



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
C/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

MEETING	SCHOOLS FORUM
DATE	Thursday 20 January 2022
TIME	14 00 to 16 00
VENUE	<u>Remote meeting - MS Teams</u>

AGENDA

[Schools forum documents and reports | Islington Council](#)

	Item	Information & To note/ Comments & views/Decision	Author	Report
1.	Apologies		Clerk	
2.	Minutes of previous meeting		Clerk	Enclosed
3.	Forum Composition		JW	Enclosed
4.	DSG Budget Monitor (2021-22)	Information & To note	TP	Enclosed
5.	DSG Settlement (2022-23)	Information & To note	DS	Enclosed
6.	School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant	Information	SC	Verbal
7.	School Funding Formula (2022-23)	Decision	DS	Enclosed
8.	Growth / Falling Rolls proposals (2022-23)	Decision	DS	Enclosed
9.	School Central Retention (2022-23)	Decision	TP	Enclosed

	Item	Information & To note/ Comments & views/Decision	Author	Report
10.	Early Years Sub Group update	Information	AG	Verbal
11.	Early Years Funding Formula (2022-23)	Decision	DS	Enclosed
12.	Forward Planning	Information & To note	DS	Enclosed
13.	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holiday Pay & TTO 	Information	AC/TP	Verbal

Contact for queries

[Suzie Crawford](#)
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Islington Schools Forum

Minutes of the meeting on Thursday 25 November 2021 at 2pm – held virtually (MS Teams)

Meeting documents and minutes published on [Islington Schools Forum webpage](#).

PRESENT

Forum Members

Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy (AM-L)	Head teacher, Newington Green Primary School (Chair)
Paul Lasok (PL)	Governor, St Aloysius Secondary School (and St Joseph's)
Maggie Elliott (ME)	Governor, Montem Primary School (Edventure Collaborative Federation with Drayton Park) (Vice-chair)
Andrew Bosi (AB)	Governor, Rotherfield Primary School
Joe Simpson (JS)	Governor, St Peter and St Paul's Catholic Primary
Claire Hersey (CHe)	Principal Finance Officer, City of London Academy Trust
Sally Franklin (SF)	Head teacher, North Islington Nursery and Children's Centre
Ana Sevilla (ASe)	Executive Head, New River Green and Packington Children's Centres
Alan Streeter (AS)	Head teacher, Beacon High Secondary School (Islington Futures Federation)
Nigel Smith (NS)	Head teacher, New River College (Pupil Referral Unit)
Jenny Lewis (JL)	Head teacher, Thornhill Primary School
Cassie Moss (CM)	Head teacher, Yerbury Primary School (Vice-chair)
Tanya Watson (TW)	Head teacher, William Tyndale (Primary Academy)
Fiona MacCorquodale (FM)	Head teacher, Prior Weston Primary School & Children's Centre
Penny Barratt (PB)	Head teacher, The Bridge Special School (Academy)
Susan Service (SS)	Head teacher, Arts & Media School Islington
Patrick Mildren (PM)	Head teacher, Canonbury Primary School
Anita Grant (AG)	CEO, Islington Play Association
Francis Gonzalez (FrG)	Head teacher, Richard Cloudesley Special School
Coleen Marshall (CMa)	14 to 19s partnership - City & Islington Sixth Form College
Vicky Linsley (VL)	Head teacher, St Mary Magdalene Academy

Other Attendees

Cate Duffy (CD)	Interim Corporate Director People (beginning of meeting)
Sarah Callaghan (SC)	Director of Learning and Culture
Tim Partington (TP)	Head of Children's Services, Finance
Jane Wright (JW)	Manager Schools and Early Childhood Governance (Clerk)
Debbie Stevenson (DS)	Head of Early Years and Schools Finance Services
Alison Cramer (AC)	Assistant Director School Support and Information Services
Susan Woodland (SW)	Interim Finance Manager (LBI)

Apologies

Candy Holder (CH)	Head of Pupil Services
Cllr Rakhia Ismael	Non-executive LA member
Ann Curran	Head of New River Green Children's Centre (supporting ASe)

	Agenda item	Action
1.	<p>Welcome/Apologies for absence/not in attendance</p> <p>AM-L welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies as above and it was noted that CMa would need to leave the meeting at 3.30pm. The clerk, JW, advised Forum that she had received an email from Cllr RI sending her apologies and her resignation from Forum that day. VL had contacted Governor Services to say that she would need to leave at 3pm.</p> <p>Cate Duffy (CD) was attending for the beginning of the meeting. It was agreed that after Items 1 to 3, CD would address the meeting to give context to Items 7 and 10 and these items would be taken before returning to Item 4.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 21 October 2021</p> <p>a. Accuracy – the minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting subject to the following corrections:</p> <p><i>Page 1 – AS is head teacher of Beacon High, not Beacon Heights</i> <i>FM – correct spelling of surname is MacCorquodale and she is head teacher of Prior Weston and Children’s Centre</i> <i>To correct school to Arts and Media School Islington</i> <i>Page 4 – Item 4 – in relation to EY underspend, ‘TP mentioned the turbulence that came from the extension of the 15 hours (not yours)...’</i> <i>Page 6 – Item 7 second para – ‘The responses....on schools, including having (not ‘have’) high numbers...’</i> <i>Page 8 – Item 8 Collaboration Project. Mid page – to bold ‘with’ and ‘to’ - ...’the spirit of doing with no to...’ to make it clearer.</i> <i>Penultimate line – ‘...funding difficulties would be the ones...’</i></p> <p>b. Matters Arising – there were no matters arising.</p> <p>AGREED</p>	
3.	<p>Schools forum composition</p> <p>The clerk (JW) gave a short verbal report.</p> <p>3.1. Apportionment of places</p> <p>JW would bring a report to January Forum, by when the October Census 2021 would have been finalised, to check that the apportionment of places across phases and types of schools and academies was in line with the distribution of pupils. During that discussion in January, Forum may wish to consider looking at the issue of ensuring there is a representative from an Academy/Free-school Alternative Provision as set out in the DfE Operational and Good Practice Guide (para 39, page 12).</p> <p>3.2. Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) representative.</p> <p>NS’s term of office had been due to end on 25 October 2021. Forum was informed he had agreed to undertake another term of office due to end on 25 October 2025.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	

7. **Central School Services Block (CSSB) Central Retention**

10. **School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant**

CD gave the wider policy context for these two items before officers spoke to reports that had previously been circulated.

The reduction in funding that local authorities (LAs) can retain through the CSSB was happening (Item 7). The amounts of money involved would not lead to the collapse of education functions. But it is taking place against the context of the Coalition Government and now the current Government wishing to reduce the role of LAs. This is evidenced by changes to the way LAs are funded, the academisation agenda and the gradual introduction of a hard national funding formula reducing elements that Schools Forum controls and LAs retain.

There will be a White Paper on Schools in the New Year, setting new challenges for schools and LAs.

The current consultation on the School Improvement Monitoring Grant (Item 10) proposing to move this school improvement grant funding for LAs into de-delegated funding to be agreed by Forum does not come with any additional funding into the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) – so schools would get less funding if the preventative part of SI funding is agreed to be de-delegated.

The LA wants strong relationships with schools and to work with them on educational strategy.

In relation to two other items, (9. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services [CAMHS] and Speech and Language Therapy [SALT], and 13. School Organisation, CD explained that she had sent an email to ME and AML to explain that she had asked officers to hold off sending out papers for this Schools Forum. The School Organisation Board, comprising head teachers and governors, looks at the detail of School Organisation there. The Forum's role is to focus on Growth and Falling Rolls funding. In relation to producing a paper report on CAMHS/SALT, this was due to a misunderstanding on the part of the LA – CH will bring a paper to next Forum on the High Needs block which includes an element of funding for CAMHS and SALT. The wider issues relating to these two services are discussed at the SEND Board and sub groups as is appropriate given Health colleagues attend these but not Schools Forum.

Item 7 - Central School Services Block (CSSB) Central Retention

TP clarified that this was for information – no decisions to be made. Forum to note the overall reduction in funding. At January Forum, they will need to make spending decisions in relation to all schools.

The Government has been reducing this funding for the last two years. The funding of ongoing duties and historic costs is projected to decrease from £1.6m in 2021/22 to £965K in 2026/27, by when the historic costs funding is projected to be phased out. We will find out the actual allocation in December. The top slice for copyright by the DfE is likely to increase. The LA will need to work with schools in the next financial year to manage the services they use as funding reduces.

AML asked what is being done to quality assure the services as quality varies. AC replied that she had met with SC and CD about this and she will report back soon.

NOTED

Item 10 – School Improvement Monitoring and Brokering Grant

This was an item to note. Depending on the outcome of the DfE consultation due to end on 26 November, there may need to be a rapid consultation of maintained schools about de-delegation of funds. SC spoke to a paper that had been circulated.

SC commented that the window for the DfE consultation (29 Oct to 26 Nov) was tight and coincided with our area SEND inspection. Responding to such consultations in future should be more coordinated and timely once the Education Strategy is established.

There are currently two strands of funding for the LA to be able to meet its statutory school improvement duties in relation to maintained schools:

- School Improvement Monitoring and Brokerage Grant – currently £253K – for the LA's core intervention activities
- De-delegated funding for additional improvement services – needs agreement of Forum for funding out of Schools Block – more early intervention and prevention (EI and P) work.

The DfE consultation proposes to reduce by 50% the grant element in 2022/23 and remove it entirely from 2023/24. The DfE's rationale is that few LAs exercise their statutory power to intervene and so the grant is not needed. LAs are actually taking an Early Intervention and Prevention approach which is more cost-effective and leads to less need for statutory intervention. Part 4 of the paper sets out illustrative ways of how the LA would deal with the situation if the grant is cut. The LA will come back to Forum if there is a need to work on implications and mitigating actions.

SC confirmed the LA will be making a very robust response and this can be circulated (*update after meeting – was posted up on Schools Forum part of Governor Hub on 7 December*).

