

SCHOOLS FORUM REPORT

Subject: National Funding Formula Update: Schools Revenue Funding 2018-19

1. Introduction

The Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) has now released guidance for Local Authorities and Schools on revenue funding for 2018-19. The full National Funding Formula (NFF) for 2018-19 and 2019-20 has been confirmed along with indicative DSG allocations with final updates in December 2017.

2. Summary

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) will be allocated in four blocks based on national funding formulae for April 2018. These are Schools, High Needs, Early Years and Central School Services. Funding in the Schools Block will be based on a national formula but Local Authorities (LA's) can continue to fund schools on local formula for 2018-19 and 2019-20. Based on indicative modelling Rotherham's DSG for Schools Block will increase by 1.3% and High Needs Block by 2.8% in 2018-19. Funding for Central Services will increase by 2.5%. Indicative allocations are attached in Appendix 1. De-delegation of funding to LA's for central provision of services is still permitted with agreement of School Forum.

3. Headline changes to formula announced through ministerial statement.

- There is an additional £1.3 billion for Schools and High Needs across 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- In 2018-19 all LA's to receive an increase compared to DSG levels in 2017-18.
- The NFF set notional allocations for each school, aggregated up to calculate the Schools Block.
- Schools Block allocation – 0.5% increase per pupil - pupil-led
- Minimum per pupil thresholds in 2018-19 of £3,300 per Primary and £4,600 per secondary (£3,500 and £4,800 in 2019-that the 2018-19
- MFG will continue – flexibility to set between 0% and minus 1.5% so LA's have the flexibility to offer higher levels of protection locally than previously.
- Pupil numbers – include integrated resource numbers on roll
- Schools Block ring-fenced from 2018-19 but can transfer up to 0.5% with Forum agreement. This equates to £925k. An objection to a transfer or should the LA wish to transfer more than 0.5% an application to the Secretary of State is required by 30TH November 2017.
- Confirmation that the High Needs funding will be based on a national funding formula, rather than being based on a historic roll forward method used in previous years.

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