

REPORT FOR SCHOOLS FORUM

1.	Date of meeting:	14th January 2022
2.	Title:	2022/2023 Dedicated Schools Grant
3.	Directorate:	Finance and Customer Services

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide an update to Schools Form members as to the 2022/2023 Dedicated Schools Grant funding for Rotherham.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That members of Schools Forum note the content of the report.

3. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

To ensure members are aware of the Dedicated Schools Grant funding information as set out by the Department for Education.

To ensure compliance with the School & Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2017.

4. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Department for Education issued the final version of the Authority Pro-forma Tool (APT) to local authorities, with the autumn 2021 pupil census information shortly before Christmas. The local authority has until 21st January 2022 to submit the final version back to the Department for Education.

In October 2021 the local authority sought consultation with schools, academies and Schools Forum on the local funding formula decisions as set out in the regulations and the tables and appendix within this report contain summary information on the impact of those decisions.

5. INITIAL DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT ALLOCATIONS

On 16th December 2021, the Department for Education issued the indicative DSG allocations for the 2022/2023 financial year.

For Rotherham, the initial allocations are;

Table 1.

	Initial Allocation
Schools block (both schools and academies)	£218.361m
Central schools services block	£1.454m
Early Years block	£17.816m
High Needs block	£48.323m
TOTAL	£285.954m

6. SCHOOLS BLOCK

The final allocation is mainly based on funding rates of £4,658.05 for primary children (£4,525.65 in 2021/2022) and £6,138.15 for secondary children (£5,997.26 in 2021/2022) as at the October 2021 pupil census counts plus actual amounts for premises related costs and historic pupil growth.

The October 2021 census count shows that there are a total number of pupils across the borough of 39,884; this is an increase of 184 (-124 in primary & + 308 in secondary) pupils from the October 2020 census count.

From the census data we have identified that 56 schools/academies have seen overall decreases in pupils, 6 have remained static and 49 have seen an overall increase in the number of pupils on roll.

As noted previously, MFG protection is on a per pupil basis – it does not safeguard against overall reductions in the numbers of pupils within a school/academy.

Tables 2 and 3 below shows that the overall school block funding allocation has increased from £211.31m in 2021/2022 to £218.36m in 2022/2023.

As agreed at the Schools Forum meeting on the 19th November 2021 a request to transfer 1.5% from the school block to the high needs block was submitted to the Secretary of State. If this request does not gain approval 0.5% will be transferred, therefore the local authority is required to complete 2 versions of the Authority Pro-forma Tool (APT)

Summary position in respect of DSG schools block allocation

Table 2- Successful Disapplication request to transfer 1.5%

	2021/2022	2022/2023	Difference	Comments
Schools block allocation	£211.31m	£218.36m	£7.05m	increase in funding rates
Pupil Growth fund	£280k	£250k	£-30k	Agreed at November meeting
Falling Rolls Fund	£50k	£50k	-	Agreed at November meeting
Transfer to High Needs	£3.04m	£3.28m	£0.24m	
Amount of Schools Block funding allocated through formula	£207.94m	£214.78m	£6.84m	increase in funding rates
% of total DSG schools block allocated through formula	98.5%	98.5%		

Table 3 - Unsuccessful Disapplication request - transfer 0.5%

	2021/2022	2022/2023	Difference	Comments
Schools block allocation	£211.31m	£218.36m	£7.05m	increase in funding rates
Pupil Growth fund	£280k	£250k	£-30k	Agreed at November meeting
Falling Rolls Fund	£50k	£50k	-	Agreed at November meeting
Transfer to High Needs	£3.04m	£1.09k	£-1.95m	
Amount of Schools Block funding allocated through formula	£207.94m	£216.97m	£9.03m	increase in funding rates
% of total DSG schools block allocated through formula	98.5%	99.5%	-	

To date the Education & Skills Funding Agency has not made a final decision regarding the local authority's request to transfer 1.5%,`

A report providing details of the rates applied to the individual formula funding rates will be presented to Schools Forum at the next meeting in April 2022. The rates applied will continue to be in line with the previous decisions reached in respect of the gradual transition to the national funding formula..

7. CENTRAL SERVICES SCHOOLS BLOCK (CSSB)

The table below compares the CSSB allocation and 2022/2023 budgets with 2021/2022 .

Table 6

	2021/2022	2022/2023	Difference	Comments
Central services schools block allocation	£1.37m	£1.45m	£80k	increase in funding rates
Admissions	£182k	£191k	£9k	
National copyright licences	£263k	£280k	£17k	Notified by DfE
Former ESG	£757k	£800k	£43k	
Centrally employed teachers pay and pensions	£164k	£174k	£10k	
Schools Forum	£4k	£5k	£1k	

8. PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING FOR 2022/2023.

The following arrangements for pupil premium in 2022 to 2023 were announced on 16th December 2021:

- From April 2022, pupil premium allocations will be calculated based on the number of eligible pupils recorded by schools in their census in October 2021.
- An increase in Pupil premium and service rates in 2022/2023

	2021/2022	2022/2023	Increase
Primary FSM6 pupils	£1,345	£1,385	£40
Secondary FSM6 pupils	£955	£985	£30
Looked after children	£2,345	£2,410	£65
Children who have ceased to be looked after	£2,345	£2,410	£65
Service children	£310	£320	£10

9. Name and contact details

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