CM was concerned about schools being required to engage in consultation before Christmas and at a time when they are counting every penny. SC commented that the time frame was national. If the proposals are supported, it will be critical that we look at this with schools. The LA would not be working on the assumption that schools would plug the gap, but on the basis that preventative funding is more efficient.

AML commented on the difficulty of representing their sector without a robust understanding of the quality of services. SC said that the timeline for consulting on the withdrawal of the SIMBG was set by the DfE and it had placed pressure on all LAS trying to respond robustly within a limited window. However, it would be necessary for there to be a wider consultation with schools about the implications for Islington should the funding be withdrawn and she suggested this was scheduled for in the new year. This consultation would include a review of the impact of the funding. Dates will be circulated shortly.

CM suggested getting a date in the diary now in case such a consultation is needed, to be proactive not reactive. SC agreed and dates will be set shortly for the new year for more developed conversations. JL suggested in responses to say that we wanted to secure the funding.

Agreed after Forum: A meeting will be held on Friday 7 January to provide an update and discuss proposals, should the DfE implement the changes. To note, in the absence of a formal response from DfE, the meeting will focus on quality assurance of existing funds and future

	<p>proposals. The meeting will be open to all Forum members representing the maintained schools sector. Details of the meeting can be viewed in the Meetings section.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>Spending Review 21 (SR21) and updates to schools funding for 2022-23</p> <p>SW spoke to a report that had been circulated in advance. This item was for information.</p> <p>At high level, the SR21 looks good, but there is no detail as yet. The review confirms an additional £4.7 billion nationally by 2024-25 for the core schools budget, with an increase of £1,500 per pupil baseline compared to that in 2019-20. It is not clear how much of this will be for High Needs, nor are the impacts of National Insurance payments clarified.</p> <p>Guaranteeing teacher starting salaries of £30K does not help Islington as our current minimum salaries are higher than that – that is anyway within the £4.7bn.</p> <p>There will be £1.8bn Education Recovery funding over the next two academic years.</p> <p>In relation to capital funding, the first 100 schools (out of 500) to be rebuilt have been selected.</p> <p>There will be £2.6 billion of capital funding for new school places for children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in England. The Government has promised that the long-awaited SEND review will be published for consultation in the first quarter of 2022-23.</p> <p>ME asked if the £1.8bn funding for children with SEND before summer was the same as the funding announced in SR21. SW did not know.</p> <p>AML asked if the SEND review would cover High Needs funding or all SEN funding – SW said it was mainly HN funding (over which AML commented Schools Forum has no decision-making powers).</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p>DSG projected allocations (future year)</p> <p>DS spoke to a spreadsheet that had previously been circulated. This was an item for information at this stage. This set out the projected allocations to schools within the Schools Block for 2022-23. The LA would receive the final allocations in mid-December.</p> <p>The figures in the left-hand (yellow) column were based on October 2021 Census figures (yet to be finalised). The figures in the green column were illustrative as of July 2021 and based on 2020 Census figures. This shows the impact of the loss of 221 pupils on the Schools Block.</p> <p>The fall in pupil numbers will also impact on Central Schools Services Block.</p> <p>The High Needs was currently unchanged as the DfE have been giving additional funding outside the formula while we wait for the SEND review.</p> <p>Allocations for Early Years will be known in December, but it was announced on 25 November that there will be an increase in the hourly rates for the free offer for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. Islington will find out in December if we will get increases for our rates, given we have been</p>	<p>All</p>

	<p>protected through disapplication of the funding rules. Good news is that the Maintained Nursery Schools' funding will continue at least during the period of this SR.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Growth / Falling Rolls proposals (future year)</p> <p>DS reported to a report previously circulated.</p> <p><i>TW left the meeting at 2.52pm</i></p> <p>Forum agreed in principle at the October meeting, following the consultation of schools, to continue to retain Growth and Falling Rolls funding. With the October Census figures, it is possible to see what the figures are likely to look like.</p> <p>Explicit Growth Funding The table in Section 1.10 sets out the maximum and estimated funding in relation to four schools. The maximum (£331,599) exceeds the previously agreed total of £300k. However, some schools had not met their previous year's Published Admissions Number (PAN). So the question is does the Forum want to fund schools in that position? If Forum does not do that, funding needed is currently estimated at £240K. Forum were welcome to express an opinion about Growth funding now, and to revisit next year.</p> <p>FM asked for clarification about the difference between explicit and implicit growth. Implicit growth relates to growing schools that have not yet filled all their cohort groups and the funding comes through the Funding Formula. Explicit growth relates to permanent expansions and to bulge or additional adhoc classes.</p> <p>Falling Rolls The local criteria were set out in section 2.5. Final figures will be brought to January Forum. The budget previously agreed was £400K.</p> <p>Using the current criteria, seven schools are eligible for the funding and the budget would be overspent by £109K – Option A (Appendix C).</p> <p>If Forum wishes to keep the budget at £400K, the formula will need to be changed.</p> <p>The proposed change (Option B) in Appendix D is that schools will receive protection for the fall in numbers above the 5% threshold, so the school will absorb the first 5%. The resulting projected underspend of £60K could be used for Growth.</p> <p>AB commented that the criterion under point 2.5, 'Local planning data shows the places will be required within the next 3-5 years', was not helpful as local planning data was inaccurate. AML said that the School Organisation Board is looking at that. FM commented that according to local planning data, no school was really eligible. At School Organisation Board meetings, it appeared that there was a surplus of places for 3 to 5 year olds, and there was funding for growth and for FR in the same planning area.</p> <p><i>VL left at 15.01.</i></p> <p>AML asked what management plans were in place for schools with surplus capacity of 50% - it was confirmed that a project group would be set up for such schools. DS added that schools</p>	<p>DS</p>

	<p>with school rolls from October Census figures below that in their ratified budgets, and schools projecting a deficit, were being invited to meetings with the LA.</p> <p>AML asked if any of the schools in Option B (Appendix D) are projecting a budget surplus. DS replied that two out of the five schools with a projected surplus did meet the criteria.</p> <p>FM felt that Option B would be a better route given some schools may have grade-changing Ofsted inspections over the coming months and so become eligible or cease to be.</p> <p>CM asked why there was such a difference in funding for Highbury Quadrant and New North Academy – DS explained that this was because we have to fund academies for a full year as their financial year is September to August, while maintained schools get five months.</p> <p>AML asked if Forum could agree to fund maintained schools for 12 months. SW explained that maintained schools only need the uplift for five months – April to August, because of the lagged funding approach.</p> <p>AML asked if the FR funding could be shown over two or perhaps four years to show how this works. DS said she would bring more information to the January Forum.</p> <p>AML asked if Forum could change local criteria to prevent schools with surpluses receiving FR funding. DS said Forum could look at this for the following year, but we have already consulted schools in relation to 2022-23.</p> <p>Decisions would be needed in January.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	DS
7.	<p>Central School Services Block - Central Retention</p> <p>Discussed after Item 3.</p>	DS/CH
8.	<p>De-delegated Services benchmarking</p> <p>Forum was being asked to note the outcomes of the S251 benchmarking on de-delegated items in 2019-20 within the Schools Block of the DSG. SW spoke to a report that had been circulated. The report showed how different London boroughs spent de-delegated funds (for maintained schools) – Islington spent the most on Contingency (£1.2m out of £1.582K). What services boroughs spent contingency funds on varied a great deal.</p> <p>SW did not know when the 2020-21 figures would be available. She would present a report once this data is available.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	SW
9.	<p>High Needs: SALT & CAHMS</p> <p>As advised by CD above, a paper on SALT and CAMHS was to be presented by CH at the next forum. Forum has no decision-making powers in relation to High Needs funding but Forum is consulted on this spending.</p>	CH

	<p>JL commented that she had asked for a paper at last Forum on High Needs funding – she felt the premise for funding (use of IDACI factors/number of EHCPs) needed clarification and she and others had expressed the view that there was some inaccuracies in the paper last term.</p> <p>SC said she would chase CH up and share as appropriate.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	SC
10.	<p>School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant</p> <p>Discussed after Item 3 and Item 7.</p>	
11.	<p>Capital Sub Group feedback</p> <p>ME reported verbally.</p> <p>As part of the restructure of the council, Deirdre Vimpany was now leading for the LA on asset management – this had been explained in Schools Bulletin on 7 October.</p> <p>2020-21 works, for example on window repairs, had largely fallen into 2021-22 due to the pandemic, and there were currently difficulties with supply and pricing. New River College, the main large project, had been delayed, but contractors were now on site. Overall, unplanned items were using up the contingency funding so that there was only £75K left until the end of March 2022.</p> <p>Condition surveys have been commissioned – they last took place in 2018.</p> <p>Projects with matched funding which has to be spent within the year are also running into difficulties in relation to suppliers, with contractors projected to go on site in late January rather than October half-term.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	
12.	<p>Forum Forward Planning</p> <p>This was for information. DS will add the SALT/CAMHS report into the planner.</p>	DS
13.	<p>School Organisation – Strategic Overview</p> <p>As advised above by CD, she had advised AC not to present a paper at this Forum.</p> <p>This matter is sitting with the School Organisation Board which includes head teachers and governors. There was currently no update – schools and governors will be advised of updates. SC said that decisions about funding in relation to this project will come to Forum.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	

