.</td></tr></table>		Single Funding Formula		Rate Providers would receive	Retention for Central Spend	5% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets	N/A	3 / 4 year old hourly rate	93% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets	£4.56 (Inc of 27p per hour)	3 / 4 year old Deprivation Supplements	2% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets to be distributed as an additional hourly rate as detailed above.	To be calculated based on Jan census: currently 16p High Deprivation, 11p Medium Deprivation	2 year old hourly rate	100% passported to providers	£5.63 (increase of 6p per hour)	Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS)	Lump sum to be passported to 3 nursery schools as required by guidance.	£5.71 / hour (increase of 18p)	MNS TPPG	The MNS portion of the teachers' pay and pensions grant funding has been rolled in to MNS supplementary funding, and they should avoid double-funding MNSs through this supplement at a rate of 38p/hour. An adjustment would be required to take into account the element of TPPG already distributed through the base rate to avoid double funding.	
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<b>Benefits:</b>																							
2.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Adding the TPPG indicative budget to the base rate would spread this element across all providers, supporting sustainability (55 group providers and 120 childminders would benefit).</li><li>PVI providers would receive 27p/hour increase which will support sustainability concerns. See Appendix 2 for sustainability concerns raised by PVI sector.</li><li>60 schools would receive more funding than in 2022/23</li></ul>																							
<b>Risks:</b>																							
2.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Schools would receive a lower level of increase (and in some cases no change) compared to their current income including the TPPG grant that they currently receive separately. See Appendix 3 for impact on schools.</li><li>10 schools would receive slightly less funding than in 2022/23 (between £38 to £1440). Although those with greatest loss do not have a QTS teacher delivering Foundation 1 and therefore would lose more through Option 2.</li></ul>																							
<b>Option 2:</b>																							
2.5	Change the current Single Funding Formula to include a supplement to passport the TPPG element to schools. We would propose to introduce a Quality Supplement for schools / providers who employ a QTS to directly deliver their Foundation 1 class.																						

2.6

The DfE have allocated an amount of 13p /hour for all 3 / 4 year olds taking up a place at January 22 census to passport the appropriate amount of TPPG into the budget.

2.7

The equivalent amount of TPPG received by schools in 2022/23 ranges from 13p to 36p/h with the average rate being 20p / hour. Maintaining the average rate of 20p / hour for the schools who would be eligible to receive TPPG would enable the base rate to be enhanced by 18p / hour for all providers.

Single Funding Formula		Rate Providers would receive
Retention for Central Spend	5% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets	N/A
3 / 4 year old hourly rate	91.44% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets	£4.47 (Inc of 18p per hour)
3 / 4 year old Deprivation Supplements	2% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets	To be calculated based on Jan census: currently 16p High Deprivation, 11p Medium Deprivation
Quality Supplement for 3 / 4 year olds (employment of QTS in Foundation 1 class or PVI sector)	1.56% of 3 / 4 year old and 30 hour budgets	20p / hour
2 year old hourly rate	100% passported to providers	£5.63 (increase of 6p per hour)
Maintained Nursery Schools (MNS)	Lump sum to be passported to 3 nursery schools as required by guidance.	£6.09 / hour (increase of 56p: 18p/h Lump Sum increase plus 38p/h TPPG*) *Based on Universal hours delivered only.
MNS TPPG	The MNS portion of the teachers' pay and pensions grant funding has been rolled in to MNS supplementary funding, and they should avoid double-funding MNSs through this supplement at a rate of 38p/hour. Therefore MNS would not be eligible for the Quality Supplement.	

2.8

Benefits:

59 schools would receive more funding than in 2022/23

2.9

Risks:

See points raised at 1.10

11 schools would receive less funding than in 2022/23 (between £390 to £3972). Those with greatest loss do not have a QTS teacher delivering Foundation 1 and also deliver 2 year places.

