

Schools Forum Briefing

1.	Date of meeting:	18th September 2020
2.	Title:	New Funding Announcement – Support for Schools this year during the Covid-19 pandemic.
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 to support children and young people to catch up following disruption to their education as a result of Coronavirus (Covid-19) and Early Years this autumn term.

5. **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 5.1 On 20th July the Government announced £1 billion of funding to support children and young people to catch up. This includes a one-off universal £650 million catch-up premium for the 2020/2021 academic year and a £350 million National Tutoring Programme for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

6. **UNIVERSAL CATCH-UP PREMIUM**

- 6.1 The £650 million of universal catch-up premium will be available for all mainstream and special schools and alternative provision. Funding will be provided for pupils with EHC plans who are educated in independent special schools.

Schools' allocations will be calculated on a per pupil basis, providing each mainstream school with a total of £80 for each pupil in years reception through to 11. Special and AP schools will be provided with £240 for each place for the 2020/2021 academic year.

6.2 Funding will be provided in 3 tranches with an initial part payment in Autumn 2020.

6.3 As the catch-up premium has been designed to mitigate the effects of the unique disruption caused by coronavirus (COVID-19), the grant will only be available for the 2020 to 2021 academic year. It will not be added to schools' baselines in calculating future years' funding allocations.

6.2 Schools have the flexibility to spend their funding in the best way for their cohort and circumstances. To support schools to make the best use of this funding, the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) has published a [support guide for schools](#) with evidence-based approaches to catch up for all students.

7. **NATIONAL TUTORING PROGRAMME**

The £350 million National Tutoring programme provides additional targeted support for those children and young people who need the most help.

7.1 The programme will comprise of at least 3 parts in the 2020 to 2021 academic year, including:

- a 5-16 programme
- a 16-19 fund to provide small group tutoring activity
- a reception year early language programme

7.2 Please see link to government guidance and support [Covid-19 catch up premium guidance](#)

8. **EARLY YEARS FUNDING THIS AUTUMN TERM**

The Government has also announced its position on funding local authorities and childcare providers for the early years free entitlements for the 2020 autumn term, confirming that they will fund childcare at the level they would have done before coronavirus until the end of the year.

8.1 This means that even if providers are open but caring for fewer children they usually would be in the autumn term as a result of lower demand from parents or for public health reasons – they can continue to be funded as if the pandemic were not happening. This gives another term of secure income to nurseries and childminders who are open for the children who need them.

8.2 Guidance setting this out in more detail is available. [Free EY Entitlement - Covid](#)

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