<p>14.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>1. Holiday Pay & TTO</p> <p>JL had raised this at the last Forum meeting – and she asked if the matter of possible under payments to support staff during holiday periods had been clarified. AC replied that she was working on this, and Forum will be advised once the LA has received legal advice.</p> <p>2. Collaboration Project</p> <p>SC advised that a Think Tank, rather than a shadow Education Board, had met and would continue to meet to discuss the vision and remit (terms of reference) of the forthcoming Education Board, including the connectivity between the Education Board and Schools Forum. In the current week, the Think Tank was looking at the terms of reference of a similar board in Hackney. The Board would begin meeting in the new year.</p> <p>NOTED</p>	<p>AC</p>
	<p>DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS (virtual meetings on MS Teams unless otherwise indicated)</p> <p>SCHOOLS FORUM</p> <p>Thursday 20 January 2022, 2-4 pm Thursday 19 May 2022, 2-4 pm Thursday 14 July 2022, 2–4 pm (Face to Face – venue TBC)</p> <p>School Improvement Monitoring & Brokering Grant update (adhoc meeting for maintained school representatives only)</p> <p>Monday 10 January 2022, –3.30 - 5 pm</p> <p>CHAIRS SUBGROUP</p> <p>Thursday 13 January, 2 – 3.30 pm Thursday 12 May, 2 – 3.30 pm Thursday 7 July, 2 – 3.30 pm</p> <p>EARLY YEARS SUBGROUP</p> <p>Tuesday 11 January, 2 - 4 pm Friday 6 May, 1 – 3 pm</p> <p>CAPITAL SUB GROUP</p> <p>Thursday 24 February – 12.30 – 2 pm Thursday 12 May – 12.30 – 2pm</p> <p>HIGH NEEDS SUB GROUP</p> <p>Monday 7 March – 11 am – 1 pm Monday 16 May – 11am – 1pm</p>	

DRAFT



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	Thursday 20 January 2022
AGENDA ITEM 3	School Forum – Constitution and Membership
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • note the final update on membership in relationship to the apportionment of places in line with outcome of School Census October 2021 • note a current vacancy on the Forum – LA representative • discuss how to make a small adjustment to membership to bring it into line with DfE guidance by including a representative from alternative provision academies/free schools.

1. Update on Membership

1.1. The final report on the apportionment of pupils across phases and type of school/academy indicates that, as the structure stands, there is no need to change the number of Schools Group members by type of setting as the membership.

1.2. Table 1.1. Apportionment of pupils autumn 2021

Phase	Maintained (%)	Academy/FS (%)	Total (%)
Primary	12,573 (56)	1,609 (7)	14,182 (63)
Secondary	4,438 (20)	3,901 (17)	8,339 (37)
Total	17,011 (76)	5,510 (24)	22,521 (100)

Table 1.2. Distribution of Mainstream Membership following Conversions

Sector	Maintained (%)	Academies/FS (%)	Total (%)
Primary	8 (56)	1 (7)	9 (63)
Secondary	3 (20)	2 (17)	5 (37)
Total	11 (76)	3 (24)	14 100)

2. Update on vacancies

2.1. There is currently still one vacancy on the Schools Forum – for non-Executive member – LA representative. This is to replace Cllr Rakhia Ismael who resigned on 25 November 2021. The Chief Whip’s Office is currently looking for a replacement, Forum will be updated in due course.

3. Structure of Forum

3.1. The DfE Schools Forum [Operational and Good Practice Guide March 2021](#) states (in paragraph 16):

'Academies members must represent mainstream academies and, if there are any in the local authority area, special academies and **alternative provision academies**. There is no requirement for academies members to represent specific primary and secondary phases, but it may be encouraged to ensure representation remains broadly proportionate to pupil numbers.'

3.2 Given there are now two alternative provisions which are free schools – The Pears Family School and ArtsXchange – there should in theory be a representative from these establishments. Their school rolls were not included in the figures above from October 2021 Census for the apportionment exercise.

3.3 Options for Schools Forum to consider:

3.3.i. Agree that these free schools be invited to agree a representative now to join the Forum as an alternative provision (academy/free school) representative. This would mean the membership would increase to 23.

3.3.ii. Defer discussion of this until the next Schools Forum meeting in May 2022.

Contact:

Jane Wright
Schools and Early Years Governance Manager (clerk)
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Appendix A: SCHOOLS FORUM COMPOSITION January 2022

Organisation	Nominee	Term of Office Ends	Primary	Secondary	Special	Nursery	PRU	Academy Primary	Academy Secondary	Academy Special	Non-school	Total	Head	Gov	Other
SCHOOL MEMBERS															
Arts and Media School Islington (AMSI)	Susan Service	28/02/2023		1									1		
Beacon High	Alan Streeter	31/03/2025		1									1		
Canonbury Primary School	Patrick Mildren	25/03/2025	1										1		
City of London Academies Trust (COLAT)	Claire Hersey	23/11/2024							1						1
North Islington Nursery School	Sally Franklin	21/09/2025				1							1		
Montem (VC)	Maggie Elliott	31/12/2024	1											1	
Newington Green (CH)	Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy	31/03/2024	1										1		
Prior Weston Primary & Children's Centre	Fiona MacCorquodale	30/09/2024	1										1		
PRU Mgt Cttee (New River College)	Nigel Smith	24/10/2025					1						1		
Rotherfield	Andrew Bosi	31/12/2024	1											1	
Richard Cloudesley Special School	Francis Gonzalez	10/01/2023			1								1		
St Aloysius	Paul Lasok	11/12/2022		1										1	
St Mary Magdalene Academy	Vicky Linsley	31/12/2024							1				1		
St Peter's and St Paul's Primary	Joe Simpson	05/03/2024	1											1	
The Bridge	Penny Barratt	31/03/2024								1			1		
Thornhill Primary School	Jenny Lewis	05/05/2025	1										1		
William Tyndale School	Tanya Watson	31/03/2025						1					1		
Yerbury Primary School (VC)	Cassie Moss	10/12/2022	1										1		
NON SCHOOL MEMBERS															
14-19 Partnership	Colleen Marshall	13/05/2025									1				1
New River Green, Packington Children Ctrs	Ana Sevilla	31/08/2025									1				1
Elected Member (non executive)	Cllr Angelo Weekes	13/01/2026									1				1
Early Years Childcare Providers	Anita Grant	27/09/2025									1				1
Total			8	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	4	22	13	4	5
Required			8	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	4	22			
Vacancies			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
HT/Govs 60/40 split															
Type	Vacancy														
TOTAL	0														



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SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	20 January 2022
AGENDA ITEM 4	DSG Budget Monitoring (2021-22)
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum notes the forecast variances against the DSG budget.

1 Summary

1.1 The DSG budget monitoring position at month 9 (end of December) is contained in this report. The overall forecast across all spending blocks is an underspend of £5.982m (3.8%, an increase of £0.169m since the last report to Schools Forum). A schedule of variances by spending block is in Appendix 1.

2 Schools Block

2.1 This consists of funding centrally retained for growth (£300k) and falling rolls (£400k). Any net underspend against these budgets will be rolled forward at year end. Allocations of growth are adjusted following the October census. The following variances against the budget are forecast, leading to a £88k underspend:

- - £81k (-27%) underspend against the budget for growth, following the outcome of the October census
- - £7k (-2%) underspend against the budget for falling rolls

2.2 The net underspend against growth and falling rolls will be carried forward to 2022/23 and can either be used for the same purpose in 2022/23 or allocated elsewhere by Schools Forum.

2.3 In addition there is the £321k balance from the one-off cash payment in relation to the Secondary Unit of Funding from 2019/20. This is being held until the summer term pending any adjustments following the changes to the treatment of NNDR for schools by the DfE / resolution of the legal position in to the term-time only staff pay to be resolved.

3 De-delegated Budgets

3.1 This is funding de-delegated by maintained schools for specific functions. Underspends cannot be used to offset overspends elsewhere within the DSG. We are currently expecting to allocate the schools in financial difficulties (£220k) and priority support (£188k) budgets in full this year.

3.2 The school redundancy budget (£205k) is made up of in-year de-delegated funding of £83k, a £22k carry forward from previous years and £100k of core Council funding. It is currently expected that this budget will be fully allocated this year.

4 Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)

4.1 There is an unallocated balance of £155k (10%) against the CSSB and a carry forward of £44k from 2021/22. These balances were being held to smooth in continued reductions in CSSB funding by the government.

4.2 An underspend of - £0.007m (16%, a new variance since the last report to Schools Forum) is forecast against the budget for admission appeals.

4.3 No further variances are forecast against the CSSB block (£1.627m).

5 High Needs Block

5.1 The following variances are forecast against the high needs block:

- - £1,210k remaining balance from the £1,524k underspend carried forward from 2020/21. £314k has allocated to schools with higher than average numbers of children with Education, Health and Care Plans. The remainder will be carried forward as a one-off contingency for high needs in 2022/23.
- - £1,324k (4%) high needs funding being held against future funding risks. This is the remainder of the growth in funding we received in 2021/22 to meet increasing cost pressures in high needs. We need to be cautious over the allocation of funding as the outlook for further growth for high needs is uncertain after 2022/23 and we are facing increasing levels of demand and complexity. The DfE are also reviewing the funding formula for high needs which could see Islington lose funding. Now we have had confirmation of additional high needs funding in 2022/23, we are considering options for the provision of further funding for mainstream schools to support them meet the needs of pupils with SEND in 2022/23.
- - £0.077m (0.5%, a reduction of £0.233m since the last report to Schools Forum) forecast underspend against the budget for centrally commissioned places in academies, the independent sector, further education and out of borough provision. The movement from the previous reported position is due to early years to primary transfers in September; and back dating of packages following reassessment of need following transfers into the FE sector.
- - £0.200m (33%, a reduction of £0.034m since the last report to Schools Forum) balance against the budget for additional needs. Although this is an in-year underspend, costs are committed until the end of the academic year, therefore this represents a timing difference.

