

REPORT FOR SCHOOLS FORUM

1.	Date of meeting:	26th June 2020
2.	Title:	Waverley Disapplication Request
3.	Directorate:	Finance and Customer Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform members of the Schools Forum of the local authority's intention to submit a disapplication request to vary the pupil numbers on October 2020 schools census return.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That Schools Forum members note and supports the information contained within this report.

3. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 To ensure that Schools Forum members are kept informed of disapplication request.

4.. BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND CONTEXT

4.1 Context

Waverley Junior academy is scheduled for completion in early August in time for the start of the 2020/2021 academic year, but this may not be achieved given the current COVID pandemic. As a consequence of a delay to the opening of Waverley academy, pupils currently on roll at Rotherham schools who have applied to transfer to Waverley have the option to remain in their current school. This temporary measure could lead to these pupils being included in the October 2020 pupil census count at those schools and not Waverley's. 2021/2022 school budgets are mainly determined by the number of pupils on school census data.

Where a new school has opened, regulations require local authorities to estimate the pupil numbers for that school, explaining the rationale underpinning the estimates. The local authority can include those pupils registered on the temporary school's October 2020 count with Waverley, for the purpose of future funding calculations.

To ensure these pupils are not double funded regulations require the local authority submit a disapplication request to the ESFA in order to vary October 2020 pupil numbers, should the above-mentioned scenario occur. This would be an adjustment to the submitted census data of those schools where the Waverley pupils have remained on a temporary basis. It will remove those pupils who are to transfer to Waverley Junior and therefore 2021/2022 funding will reflect their removal from October 2020 census return.

The local authority has consulted with all schools to make them aware that it is the local authority's intention to submit a disapplication request in the Autumn term if necessary.

All Rotherham schools will be kept informed about the disapplication request and the completed application will be presented to Schools Forum for their approval in the Autumn term.

Names and contact details

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