55 group and up to 120 Childminders would only receive the proposed 18p / hour base rate increase (rather than 27p / hour increase)

There would be an additional annual administrative burden to review eligibility for the Quality supplement

2.10

It is proposed to consult on both of the above proposals with the school and PVI sector w/c 16<sup>th</sup> January 2021 and with the Early Education Working Group on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

### 3. Key Actions and Timelines

3.1	December 2022: Proposals presented to DLT January 2023: EE formula proposals presented to Early Education Working Group
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	<p>January 2023: EE formula proposals presented to Schools Forum</p> <p>Jan / Feb 2023: Consultation on changes to formula</p> <p>Feb 2023: DLT Briefing feedback outcome of Consultation and final proposals</p> <p>Extraordinary Schools Forum Meeting to feedback outcome of Consultation and final proposals</p> <p>2023/24 funding rates confirmed to early education providers</p>
<b>4. Recommendations</b>	
4.1	<p>It is recommended that Option 1 is approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That the local funding formula is maintained with the TPPG additional element added to the base rate and distributed across all provider types.</li> </ul>

**Appendix 1**

Extracts from the DfE Early Years Funding Operational Guidance 2023/24 in relation to Teachers Pay and Pension Grant:

*We have increased the total planned value of funding supplements that local authorities can choose to use following the mainstreaming of the funding previously distributed through the teachers' pay grant and the teachers' pension employer contribution grant. Local authorities are encouraged to use the rolled-in funding to continue to support some of the costs for which the original grants were introduced by distributing it through the quality supplement.*

*As with all other supplements, it is for local authorities to determine the appropriate metric for allocating funding, if their approach is in line with the principles set out above. However, we would encourage local authorities to consider the purpose for which the grants were originally introduced when designing their approach. They could continue to target the funding to take account of additional pressures that some providers might face, from, for example, the need to pay employer contributions to the teachers' pension scheme.*

*Local authorities are reminded that the maintained nursery school portion of the teachers' pay and pensions grant funding has been rolled in to MNS supplementary funding, and they should avoid double-funding MNSs through this supplement.*

DfE LA Early Education Funding Webinar, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023

The DfE acknowledges that local authorities might choose different approaches to distribute the TPPG including introducing a Quality supplement or putting it through the base rate.



## Appendix 2

### Childcare / early education Sustainability:

The following questions was asked to all group childcare providers and childminders during the 2022/23 childcare sufficiency assessment:

#### Do you have any concerns about the ongoing sustainability / viability of your business:

29% (16 out of 55) Group providers indicated that they had concerns

13% (22 out of 163) Childminders indicated that they had concerns

The main concerns for group providers were:

- Rising minimum/national living wage costs
- Rising utility and material costs
- Recruitment and retention issues (staff leaving the sector for better pay)
- Early education funding not rising in line with delivery costs and not covering costs

The main concerns for childminders were:

- Rising utility and material costs
- Early education funding not rising in line with delivery costs and not covering costs

Since the sufficiency data gather in the Summer, three group providers and two childminders have contacted the Early Years and Childcare Service directly to raise their concerns about ongoing sustainability and the gap between cost of delivery and early education funding rates.

The largest cost of delivery for early years and childcare providers is staffing. The table below details the increase in National Living Wage costs compared to the increase in Early Education funding rate for 3 year olds since 2016.

Year	25 and over	21 to 24	Early Education Funding Rate		
<b>Increase since 2016</b>	<b>44.7%</b>		<b>15.5%</b>	<b>14.8%</b>	
April 2023	£10.42	£10.18	£4.56 (proposed Option 1)	£4.42 (proposed Option 2)	
<b>Increase since 2016</b>	<b>32%</b>		<b>11.4%</b>		
April 2022	£9.50	£9.18	£4.29		
April 2021	£8.91	£8.36	£4.14		
April 2020	£8.72	£8.20	£4.08		
April 2019	£8.21	£7.70	£4.00		
<b>April 2018</b>	<b>£7.83</b>	<b>£7.38</b>	<b>£4.00</b>		
April 2017	£7.50	£7.05	£4.00		
October 2016 to March 2017	£7.20	£6.95	£3.85		

Schools currently receive a Teachers Pay and Pension Grant (TPPG) directly from the ESFA to cover increases in costs for Foundation 1 teaching staff.

The grant is allocated at a rate of 23p/h based on the number of 2, 3 and 4 year olds in each school at January Census. Based on actual take-up the rate equates to an average of 20p / hour (range 13p – 36p / hour).

67 schools and the 3 maintained nursery schools receive a TPPG.

**Implications of Option 1:**

55 Group providers and up to 120 Childminders would benefit from an additional 27p/hour increase which would contribute towards sustainability of the sector.