6 Early Years Block

6.1 The position against the early years block is challenging to forecast at this stage due to uncertainty over the continued impact of Covid-19, in particular in relation to the autumn and spring terms and any subsequent negative participation adjustments we are likely to receive from the DfE in November. We are currently showing the following position against the Early Years Block:

- - £0.463m 2 year old balance from previous years that is being held to smooth in new funding arrangements for providers in future years. The cost of 2 year old provision is greater than 3 and 4 year old provision but the hourly rate received from the DfE is less. We have to apply to the Secretary of State to cross subsidise 2 year old provision with 3 and 4 year old funding each year. This has been granted for 2021/22 but there is no guarantee that we will be able to continue to do so in future years.
- - £2.093m contingency balance. This is an increase of £0.060m since the last report to Schools Forum because the in-year funding reduction from the DfE due to a reduced headcount was lower than had been anticipated. £2.033m of this balance is from 2019/20. Funding reductions represent a medium to long term funding risk due to changes in demand for childcare, and will impact on the sustainability of provision of early education and childcare in the borough if the headcount does not recover to pre-pandemic levels. It is therefore important to manage this balance carefully.

7 Overall position

The overall forecast across all spending blocks is an underspend of £5.982m (3.8%):

	Schools Block	De-delegated	CSSB	High Needs Block	Early Years Block	Total
	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k	£k
Variance	-409	0	-206	-2,811	-2,556	-5,982

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Appendix 1 – Variances by Spending Block

DSG M9 As at 31 December 2021	Over/(Under) Spend Month 9	Comments / options for use
SCHOOLS BLOCK		
<i>The DSG guidance states that these should be carried forward for the same purpose, however Schools Forum have the option to allocate these elsewhere if they see fit</i>		
Growth Underspend against the growth budget following confirmation of final pupil numbers from the October census	(81)	The net underspend against growth and falling rolls will be carried forward to 2022/23 and can either be used for the same purpose in 2022/23 or allocated elsewhere by Schools Forum
Falling Rolls	(7)	
Balance from one-off cash payment in relation to the Secondary Unit of Funding	(321)	Being held until the summer term pending any adjustments following the changes to the treatment of NNDR for schools by the DfE / resolution of the legal position in to the term-time only staff pay to be resolved.
Subtotal Schools Block	(409)	
DE-DELEGATED FUNDING		
<i>These funds are from maintained schools. Underspends cannot be used to offset overspends elsewhere in the DSG and vice versa. Balances can be rolled forward or returned to schools</i>		
No variances forecast at M6	0	
Subtotal De-delegated	0	
CENTRAL SCHOOLS SERVICES BLOCK		
<i>These funds are managed on behalf of all schools</i>		
Admission Appeals Underspend against the budget for school admission appeals for this academic year	(7)	Will be offset against any in-year overspends against the CSSB in the first instance.
Unallocated CSSB funding A balance of £44k has been carried forward from 2020/21 and £155k of 2021/22 funding is unallocated.	(199)	These balances are being held to smooth in continued reductions in CSSB funding by the government
Subtotal CSSB	(206)	
HIGH NEEDS BLOCK		
<i>These funds are managed on behalf of maintained schools, academies and free schools including special schools</i>		
High Needs balance A balance of high needs funding of £1.542m has been carried forward from 2020/21.	(1,210)	£314k has been allocated to schools with higher than average numbers of children with Education, Health and Care Plans. The remainder will be carried forward as a one-off contingency for high needs in 2022/23
High Needs Block funding being held against future funding risks	(1,324)	This is the remainder of the growth in funding we received in 2021/22 to meet increasing cost pressures in high needs. We need to be cautious over the allocation of funding as the outlook for further growth for high needs is uncertain after 2022/23 and we are facing increasing levels of demand and complexity. The DfE are also reviewing the funding formula for high needs which could see Islington lose funding. Now we have had confirmation of additional high needs funding in 2022/23, we are considering options for the provision of further funding for mainstream schools to support them meet the needs of pupils with SEND in 2022/23
Centrally commissioned places Underspend against the budget for provision in Academies, the independent sector and out of borough provision	(77)	Forecast underspend against centrally commissioned SEND placements after allowing for forecast increase in placements at the start of the year in the SEND needs analysis.
SEND additional needs	(200)	Balance against the budget for additional needs. Although this is an in-year underspend, costs are committed until the end of the academic year, therefore this represents a timing difference
Subtotal High Needs Block	(2,811)	
EARLY YEARS BLOCK		
<i>These funds are ring-fenced for Early Years under the DSG Operational Guidance</i>		
2-year old trajectory funding. Carry forward of 2-year old DSG funding from previous years that is being used to smooth in funding reductions for the statutory entitlement for free childcare for deprived 2-year olds now funding is allocated to local authorities based on take-up.	(463)	Being met from 3 and 4 year old funding in 2021/22 following agreement of the Secretary of State. Will be carried forward for its intended purpose in 2022/23.
Early Years contingency balance on the early years contingency budget from previous years that is being held to offset funding risks due to lower numbers in provision as a result of the pandemic.	(2,093)	We are also anticipating pressures against Early Years SEND to return in 21/22. These were £358k in 19/20, but did not materialise in 20/21 due to COVID-19.
Subtotal Early Years Block	(2,556)	
Total all blocks	(5,982)	

	2022-23 DSG Settlement (16/12/2021) (Based on Oct 21 data)			2022-23 (19/07/2021) Illustrative (Based on Oct 20 data)			Change Illustrative vs DSG Settlement (Recoupment & Eyr's estimates)			% Change	2021-22 DSG (24/11/21)			Change Current (2021-22) vs Illustrative (2022-23)			% Change	Net Change Current (2021-22) vs Oct 21 census (2022-23)			% Change
	Pupil Nos	Unit value	DSG Funding	Pupil Nos	Unit value	DSG Funding	Pupil Nos	Unit value	DSG Funding		Pupil Nos	Unit value	DSG Funding	Pupil Nos	Unit value	DSG Funding		Pupil Nos	Unit value	DSG Funding	
Schools Block:			£			£			£				£			£				£	
Primary Pupils	12,787	5,880.30	75,191,396	13,098	5,880.30	77,020,185	311	- 0.00	- 1,828,789	-2.4%	13,098	5,717.05	74,881,919	0	163.25	2,138,266	2.9%	-311	163.25	309,477	0.4%
Secondary Pupils	7,466	7,826.28	58,431,006	7,387	7,826.28	57,812,747	79	- 0.00	618,260	1.1%	7,387	7,628.94	56,355,013	0	197.34	1,457,734	2.6%	79	197.34	2,075,994	3.7%
Growth			823,756			659,229			164,527	25.0%			659,229			0				164,527	25.0%
Funding adj			0			0			-			-31									
Premises			5,070,988			5,070,988			-	0.0%		4,845,937			225,051		4.6%			225,051	4.6%
Schools Block - before recoupment	20,253	6,889	139,517,147	20,485	6,862	140,563,149	-232	-	-1,046,002	-0.7%	20,485	6,675	136,742,067	0	-	3,821,051	2.8%	-232	-	2,775,049	2.0%
National non-domestic rates within the premises factor			-2,559,053			0			- 2,559,053	0.0%			0		0		0.0%			-2,559,053	0.0%
Academy Recoupment:									-	#DIV/0!			- 34,361,208		34,361,208					0	
% of Total DSG			70.1%			70.5%															
Total Schools Block - after recoupment	20,253	6,889	136,958,094	20,485	6,862	140,563,149	-232	0	-3,605,055	#DIV/0!	20,485	6,675	102,380,859	0	0	38,182,259	2.8%	-232	0	215,996	2.0%
Central School Services Block:																					
Ongoing Duties	20,253	52.14	1,055,992	20,485	52.14	1,068,183	232	- 0.00	- 12,191	-1.14%	20,485	52.44	1,074,234	0	-0.30	-6,051	-0.6%	-232	-0.30	-18,242	-1.7%
Historic Commitments			421,888			421,888			-	0.0%		38.88	527,360	0	-38.88	-105,472	-20.0%	0	-38.88	-105,472	-20.0%
% of Total DSG			0.8%			0.7%															
Total CSSB			1,477,880			1,490,071			-12,191	-0.8%		78.18	1,601,594			-111,523	-7.0%			-123,714	-7.7%
High Needs Block:																					
National Funding Formula			36,743,328			36,743,328			-	0.0%		33,713,903			3,029,425		9.0%			3,029,425	9.0%
Basic Entitlement Factor (Sp Schs & Acad)	578.5	5644.95	3,265,605	572.5	5644.95	3,231,735			33,870	1.0%	572.5	5627.96	3,222,008	0	16.99	9,727	0.3%	0	16.99	43,597	1.4%
Import / Export adjs			156,000			184,997			- 340,997	-184.3%			156,000		340,997		-218.6%			0	0.0%
Special Free Schools			292,997			292,997			-	0.0%			292,997		0		0.0%			0	0.0%
Hospital education**, AP teachers pay/pension and supplementary funding*** factor total (provisional)			210,841			210,841			-	0.0%		210,842			-1		0.0%			-1	0.0%
Add'l High Needs Funding									-						0		0.0%			1,515,506	0.0%
Supplementary Grant Funding (NIC)			1,515,506			-			1,515,506	0.0%					0		0.0%				
High Needs Block - before recoupment			41,872,277			40,663,899			1,208,379				37,283,750			3,380,149				4,588,527	
EFA Direct funding of places			- 3,600,000			- 3,461,668			- 138,332	4.0%			- 3,450,002			-11,666	0.3%			-149,998	4.3%
% of Total DSG			19.6%			18.7%															
Total High Needs Block - after recoupment			38,272,277			37,202,231			1,070,047				33,833,748			3,368,483				4,438,529	
Early Years Block:		PTE	£/hour		PTE	£/hour		PTE	£/hour			PTE	£/hour		PTE	£/hour			PTE	£/hour	
3&4 Year Old (Schs + PVI)	2,854.13	7.81	12,705,732	3,019.24	7.81	13,440,752	- 165.11	-	- 735,020.19	-5.5%	3,019.24	7.81	13,440,752	- 165.11	-	- 735,020.19	-5.5%	330.22	-	- 735,020.19	-5.5%
3&4 Year Extended (Schs + PVI)	709.31	7.81	3,157,635	839.10	7.81	3,735,421	- 129.79	-	- 577,786.14	-15.5%	839.10	7.81	3,735,421	- 129.79	-	- 577,786.14	-15.5%	259.58	-	- 577,786.14	-15.5%
2 Year Old (Schs + PVI)	539.86	6.87	2,114,038	632.93	6.66	2,402,729	- 93.07	0.21	- 288,691.09	-12.0%	632.93	6.66	2,402,729	- 93.07	0.21	- 288,691.09	-12.0%	186.14	0.42	- 288,691.09	-12.0%
EYPPG (Schs + PVI)	519.40		229,893	519.40		156,911			72,982.26	46.5%	519.40		156,911			72,982.26	46.5%			72,982.26	46.5%
MNS	164	3.58	334,658			374,718			40,059.60	-10.7%			374,718			40,059.60	-10.7%			40,059.60	-10.7%
DAF			94,400			80,565			13,835	17.2%			80,565			13,835.00	17.2%			13,835.00	17.2%
% of Total DSG			9.5%			10.1%															
Total Early Years Block			18,636,356			20,191,096			-1,554,740	-7.7%			20,191,096			-1,554,740	-7.7%			-1,554,740	-7.7%
Total DSG before Recoupment			201,503,660			202,908,214			-1,404,554	-0.7%			195,818,507			5,534,936	2.8%			5,685,122	2.9%
Total DSG after Recoupment			195,344,607			199,446,546			-4,101,939	-2.1%			158,007,297			39,884,478	25.2%			2,976,071	1.9%

