

## REPORT FOR SCHOOLS FORUM

1.	<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>
2.	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Free School Meals – Auto Enrolment Update</b>
3.	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Finance and Customer Services</b>

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on the final results of the Free School Meals (FSM) auto enrolment process.

### 2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 It is recommended that the schools forum note the total number of additional families identified through the process and the additional pupil premium generated.

### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION & CONTEXT

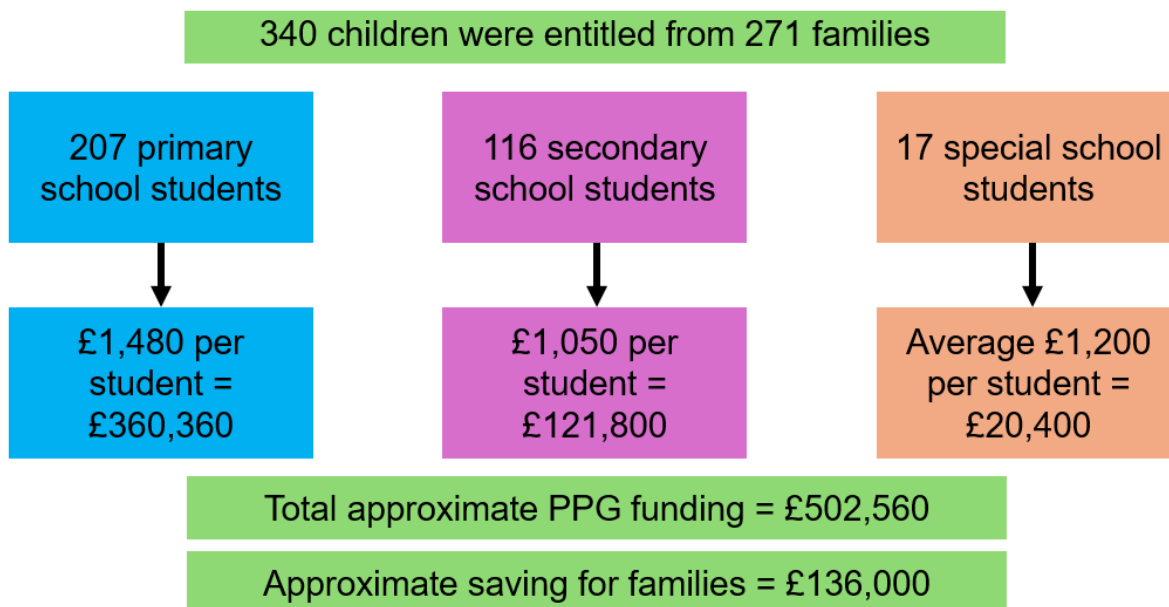
- 3.1 Work on the project began in November 2023 after a briefing highlighting that a number of children eligible for free school meals and not registered was taken to CYPS DLT and support was given the support of the directorate.
- 3.2 Many teams across the council became involved including Public Health, Revenue and Benefits, Finance and Customer Services and Education and initial meetings started in January 2024.
- 3.3 The work involved cross matching revenue and benefits team data with school census data to collate a list of children eligible for free school meals but not claiming them.
- 3.4 The main aims of the project were to ensure that families are receiving what they are entitled to and that schools are receiving the Pupil Premium Grant associated with free school meals.

### 4. RESULTS OF THE WORK UNDERTAKEN

- 4.1 A total of 360 letters were sent out to families on 23<sup>rd</sup> July covering 489 children with an opt out period of 3 weeks.
- 4.2 There were 3 opt outs in total. Of these, 2 didn't want their data matched and the other was about to start a job.

- 4.3 A total of 340 children from 271 families were auto-enrolled following the exercise resulting in a saving of £136,000 for families and approximate additional Pupil Premium funding of £502,560 for schools.

## Total Children/Families Helped



## Biggest Totals per School

Secondary School Name	Students Identified	2023/24 Eligibility	Funding
Clifton Community School	22	59%	£23,100
<a href="#">Wickersley School and Sports College</a>	14	15%	£14,700
<a href="#">Wath Academy</a>	10	25%	£10,500
Rawmarsh Community School	10	39%	£10,500
Dinnington High School	9	29%	£9,450
Primary School Name	Students Identified	2023/24 Eligibility	Funding
Crags Community School	9	60%	£13,320
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	7	15%	£10,360
Springwood Junior Academy	7	36%	£10,360
<a href="#">Wath Central Primary School</a>	6	23%	£8,880
St Ann's Primary School	6	54%	£8,880
<a href="#">Monkwood Primary School</a>	6	34%	£8,880
Broom Valley Community	6	37%	£8,880

- 4.4 The Revenue and Benefits team will be notifying schools to let them know who is entitled for FSM.
- 4.5 A joint report will be written after the census figures are in and will be shared with the Schools Forum.
- 4.6 The project will be repeated next year to identify any new families that are eligible for FSM.

## **5. NAMES & CONTACT DETAILS**

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