60 schools would receive more funding than in 2022/23

10 schools would receive slightly less funding than in 2022/23 (between £38 to £1440). Although those with greatest loss do not have a QTS teacher delivering Foundation 1 and therefore would lose more through Option 2.

**Implications of Option 2:**

55 group and up to 120 Childminders would only receive the proposed 18p / hour base rate increase (rather than 27p / hour increase)

59 schools would receive more funding than in 2022/23

11 schools would receive less funding than in 2022/23 (between £390 to £3972). Those with greatest loss do not have a QTS teacher delivering Foundation 1 and also deliver 2 year places.

<b>REPORT FOR SCHOOLS FORUM</b>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>13th January 2023</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>2023/2024 Dedicated Schools Grant</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Finance and Customer Services</b>

**1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To provide an update to Schools Form members as to the 2023/2024 Dedicated Schools Grant funding for Rotherham.

**2. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That members of Schools Forum note the content of the report.

**3. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)**

To ensure members are aware of the Dedicated Schools Grant funding information as set out by the Department for Education.

To ensure compliance with the School & Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2017.

**4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Department for Education issued the final version of the Authority Pro-forma Tool (APT) to local authorities, with the autumn 2022 pupil census information shortly before Christmas. The local authority has until 20th January 2023 to submit the final version back to the Department for Education.

In October 2022 the local authority sought consultation with schools, academies and Schools Forum on the local funding formula decisions as set out in the regulations and the tables and appendix within this report contain summary information on the impact of those decisions.

**5. INITIAL DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT ALLOCATIONS**

On 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022, the Department for Education issued the indicative DSG allocations for the 2023/2024 financial year.

For Rotherham, the initial allocations are;

Table 1.

	Initial Allocation
Schools block (both schools and academies)	£230.617m
Central schools services block	£1.510m
Early Years block	£19.228m
High Needs block	£54.221m
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£305.576m</b>

## 6. SCHOOLS BLOCK

The final allocation is mainly based on funding rates of £4,915.14 for primary children (£4,658.05 in 2022/2023) and £6,426.61 for secondary children (£6,138.15 in 2022/2023) as at the October 2022 pupil census counts plus actual amounts for premises related costs and historic pupil growth.

The October 2022 census count shows that there are a total number of pupils across the borough of 40,023; this is an increase of 147 (+18 in primary & +129 in secondary) pupils from the October 2021 census count.

Table 2 below shows that the overall school block funding allocation has increased from £218.36m in 2022/2023 to £230.617m in 2023/2024.

As agreed at the Schools Forum meeting on the 18th November 2022 a request to transfer 1.5% from the school block to the high needs block was submitted to the Secretary of State. If this request does not gain approval 0.5% will be transferred.

**Summary position in respect of DSG schools block allocation****Table 2- Successful Disapplication request to transfer 1.5%**

	2022/2023	2023/2024	Difference	Comments
Schools block allocation	£218.36m	£230.62m	£12.26m	2022/2023 Supplementary Grant rolled into 2023/2024 Schools Block
Pupil Growth fund	£250k	£120k	-£130k	Agreed at November meeting (from reserve)
Falling Rolls Fund	£50k	£50k	-	Agreed at November meeting (from reserve)
Transfer to High Needs	£3.28m	£3.44m	£0.16m	
Amount of Schools Block funding allocated through formula	£215.08m	£227.18m	£12.10m	increase in funding rates
% of total DSG schools block allocated through formula	98.5%	98.5%		

To date the Education & Skills Funding Agency has not made a final decision regarding the local authority's request to transfer 1.5%,`

A report providing details of the rates applied to the individual formula funding rates will be presented to Schools Forum at the next meeting in April 2023. The rates applied will continue to be in line with the previous decisions reached in respect of the gradual transition to the national funding formula..

**7. CENTRAL SERVICES SCHOOLS BLOCK (CSSB)**

The table below compares the CSSB allocation and 2023/2024 budgets with 2022/2023 .