N.B. Supplementary Grant funding announced 16/12/21:

1. Mainstream Funding - £4,150,495 - For 2022-23 will not be included within DSG, rather paid as a separate grant. From 2023-24, will be moved to within DSG Schools Block. Relates to NIC and other pressures

2. High Needs Block - £1,515,506. Relates to NIC

Models of school funding 2022-23		2021-22		Option 1		Option 2				Option 1		Option 2					
School	Adj School Budget (budget incl rates adj)	MFG incl in budget	School Budget NFF rates 2022-23	MFG incl in budget	School Budget incr base rate 2022-23	MFG incl in budget	NOR Oct 20	NOR Oct 21	Change in NOR	Budget Impact	% change	Est of impact of change in NOR	Impact of settlement (illustrative)	Budget Impact	% change	Est of impact of change in NOR	Impact of settlement (illustrative)
Ambler Primary School and Children's Centre	2,419,079	253,374	2,478,161	235,399	2,478,353	233,760	409	412	3	59,083	2.44%	16,551	42,531	59,274	2.45%	16,603	42,671
Ashmount Primary School	2,271,773	23,804	2,267,386	8,575	2,267,382	7,211	398	390	-8	-4,387	-0.19%	-46,268	41,881	-4,391	-0.19%	-41,365	36,975
Blessed Sacrament RC Primary School	880,940	582	775,931	-	771,339	-	139	111	-28	-105,009	-11.92%	-146,041	41,032	-109,602	-12.44%	-158,275	48,674
Canonbury Primary School	2,167,365	-	2,237,397	-	2,238,779	-	399	391	-8	70,032	3.23%	-47,690	117,722	71,414	3.29%	-41,534	112,949
Christ The King Catholic Primary School	1,573,503	33,974	1,561,399	-	1,559,816	-	261	252	-9	-12,104	-0.77%	-44,156	32,052	-13,687	-0.87%	-50,569	36,881
City of London Primary Academy	972,557	16,008	1,380,115	-	1,378,659	-	181	258	77	407,558	41.91%	404,095	3,463	406,102	41.76%	368,516	37,586
Copenhagen Primary School	996,665	14,416	995,865	-	991,891	-	144	140	-4	-800	-0.08%	-20,722	19,922	-4,774	-0.48%	-23,219	18,446
Drayton Park Primary School	1,585,436	48,602	1,568,716	23,575	1,568,722	24,952	267	262	-5	-16,721	-1.05%	-27,533	10,813	-16,714	-1.05%	-26,212	9,497
Duncombe Primary School	2,075,027	-	2,318,466	-	2,319,038	-	333	353	20	243,439	11.73%	111,296	132,143	244,010	11.76%	119,651	124,360
Gillespie Primary School	1,170,238	44,024	1,199,571	29,203	1,199,815	32,012	203	206	3	29,334	2.51%	16,981	12,353	29,578	2.53%	14,824	14,754
Grafton Primary School	2,278,994	53,399	2,313,281	51,858	2,313,402	50,384	402	401	-1	34,287	1.50%	-5,248	39,535	34,409	1.51%	-5,266	39,674
Hanover Primary School	1,708,531	-	1,700,915	-	1,700,120	-	296	289	-7	-7,617	-0.45%	-36,263	28,646	-8,411	-0.49%	-36,412	28,001
Hargrave Park Primary School	1,724,323	57,806	1,729,137	4,544	1,729,151	5,565	284	279	-5	4,815	0.28%	-27,533	32,348	4,829	0.28%	-27,658	32,487
Highbury Quadrant Primary School	1,653,821	-	1,493,319	-	1,491,394	-	276	236	-40	-160,502	-9.70%	-218,249	57,748	-162,427	-9.82%	-219,103	56,676
Hugh Myddelton Primary School	2,472,469	82,182	2,497,937	26,219	2,498,025	24,540	412	409	-3	25,468	1.03%	-16,603	42,072	25,556	1.03%	-16,655	42,211
Hungerford School	1,083,992	-	1,189,062	-	1,185,878	-	165	177	12	105,070	9.69%	69,637	35,433	101,886	9.40%	69,893	31,992
Laycock Primary School	2,220,443	23,429	2,119,694	-	2,120,052	-	371	343	-28	-100,749	-4.54%	-155,814	55,066	-100,390	-4.52%	-156,412	56,022
Montem Primary School	1,808,192	35,349	1,781,946	-	1,780,746	-	285	270	-15	-26,247	-1.45%	-87,188	60,941	-27,446	-1.52%	-87,508	60,062
Moreland Primary School	1,818,569	24,668	2,025,325	-	2,025,149	-	291	318	27	206,756	11.37%	152,830	53,926	206,580	11.36%	153,406	53,175
Newington Green Primary School	2,284,920	25,819	2,294,671	-	2,295,627	-	381	371	-10	9,751	0.43%	-56,236	65,987	10,707	0.47%	-56,450	67,156
Pakeman Primary School	1,707,579	23,285	1,800,306	-	1,799,363	-	273	282	9	92,727	5.43%	51,029	41,698	91,783	5.38%	51,221	40,562
Pooles Park Primary School	1,543,073	-	1,367,110	-	1,364,396	-	237	199	-38	-175,963	-11.40%	-222,092	46,129	-178,677	-11.58%	-222,903	44,225
Prior Weston Primary School and Children's Centre	1,802,843	-	1,794,459	-	1,793,580	-	300	285	-15	-8,384	-0.47%	-80,038	71,654	-9,264	-0.51%	-80,358	71,094
Robert Blair School	1,208,987	45,404	1,222,858	17,252	1,223,077	20,591	178	180	2	13,871	1.15%	11,494	2,378	14,090	1.17%	11,573	2,517
Rotherfield Primary School	1,953,297	-	2,067,981	-	2,067,976	-	324	326	2	114,684	5.87%	11,502	103,182	114,679	5.87%	11,545	103,134
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	2,390,142	-	2,468,433	-	2,470,285	-	417	413	-4	78,291	3.28%	-22,446	100,737	80,143	3.35%	-22,532	102,675
St Andrew's (Barnsbury) Church of England Primary School	1,162,955	18,911	1,222,675	-	1,220,003	-	198	201	3	59,720	5.14%	15,997	43,722	57,048	4.91%	16,061	40,986
St Joan of Arc RC Primary School	2,143,576	-	2,213,403	-	2,214,956	-	413	399	-14	69,826	3.26%	-72,370	142,196	71,379	3.33%	-72,669	144,048
St John Evangelist RC Primary School	1,608,470	-	1,562,164	-	1,560,623	-	276	254	-22	-46,306	-2.88%	-122,240	75,934	-47,847	-2.97%	-122,709	74,862
St John's Highbury Vale CofE Primary School	1,060,466	-	1,147,998	-	1,145,347	-	197	202	5	87,532	8.25%	24,682	62,850	84,881	8.00%	24,789	60,092
St John's Upper Holloway CofE Primary School	1,144,281	-	1,160,980	-	1,158,052	-	194	189	-5	16,699	1.46%	-26,723	43,422	13,771	1.20%	-26,830	40,601
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	2,074,318	42,787	2,006,736	9,400	2,006,492	7,901	407	385	-22	-67,581	-3.26%	-106,051	38,469	-67,826	-3.27%	-106,434	38,609
St Jude and St Paul's CofE Primary School	1,027,962	42,921	947,310	15,504	946,670	18,709	164	146	-18	-80,651	-7.85%	-98,194	17,542	-81,291	-7.91%	-98,973	17,681
St Luke's CofE Primary School	1,202,851	28,130	1,237,766	-	1,235,158	-	202	204	2	34,915	2.90%	10,656	24,259	32,307	2.69%	10,699	21,609
St Mark's CofE Primary School	1,201,211	41,446	1,174,007	15,745	1,173,826	18,451	200	191	-9	-27,204	-2.26%	-48,211	21,007	-27,385	-2.28%	-48,531	21,146
St Mary's CofE Primary School	1,138,112	-	1,123,563	-	1,120,272	-	187	172	-15	-14,550	-1.28%	-84,829	70,280	-17,841	-1.57%	-85,150	67,309
St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School	1,142,955	6,397	1,182,057	-	1,179,150	-	193	190	-3	39,102	3.42%	-16,282	55,384	36,195	3.17%	-16,346	52,542
The New North Academy	1,612,225	-	1,426,448	-	1,424,118	-	260	217	-43	-185,776	-11.52%	-248,404	62,627	-188,107	-11.67%	-249,321	61,214
Thornhill Primary School	2,252,498	70,399	2,337,163	49,671	2,337,459	48,029	408	417	9	84,666	3.76%	45,855	38,811	84,961	3.77%	46,011	38,950
Tufnell Park Primary School	1,900,701	-	2,154,388	-	2,155,365	-	338	372	34	253,687	13.35%	179,229	74,458	254,664	13.40%	179,955	74,709
Vittoria Primary School	1,125,624	62,596	1,139,467	26,636	1,139,694	30,324	162	164	2	13,843	1.23%	11,531	2,313	14,070	1.25%	11,618	2,452
Whitehall Park School	1,918,032	25,952	1,727,048	-	1,726,680	-	369	309	-60	-190,985	-9.96%	-300,388	109,403	-191,352	-9.98%	-301,668	110,316
William Tyndale Primary School	2,153,562	4,842	2,196,047	-	2,197,963	-	420	416	-4	42,485	1.97%	-19,665	62,150	44,401	2.06%	-19,751	64,151
Winton Primary School	1,315,158	59,835	1,395,627	6,829	1,396,180	9,691	206	218	12	80,469	6.12%	66,589	13,880	81,022	6.16%	67,003	14,019
Yerbury Primary School	2,037,130	14,355	2,088,966	-	2,090,840	-	416	414	-2	51,837	2.54%	-9,062	60,899	53,710	2.64%	-9,105	62,815
Primary Total	74,994,845	1,224,693	76,093,256	520,409	76,060,864	532,120	12,836	12,613	- 223	1,098,411	-	1,212,585	-	1,066,018	-	1,256,549	-
Arts and Media School Islington	5,591,280	148,186	5,632,927	86,111	5,632,980	79,158	661	653	-8	41,647	0.74%	-63,989	105,636	41,700	0.75%	-64,075	105,775
Beacon High	4,023,232	-	4,363,492	-	4,365,664	-	418	427	9	340,260	8.46%	74,348	265,912	342,432	8.51%	74,540	267,892
Central Foundation Boys' School	6,107,370	-	6,424,142	10,167	6,425,345	-	830	857	27	316,772	5.19%	197,642	119,130	317,975	5.21%	197,898	120,077
City of London Academy Highbury Grove	8,013,105	-	8,457,786	-	8,472,236	-	973	1,001	28	444,681	5.55%	215,322	229,359	459,131	5.73%	215,920	243,211
City of London Academy Highgate Hill	4,332,057	-	5,113,287	-	5,119,972	-	563	638	75	781,229	18.03%	583,358	197,871	787,915	18.19%	584,960	202,955
City of London Academy Islington	5,945,326	51,241	6,421,908	16,636	6,422,459	6,994	758	802	44	476,582	8.02%	341,100	135,481	477,133	8.03%	341,512	135,621
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School	7,350,699	20,800	7,557,486	9,466	7,560,075	-	883	889	6	206,787	2.81%	44,294	162,493	209,376	2.85%	44,359	165,018
Highbury Fields School	6,021,519	47,564	6,031,420	112,322	6,031,487	104,890	683	676	-7	9,901	0.16%	-53,496	63,398	9,968	0.17%	-53,569	63,537
St Aloysius RC College	5,102,482	-	4,331,925	-	4,336,408	-	658	535	-123	-770,557	-15.10%	-928,380	157,823	-766,075	-15.01%	-931,006	164,932
Secondary Total	52,487,070	267,792	54,334,373	234,702	54,366,625	191,043	6,427	6,478	51	1,847,303	-	410,200	-	1,879,555	-	410,539	-
St Mary Magdalene Academy	8,064,991	66,787	8,389,518	73,098	8,389,814	54,692	1,176	1,202	26	324,527	4.02%	177,022	147,505	324,823	4.03%	177,179	147,644
All Through Total	8,064,991	66,787	8,389,518	73,098	8,389,814	54,692	1,176	1,202	26	324,527	-	177,022	-	324,823	-	177,179	-
TOTAL	135,546,906	1,559,272	138,817,147	828,210	138,817,303	777,855	20,439	20,293	- 146	3,270,241	-	625,363	-	3,270,397	-	668,830	-



