

REPORT FOR SCHOOLS FORUM

1.	Date of meeting:	9th November 2018
2.	Title:	2019/20 Contingency for Pupil Growth funding allocations
3.	Directorate:	Children and Young People's Services

1. Background

- 1.1 Pupil numbers are increasing within the Borough as verified by the latest DfE School Capacity and Planning (SCAP) scorecard as a 15% increase in Primary aged pupils (which is a further 2% increase since the previous scorecard) and a 1% increase in Secondary aged pupils since 2010. The impact on education infrastructure has been planned for by the introduction of 2,172 new places in the borough (broken down as: 105 SEND, 575 Secondary, 1,492 Primary) created between November 2011 and September 2019.
- 1.2 This report outlines the transitional *funding (7/12 funding for maintained Schools and 12/12 funding for Academies)* required to support the additional staffing requirements for expanding schools in the Borough until school census funding generates the income for the additional pupils.
- 1.3 The report also outlines the pre start up allocation required in relation to Waverley Junior Academy as agreed by Schools Forum as part of the pre start up and diseconomies in the first year of operation funding formula for new schools.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1 The impact on children and families can be significant where siblings are separated across more than one school due to a lack of school places; parents are reluctant to take up offers of a school place due to logistical and financial constraints around travel; and there is a potentially negative impact on one or more of the children's attendance within the family unit, impacting on participation and achievement of wider educational outcomes.
- 2.2 There are always risks and uncertainties when school place provision is considered since future pupil numbers are based on estimations. Over provision at one school could influence pupil numbers at other schools. Local Authorities are obliged, however, to provide sufficient places, promote diversity and increase parental preference.

3. Key actions and relevant timelines

- 3.1 Where schools are expanded, it is necessary to provide interim financial support to bridge the gap (between 1st September and 31st March for maintained Schools and

1st September to 31st August for Academies) due to funding arrangements. Funding is allocated to schools each year based upon numbers on roll on Census day in October of the preceding year. Additional pupils commencing at the start of a new academic year will not be on roll at that time in order to generate sufficient funding to meet additional staffing and other agreed expenditure.

- 3.2 Using the previously agreed formula for funding allocations, it is recommended that the following allocations are approved by Schools Forum from the Pupil Growth element within the Schools Block to fund school expansion implications and pre start up implications relating to Waverley Junior Academy:

2019/20 Academic Year Recommended Allocations

School	Amount
Wath C of E Primary	£56,076
Sandhill Primary	£56,076
Laughton J and I	£56,076
Brinsworth Howarth	£32,711
Wickersley SSC	£62,556
Wales High	£62,556
Wath Comprehensive	£62,556
St Bernard's	£56,076
Waverley Junior Academy (pre start up)	£34,289 (September 19 – March 20)
Total	£478,972

4. Risks and mitigation

- 4.1 There are always risks and uncertainties when a school expansion takes place as, increasing pupil numbers in one school could impact on another schools numbers. However as detailed in section 1 of this report, pupil numbers are rising across the Borough and the trend is set to continue with the implementation of the local plan. Local Authorities have a statutory duty under the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations) Regulations 2013 to satisfy parental preferences for school places as far as possible within funding parameters.

5. Recommendations to Schools Forum

- 5.1 It is recommended that the 2019/20 allocations specified be approved and funded from the Pupil Growth element within the Schools Block. A further report will be submitted to confirm transitional funding for 2020/21 and the pre start up and diseconomies allocation for Waverley Junior Academy.

6. Name and contact details

Dean Fenton
 Head of Service – School Planning, Admissions and Appeals
Dean.fenton@rotherham.gov.uk