**Table 3**

	2022/2023	2023/2024	Difference	Comments
Central services schools block allocation	£1.45m	£1.51m	£80k	increase in funding rates
Admissions	£191k	£201k	£10k	
National copyright licences	£280k	£312k	£32k	Notified by DfE
Former ESG	£798k	£806k	£8k	
Centrally employed teachers pay and pensions	£174k	£180k	£6k	
Schools Forum	£5k	£5k		
Sacre	£6k	£6k		

## 8. PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING FOR 2023/2024.

The following rates for pupil premium in 2023 to 2024 were announced on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022:

**Table 4**

	2022/2023	2023/2024	Increase
Primary FSM6 pupils	£1,385	£1,455	£70
Secondary FSM6 pupils	£985	£1,035	£50
Looked after children	£2,410	£2,530	£120
Children who have ceased to be looked after	£2,410	£2,530	£120
Service children	£320	£335	£15

## 9. MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS ADDITIONAL GRANT 2023/2024

In the 2023 to 2024 financial year, mainstream schools will be allocated additional funding through the mainstream schools additional grant (MSAG) 2023 to 2024. This is in addition to schools' allocations through the schools national funding formula.

The grant will be allocated based on the following elements and rates using data from the October 2022 census:

- a basic per-pupil rate (£119 for primary pupils, £168 for key stage 3 & £190 for key stage 4)
- a lump sum of £4,510
- a FSM6 per-pupil rate of £104 per eligible primary pupil & £152 per eligible secondary

School level allocations and the conditions of grant will be published in May 2023

### 9. Name and contact details

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<b>REPORT FOR SCHOOLS FORUM</b>
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1.	<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> January 2023</b>
2.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Rotherham's Notional SEN Additional Funding Eligibility Criteria - Mainstream Schools and Academies</b>
3.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Finance and Customer Services</b>

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report builds upon a previous report to Schools Forum regarding the notional SEN budget within a mainstream school's budget share and highlights the process schools should follow when requesting additional funding.

## 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That Schools Forum note how Notional SEN budgets are calculated, when it might be appropriate to seek additional resources and how.

## 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION & CONTEXT

- 3.1 Local authorities identify for each mainstream school a notional amount to guide schools in their spending to meet the costs of additional support for the school's pupils with special educational needs. Although this is an indicative amount, it is important that it is sufficient for the reasonable additional costs that may be incurred by schools.

## 4 Notional SEN Budget

- 4.2 Mainstream maintained schools and academies ("schools") are notified each year of a clearly identified but notional budget, within their overall budget allocation, towards the costs of fulfilling their duty to use their 'best endeavours' to secure that special educational provision for their pupils with SEN.

### Calculating the notional SEN budget

- 4.3 **Rotherham's** schools' notional SEN budget is calculated as follows (% as indicated):

- a small part of the basic entitlement funding; **5%**
- a larger part of deprivation funding, reflecting the higher prevalence of lower-level SEN amongst disadvantaged pupils **50%**, and

- the majority or whole of the low prior attainment factor funding, as this is the best proxy we currently have for pupils with low-cost, high-incidence SEN **100%**

It is shown as a single figure and denotes the element of a school budget share which is notionally intended to support both existing SEN pupils with Low Cost / High Incidence SEN, and the first £6,000 of support for high-cost pupils.

It is important to note that the notional SEN budget is not intended to provide £6,000 for every pupil with SEN, as most such pupils' support will cost less than that. Nor is the notional SEN budget intended to provide a specific amount per pupil for those with lower additional support costs, even though the local authority may make reasonable assumptions about what those costs might be for the purpose of ensuring that their schools' notional SEN budget calculation is realistic.

#### **4.4 Notional SEN assumptions**

To assist Schools with the calculation, we have notionally assumed that approximately:

- 25% of the notional SEN will be used to support low cost / high incidence SEN
- 75% of the notional SEN budget will be used to support the first £6,000 of high cost pupils.

It is then estimated that 75% of the notional figure should meet the 'high cost' pupil numbers, at a rate of £6,000 per pupil.

#### **Targeted funding to supplement the notional SEN budget**

- 4.5 In some cases, however, a mismatch between the notional SEN budget and actual costs of SEN support may be because the school has a disproportionate number of 'high cost' pupils with SEN in relation to its size.
- 4.6 In this instance the local authority can provide targeted funding from its high needs budget to schools in such exceptional circumstances. This would be where the 'high cost' pupils are higher than the number outlined in the notional assumptions set out in para 4.4.

### **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 That Schools Forum support Rotherham's Notional SEN additional funding eligibility criteria.



**6. NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS**

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