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
London N1 1XR

SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	20 January 2022
AGENDA ITEM 7	School Funding Formula 2022-23
RECOMMENDATIONS	That School Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Agree final values retained for Growth and Falling Rolls b. Agree option for allocation of headroom c. Agree 2022-23 formula factors and values d. Agree disapplication for MFG exemption

1 Background

- .1 A consultation with schools on School Funding 2022-23 ran from 27th September – 15^h October 2021.
- .2 At the October 2021 meeting, Schools Forum agreed the principles and changes to formula listed below following this consultation:
- Vary MFG within allowable range of +0.5% to +2% and cap budget gains as necessary to ensure school budget allocation remain within funding envelope
 - Continue to retain Growth Funding
 - Continue to retain Falling Rolls Funding
 - To continue to retain funding for services through the Central School Services Block as previously agreed with Schools Forum; final allocations will be presented at the January 2022 Forum
 - To continue de-delegated services at the current rate
 - To explore the provision of the additional de-delegated services
 - Ensure schools have sufficient information from the Insurance and Risk Protection team to make decisions regarding RPA

2 Data Changes between October 2020 and October 2021 Census

2.1 Pupil number movements are as follows:

Primary	-317
Secondary KS3	-27
Secondary KS4	106
Total	-238

These numbers have been adjusted to allow for growing schools. There is currently just one: 60 places to COLPAI, pro-rated 7/12ths i.e. 35 places, as they are only applicable for the period September-March.

Full data movements are shown below:

Primary		Oct 21	Oct 20	Difference
Basic Entitlement		12,823	13,140	(317)
Deprivation	FSM	5,294	4,867	427
Deprivation	FSM E6	5,790	5,639	151
Deprivation	IDACI F	1,250	1,258	(8)
Deprivation	IDACI E	2,214	2,359	(145)
Deprivation	IDACI D	1,762	1,824	(62)
Deprivation	IDACI C	2,606	2,698	(92)
Deprivation	IDACI B	2,383	2,356	27
Deprivation	IDACI A	546	567	(21)
EAL	3 yrs	2,703	2,634	69
Mobility		171	39	132
Prior Attainment		3,876	4,061	(185)

Secondary		Oct 21	Oct 20	Difference
Basic Entitlement	KS3	4,458	4,485	(27)
Basic Entitlement	KS4	3,012	2,906	106
Deprivation	FSM	3,248	2,866	382
Deprivation	FSM E6	3,919	4,614	(695)
Deprivation	IDACI F	703	722	(19)
Deprivation	IDACI E	1,256	1,237	19
Deprivation	IDACI D	1,241	1,222	19
Deprivation	IDACI C	1,628	1,674	(46)
Deprivation	IDACI B	1,337	1,300	37
Deprivation	IDACI A	383	407	(24)
EAL	3 yrs	287	198	89
Mobility		36	18	18
Prior Attainment		1,565	1,545	20

3 Budget Modelling 2022-23

3.1 The initial step was to roll in the new data and apply the NFF unit values.

Growth in places in new schools, as detailed above in para 2.1, was added.

Allocated amounts to relevant schools for PFI costs were uplifted by 6.33% in line with retail price index as at November 2021. This data is latest available when running the formula. Actual allocations will be based on February 2022 RPIx, in line with each school's Governing Body Agreement. Any variances will be adjusted in 2023-24.

Growth and Falling Rolls: after meeting the affordability of the formula it has been possible to continue to top-slice the Schools Block to provide £300k for growth funding and £400k for falling rolls, a total of £700k as noted by Schools Forum in November 2021. Further details will be presented in agenda item 8.

The remaining funding available allows the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) to be set at 2% to ensure each school achieves a minimum of 2% per pupil budget increase. To note, operational guidance from the DfE specified that schools were set to receive at least a 0.5% MFG increase, with a maximum of 2%.

No capping of budget increases is applied, therefore schools are receiving funding according to the needs of their pupils in respect of their school data profile.

4 Headroom – funding capacity after running NFF

- 4.1 After running the NFF and budget adjustments in 3.1 there remained **£100k** to be allocated.
- 4.2 The payment process of NNDR (business rates) changes from 2022-23, the government will pay the billing authority directly. However, adjustments to bring budget allocations 2021-22 in line with actual charges 2021-22 can be input to the funding formula for the coming financial year. Overall, total NNDR allocations were overestimated and applying the clawbacks results in **£137k** being available for allocation in 2022-23. NNDR adjustments do not impact individual schools; allocations and adjustments are shown in school budgets 2022-23 for illustrative and comparison reasons only.
- 4.3 Total headroom available £237k.

5 Budget options

5.1 Option 1:

Increase lump sum allocated to each school. Unit rate increases by £7k from £143,890 to £150,851.

Total additional allocation to lump sums is £385k. This amount is higher than available headroom due to reduction in MFG requirements releasing additional funds to be allocated.

Option 2:

Increase base rate per pupil. Unit rate increases by £21 per pupil across all phases. Base rate funding levels will be protected in future years by any per pupil guaranteed increases.

Total additional funding allocated in base rates is £433k, again due to impact on MFG allocations.

5.2 Unit rates:

The table below shows the 2022-23 unit values used in the final budget model and 2021-22 unit values for information:

Factor	Unit	Unit Value Option 1	Unit Value Option 2	Unit Value Option 2	NNF Pri value 2022-23	NNF Sec value 2022-23	Pri value 2021-22	Sec value 2021-22
		£			£	£	£	£
Basic Entitlement	Pri		3,837		3,816	n/a	3,697	n/a
Basic Entitlement	KS3			5,402	n/a	5,381	n/a	5,213
Basic Entitlement	KS4			6,085	n/a	6,064	n/a	5,875
Deprivation	FSM				558	558	545	545
Deprivation	FSM E6				700	1,026	681	994
Deprivation	IDACI F				261	380	255	367
Deprivation	IDACI E				320	504	308	491
Deprivation	IDACI D				498	706	485	687
Deprivation	IDACI C				546	771	527	746
Deprivation	IDACI B				581	830	562	805
Deprivation	IDACI A				759	1,056	734	1,024
EAL	3 yrs				670	1,815	651	1,758
Mobility					1,097	1,578	1,065	1,527
Prior Attainment					1,340	2,028	1,296	1,965
Lump Sum		150,851			143,890	143,890	139,453	139,453

- 5.3 Annexe A is a summary of options and individual school budget movements between 2021-22 and 2022-23.

