

Schools Forum Briefing

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| 1. | Date of meeting: | 17 th September 2021 |
| 2. | Title: | New Funding Announcement – Pre 16 Schools Revenue Funding for 2022/2023 |
| 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 19th 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 2022/2023.

6. SCHOOLS AND HIGH NEEDS

- 6.1 Provisional funding allocations for 2022/2023 through the schools, high needs and central services national funding formula (NFF) have been published.

School funding is increasing by 3.2% overall and by 2.8% per pupil, compared with 2021 to 2022.

High needs funding is increasing by £780m or 9.6% in 2022/2023. The high needs NFF will ensure that every local authority receives at least an 8% increase per head of population.

The DfE has made a technical change to the historic spend factor within the high needs NFF, following consultation this year. The factor has been

updated to use 50% of local authorities' actual spend data in 2017 to 2018 rather than their planned spend.

Funding factors used in the 2022 to 2023 schools national formulae

- 6.2 The DfE are decreasing the funding lag for the "FSM6" deprivation funding factor by 9 months, by moving from using the previous year's January census to the October census for measuring eligibility.
- 6.3 In calculating low prior attainment proportions, data from the 2019 early years foundation stage profile (EYFSP) and key stage 2 (KS2) tests is used as a proxy for the 2020 tests, following the cancellation of assessment due to the pandemic.
- 6.4 Pupils who joined a school between January and May 2020 attract funding for mobility on the basis of their entry date, rather than by virtue of the May school census being their first census at the current school (the May 2020 census did not take place due to the pandemic).
- 6.3 Schools' business rates will be paid by ESFA to billing authorities directly on behalf of all state funded schools from 2022 to 2023 onwards. More information to follow.
- 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 2021 (following the October 2021 census).
- 7.2 The DfE has issued an initial consultation on how they propose to move towards a hard NFF in which all mainstream schools will have their funding allocated according to a single national formula rather than individual local formulae as in the current system. The consultation closes on 30th September 2021. For reference, 2021/2022 NFF and Rotherham factor and values are shown on Appendix A along with the recently published 2022/2023 NFF.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/fair-school-funding-for-all-completing-our-reforms-to-the-national-funding-formula>

8.1 **CENTRAL SCHOOLS SERVICES**

Central schools services funding in 2022-23 will increase by 2% for the ongoing responsibilities that local authorities continue to have for all schools.

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