

Schools Forum Briefing

1.	Date of meeting:	18 th September 2020
2.	Title:	New Funding Announcement – Pre 16 Schools Revenue Funding for 2021/2022
3.	Directorate:	Finance and Customer Services Directorate

1. SUBJECT: NEW FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To inform Schools Forum members of the recently announced School Funding Update

3. RECOMMENDATION (S)

That members note this information and ensure they make school/academies that they represent aware of this information.

4. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S)

To ensure Schools Forum members are aware of the latest announcements relating to funding.

5. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 5.1 On 20th July the Minister of State for School Standards made a written statement setting of the key aspects to schools, high needs and central school services national funding formula for 2021/2022.

SCHOOLS AND HIGH NEEDS

6. Provisional funding allocations for 2021/2022 through the schools, high needs and central services national funding formula (NFF) have been published.

- 6.1 The 5-16 core schools and high needs budget will, compared to 2019/20 rise by the following:

- £4.8 billion in 2021/22
- £7.1 billion in 2022/23

In addition to this, additional pension costs for teachers, worth £1.5 billion per year.

- 6.2 Funding from the teachers' pay grant and the teachers' pension employer contribution grant, including the supplementary fund, has been added to schools' NFF allocations from 2021-22. The funding has been added to basic per pupil entitlement, to the minimum per pupil funding levels, and to schools' baselines so that it is protected through the funding floor. This will simplify the allocation of this funding – worth almost £2bn a year – recognising the fact that these grants are part of schools' core budgets and providing reassurance to schools and local authorities that this funding will continue to be provided.
- 6.3 The 2019 update to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index has been incorporated so that deprivation funding allocated through the formulae is based on the latest data.
- 6.2 The minimum per pupil amounts are also set to increase; the current levels are £3,750 for primary and £5,000 for secondary schools. For 2021/2022 these will increase to £4,000 and £5,150 for primary and secondary respectively. – on top of that, these schools will receive an additional £180 and £265 per pupil respectively to cover additional teachers' pay and pension costs previously funded through the separate grants.
- 6.3 In addition, for 2021/2022 the minimum funding guarantee will be between +0.5% and +2.00% (for 2020/2021 the MFG was between +0.5% and +1.84%).
7. Local authorities will only be able to transfer 0.5% of their Schools block with School Forum approval. To transfer more than this or any amount without Forum approval, they will have to submit a request to the DfE.
- 7.1 Final dedicated schools grant allocations will be released in December 2020 (following the October 2020 census).
8. Within the allocations announced above, £730m has been included in 2021/22 to support children & young people with special educational needs. The high needs NFF will ensure that every local authority receives an increase of at least 8% per head of population.

CENTRAL SCHOOLS SERVICES

- 8.1 Central schools services funding in 2021-22 will increase by 4% for the ongoing responsibilities that local authorities continue to have for all schools.

Name and contact details

Vera Njegic
Principal Finance Officer (Schools Finance)
Tel: 01709 822042
email vera.njegic@rotherham.gov.uk