6 Disapplication – exclusion from MFG

We have inflated PFI allocations by the latest known RPI inflation of 6.33%, an annual uplift to ensure funding remains in line with charges. To ensure the increase is received by the school and is therefore available to meet increased charges it needs to be outside the MFG calculation, otherwise it may be counted as an increase in overall budget and reduce any MFG protection due. Two schools receive PFI funding and the total amount requested to be excluded is £64k. The impact on other schools is negligible.

The increase will be added to the LA's DSG premises funding factor in 2023-24.

The ESFA requires Schools Forum agreement to this disapplication. We submitted requests, and received agreement from Schools Forum and approval from ESFA, in 2020-21 and 2021-22.

7 Authority Proforma Tool (APT)

7.1 The APT details the local school funding formula and it is a statutory requirement that it be completed, receive political ratification and be submitted to the ESFA by 21st January.

Once ESFA confirms the formula has been applied in compliance with regulations and conditions of grant, schools can be advised of final Schools Block budget shares. The LA is required to issue budgets to maintained schools by the end of February.

8 Recommendations

That Schools Forum:

- 8.1 Ratify previously agreed final values retained for Growth and Falling Rolls; £300k and £400k respectively
- 8.2 Consider options for allocation of headroom and approve Option 1 or Option 2
- 8.3 Agree 2022-23 formula factors and values as shown 3.3.
- 8.4 Agree a disapplication be made to exclude PFI funding inflation from MFG

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ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
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SCHOOL FORUM

MEETING DATE	20 January 2022
AGENDA ITEM 8	2022-23 Growth / Falling Rolls Funding
RECOMMENDATIONS	That the Schools' Forum: a) Notes the estimated allocations for 2022-23 Growth Funding b) Falling Rolls - Schools' Forum are asked to agree criteria in which to allocate funding

1 Growth Funding 2022-23

Background

- 1.1 Growth funding forms a part of the Local Authority's Schools Block DSG allocations but is outside of the funding formula allocations to schools.
- 1.2 The growth fund can only be used to:
 - support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need
 - support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
 - meet the costs of new schools

and will fall under one of the below categories:

- implicit growth – funding to support growing schools (COLPAI) where the increased numbers are included in the funding formula
 - explicit growth - allocations will be made in accordance with funding guidelines issued by the DfE and will fund either bulge, permanent expansions or additional adhoc classes.
- 1.3 The growth fund must not be used to support:
 - schools in financial difficulty: any such support for maintained schools should be provided from a de-delegated contingency
 - general growth due to popularity; this is managed through lagged funding

2022-23 Explicit Growth Funding

- 1.4 At the November meeting, following consultation with schools, Schools Forum agreed to continue to retain £300k for explicit growth funding.
- 1.5 The methodology for allocating funds to schools was shared at November Forum and included start-up year and protection arrangements, as well as applying a minimum and maximum funding cap to pupils admitted.
- 1.6 The tables below show the maximum and estimated funding required against growth funding for these schools based on current October 2021 pupil numbers.

Maximum Funding Required:													2022-23 TOTAL BUDGET	£
													£300,000	
SPEND TO DATE:	Fin Yr Start	Fin Yr Finish	PAN From	PAN To	Add'l Pupils	85%	93%	Actual Oct 21	Changes in Pupil Nos	Pupils to Fund	AWPU	Permanent Expansion	Total	
						Min Pupils	Max Pupils							
Moreland (30)	2016/17	2022/23	30	60	30	26	28	60	30	28	£ 3,816.00	£62,328	£62,328	
Central Foundation (30)	2018/19	2022/23	150	180	30	26	28	180	30	28	£ 5,381.00	£87,890	£87,890	
COLA HG (30)	2019/20	2023/24	210	240	30	26	28	240	30	28	£ 5,381.00	£87,890	£87,890	
Tufnell Park (45)	2019/20	2025/26	45	90	45	38	42	90	45	42	£ 3,816.00	£93,492	£93,492	
TOTAL SPEND												£331,599	£331,599	
													2021-22 (Under)/ Overspend	£31,599
N.B. Funds will be allocated following the October 2022 census data														

Estimated funding requirement:													2022-23 TOTAL BUDGET	£300,000
SPEND TO DATE:	Fin Yr Start	Fin Yr Finish	PAN From	PAN To	Add'l Pupils	85%	93%	Actual Oct 21	Changes in Pupil Nos	Pupils to Fund	AWPU	Permanent Expansion	Total	
						Min Pupils	Max Pupils							
Moreland (30)	2016/17	2022/23	30	60	30	26	28	48	18	26	£ 3,816.00	£57,876	£57,876	
Central Foundation (30)	2018/19	2022/23	150	180	30	26	28	181	31	28	£ 5,381.00	£87,890	£87,890	
COLA HG (30)	2019/20	2023/24	210	240	30	26	28	208	-	2	£ 5,381.00	£0	£0	
Tufnell Park (45)	2019/20	2025/26	45	90	45	38	42	85	40	42	£ 3,816.00	£93,492	£93,492	
TOTAL SPEND												£239,258	£239,258	
													2021-22 (Under)/ Overspend	-£60,742
N.B. Funds will be allocated following the October 2022 census data														

- 1.7 Whilst the maximum funding allocation would suggest it exceeds the existing budget, current numbers at COLA HG are reporting a roll less than the increased PAN and, therefore, are not required to open an additional class. In this case, funding for growth would not be applied and would remain within budget.
- 1.8 Should the maximum funding be required, the overspend would be met by existing underspends within the DSG, if required.
- 1.9 To note, final funding allocations will be based on the October 2022 census.
- 1.10 School Forum are asked to note the allocations and budget only.

2 2022-23 Falling Rolls Funding

- 2.1 Local authorities may set aside schools block funding to create a small fund to support good schools with falling rolls, where local planning data shows that the surplus places will be needed within the next three financial years. Falling rolls funding should only be used to support schools where the places are forecast to be needed over the short-medium term.
- 2.2 Where falling rolls funding is payable to academies, the local authority should fund the increase for the period from the additional September intake through until the following August in line with their financial year.
- 2.3 The previously agreed Falling Rolls budget was £400k. Following the December DSG settlement, the budget remains within the overall funding envelope and will, therefore remain at £400k.
- 2.4 The Islington criteria for allocating funds has been presented at the November Forum. In addition and to remain within budget a further layer of criteria has been applied. This being where schools will receive protection for the fall in numbers above the 5% threshold only. As with the current arrangements, this will be paid at the current AWPU rate. For example, a school that experienced a drop of 6.5% will receive AWPU for 1.5% of its previous intake.
- 2.5 Appendix A provides details of those schools meeting all criteria and Appendix B shows the schools that have benefitted from Falling Rolls funding in the period 2014 to 2023.

- 2.6 Should Schools Forum agree to the change, the existing £400k budget would be sufficient to meet costs, leaving £60.7k underspend which may be used to support schools not currently presenting as Ofsted good or outstanding but may be classified as such throughout the course of the financial year.

3 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Growth Funding – Schools’ Forum are asked to note previously agreed potential explicit growth funding allocations.
- 3.2 Falling Rolls - Schools’ Forum are asked to note and agree funding allocations.

Contact:

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Appendix A – 2022-23 Falling Rolls - Funding arrangements

School Name	FALLING ROLLS FUNDS - 2022-23				Funding rec'd in previous 3 consecutive years	Pupil Nos to fund above 5% movement	£ 22-23 F.R. Funding Allocation	
	Good or Outstanding School	% yr-on-yr movement	% Surplus Capacity	Initial Qualification				
	Y	5%	15%				£3,816	
Ambler	Y		-2%					
Ashmount	Y	-2%	-7%					
Blessed Sacrament	Y	-20%	-47%	Y	Y			
Canonbury	Y	-2%	-7%					
Christ The King	Y	-3%	-40%					
City of London Academy Primary	Y							
Clerkenwell Parochial	N	-100%	-100%					
Copenhagen	Y	-3%	-67%					
Drayton Park	Y	-2%	-17%					
Duncombe	Y		-16%					
Gillespie	Y		-2%					
Grafton	Y	0%	-5%					
Hanover	Y	-2%	-8%					
Hargrave Park	Y	-2%	-11%					
Highbury Quadrant	Y	-14%	-44%	Y	N	26.2	41,658.00	
Hugh Myddelton	Y	-1%	-3%					
Hungerford	N		-58%					
Laycock	Y	-8%	-2%					
Montem	Y	-5%	-36%	Y				
Moreland	Y		-15%					
Newington Green	Y	-3%	-12%					
New North Academy	Y	-17%	-48%	Y	N	30	114,480.00	
Pakeman	Y		-10%					
Pooles Park	Y	-16%	-53%	Y	Y			
Prior Weston	N	-5%	-32%					
Robert Blair	Y		-12%					
Rotherfield	Y		-22%					
Sacred Heart	Y	-1%	-2%					
St Andrew's	Y		-4%					
St Joan Of Arc	Y	-3%	-5%					
St John Evangelist	Y	-8%	-9%					
St John's Highbury Vale	Y		-4%					
St John's Upper Holloway	Y	-3%	-10%					
St Joseph's	Y	-5%	-8%					
St Jude's And St Paul's	Y	-11%	-30%	Y	N	9.8	15,582.00	
St Luke's	Y		-3%					
St Mark's	Y	-5%	-9%					
St Mary Magdalene Academy (Pri)	Y	-1%						
St Mary's Ce Islington	Y	-8%	-18%	Y	N	5.65	8,983.50	
St Peter's And St Paul's	Y	-2%	-10%					
Thornhill	Y		-1%					
Tufnell Park	Y		-17%					
Vittoria	Y		-21.9%					
Whitehall Park	Y	-16%	-26%	Y	N	41.55	158,554.80	
William Tyndale	Y	-1%	-1%					
Winton	Y		-9%					
Yerbury	Y	0%	-1%					
Primary Totals	Primary schools to fund falling rolls				8	5		£339,258.30
Vacant Places / Capacity %								
				Initial Qualification	Funding rec'd in previous 3 consecutive years	Pupil Nos to fund above 5% movement	£5,723	
Arts & Media School Islington	Y	-1%	-22%					
Beacon High	N		-45%					
Central Foundation Boys	Y		-1%					
COLA, Highbury Grove	N		-14%					
COLA, Highgate Hill	Y		-9%					
COLAI	Y		-3%					
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson	Y		-1%					
Highbury Fields	Y	-1%	-3%					
St Aloysius College	N	-19%	-41%					
St Mary Magdalene Academy (Sec)	Y		-1%					
Secondary Totals	Secondary schools to fund falling rolls				0	0		£0.00
Vacant Places / Capacity %								
TOTAL							£339,258	
BUDGET							£400,000	
22-23 (Under) / Overspend							-£60,742	

Appendix B – Schools in receipt of Falling Rolls Funding 2014-2023

Planning Area	School	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 FINAL	Total
2	AMSI	74,922									74,922
4	Blessed Sacrament						14,878	35,229	13,864		63,970
2	Christ the King							56,367	35,430		91,796
4	Copenhagen		42,429		27,152	30,461	17,583	19,728			137,353
3	Drayton Park							21,138			21,138
2	Duncombe								47,753		47,753
3	Highbury Quadrant			50,000			62,215		26,187	41,658	180,060
1	Hungerford *					99,690					99,690
4	Laycock				36,203						36,203
2	Montem						35,165	57,776	46,213	-	139,153
2	Mount Carmel	106,825	95,199	135,418							337,442
5	New North Academy			34,692		26,307		54,112	110,910	114,480	340,501
2	Pooles Park						43,280	45,093	49,293		137,667
5	Rotherfield								47,753		47,753
3	St Jude's And St Paul's								15,404	15,582	30,986
5	St Mary's Ce Islington									8,984	8,984
4	Vittoria							16,910			16,910
4	Winton	40,722									40,722
	Whitehall Park									158,555	158,555
	Total	222,469	137,628	220,109	63,355	156,458	173,120	306,353	392,806	339,258	2,011,557
	No. of Schools	3	2	3	2	3	5	8	9	5	



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
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SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	20 January 2022
AGENDA ITEM 9	DSG Central Retention (2022-23)
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Agree the proposed central retention in the CSSB b) Note the proposed change to central retention in the High Needs block c) Agree the proposed central retention in the Early Years Block d) Note resultant DSG budget in Appendix A

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide proposals for central retention within the Schools Block, Central School Services Block (CSSB), High Needs Block and Early Years Block.
- 1.2. Schools Forum are required to agree:
 - Central retention for growth and falling rolls within the Schools Block (this is the only central retention permitted under the Operational Guidance from the Schools Block). This is considered under Item 8 on today's agenda.
 - All central retention under the CSSB, except for licences which is an automatically top-sliced by the DfE.
 - All central retention under the Early Years Block.
- 1.3. Central retention within the High Needs Block is a local authority decision in consultation with Schools Forum.
- 1.4. **Please note that the High Needs Block is still being reconciled, therefore there is likely be some movements in allocations. Any updated budget figures with any movements will be reported back to Schools Forum in May as necessary.**

2. Overall Provisional DSG Funding Envelope

- 2.1. DSG funding in Islington totals £195.819m before academy and high needs recoupment in 2021/22. The provisional allocation for 2022/23 is £199.987m, an increase of £4.168m, as shown below.

Dedicated Schools Grant - comparison of latest 2021/22 allocation and provisional 2022/23 settlement				
	Latest 2021/22	2022/23 Provisional	Change	
	£m	£m	£m	
Schools Block	136.742	139.517	2.775	2.0%
Central School Services Block	1.602	1.478	-0.124	-7.7%
High Needs Block	37.284	40.356	3.072	8.2%
Early Years Block	20.191	18.636	-1.555	-7.7%
Total DSG	195.819	199.987	4.168	2.1%
Notes:				
2022/23: Based on December 2021 provisional settlement from the DfE				

- Schools Block – an additional £2.775m (2.0%) in 2022/23 following an increase in per-pupil funding for primary and secondary schools of 2.86% and 2.59% respectively. The 2.0% increase in funding is after taking into account the reduction in pupil numbers.
- CSSB – a further reduction in the historic duties element of Central Schools Services Block funding for services provided to mainstream schools of £0.106m (20%) in 2022/23. This follows a 20% reduction in 2020/21 and 2021/22, in line with the Department for Education’s (DfE) plans to phase out this funding for local authorities by 2026/27. Funding for ongoing duties is reducing by £0.018m (1.7%) due to declining pupil numbers and a 0.7% reduction in the per-pupil funding rate for local authorities. The total reduction in funding is £0.124m (7.7%).
- High Needs Block – there is a year on year increase of £3.072m in this Block (8.2%) following the provision of additional funding for high needs nationally in the spending review.
- Early Years Block – this is an initial position based on the January 2021 headcount, which was artificially suppressed due to the pandemic. It will be updated for January 2022 pupil numbers when they become available and will form part of the June / July DSG updated allocations from the DfE. This is less likely to recover as much as hoped due to the impact of the omicron variant on numbers. The LA hourly rate for 2 year olds has increased by 3.2% increase while the 3 and 4 year old rate remains unchanged from 2021/22.

2.2. In addition supplementary funding is being provided for schools and high needs to meet costs in relation to the Health and Social Care Levy and wider costs. Islington will provisionally receive £4m for mainstream schools and £1.5m for high needs.

3. Schools Block

3.1. Schools Forum are required to agree central retention for growth and falling rolls under the Schools Block. This is covered under Item 8 on today’s agenda, and proposes that central retention for growth and falling rolls is £300k and £400k respectively.

4. Central School Services Block

4.1. Schools Forum are required to agree central retention under the CSSB. The expected reduction in historic duties funding has occurred (£106k), and there has been a further reduction in the funding for historic duties (£18k). The total reduction in CSSB funding for 2022/23 is £124k.

4.2. The total allocation of CSSB funding for 2022/23 is £1.478m. The current cost of centrally retained services cost is £1.423m therefore there is sufficient funding to meet the costs of these services despite the reduction in funding.

4.3. The proposed allocations against the CSSB are shown below, unchanged from 2021/22, with the exception of the cost of copyright licences which is an automatic top-slice from the DSG, which has increased by £2k. The cost of centrally retained services is £1.425m against an allocation of £1.478m, leaving an unallocated balance of £53k. This balance can be held to smooth in any further funding reductions against the CSSB in 2023/24 and as a contingency for demand led items, such as the cost of school admission appeals heard by the Council. This will be added to the balance from previous years of £199k.

<u>Proposed CSSB Allocations</u>		
Service	£k	
Admissions	630	School admissions service for children and young people of compulsory school age. Advice on school exclusions, representing the LA at exclusion hearings and independent review panels. Secure appropriate education provision for children applying in year as soon as possible. Tracking pupils missing education, including unofficial exclusions, Day 6 provision, off-rolling and in-year admissions. Coordinate Islington’s Fair Access Protocol via the Primary and Secondary Securing Education Board mechanisms. Represent the LA at statutory admission appeals. Advice and guidance to parents and schools on the school admissions

Proposed CSSB Allocations

		application and appeal procedures and exclusions procedure.
School admission appeals	45	Cost of hearing admission appeals
Access and engagement service	257	Support to schools, children and families to secure good attendance and engagement, and ensure that all children are properly safeguarded by: advising schools in their delivery of a whole school approach to promoting good attendance and engagement and on safeguarding policy and practice; operating to an agreed borough-wide approach; empowering parents to meet their legal responsibilities regarding school; and supporting efficient and effective partnerships in the best interests of the child or young person. The service is also responsible for monitoring illegal school activity and elective home education and for issuing licenses for children in employment or entertainment, and for providing safeguarding support to schools.
Servicing Schools Forum	50	Support to Schools Forum
Capital and asset management	110	Management of the capital programme including preparation and review of asset management plan, and negotiation and management of BSF. General landlord duties
Directors and assistant directors	71	Statutory and regulatory duties under the School and Early Years Finance Regulations including planning for the education service as a whole.
Equalities	30	Ongoing work with all schools (including academies and free schools) to raise progress and achievement for the two lowest achieving groups in schools (black Caribbean and white British) and Equaliteach
Legal services SLA	30	Provision of legal advice to schools (encompassing education law, employment law, contract law, data protection and freedom of information, property matters, child and adult community care, and litigation), ensuring they can access appropriate legal advice when necessary, minimising potential liabilities.
Sports co-ordinators	25	This funding supports the work of the PE, School Sports and Physical Activity team in their work with primary and secondary schools in: developing physical activity opportunities for the least active children and young people; advising on high quality PE, and meeting the requirements of the PE and sport premium and expectations from Ofsted; accessing additional resources and support from local and national providers; and Work with schools identified as having higher levels of health needs ('red' schools) to support PE, school sport and physical activity.
Copyright licences	123	Automatic top-slice by the DfE. Licences negotiated centrally by the Secretary of State for all publicly funded schools. This has increased by £2k from 2021/22
Early Career Training (ECT)	54	Provision of a training programme for each NQT as required by statutory guidance / statutory induction monitoring and guidance service provided by the Council. The training is provided through the Paddington Teaching Schools Alliance and schools nominate

Proposed CSSB Allocations

Islington as the appropriate body for the scheme. The programme is now a two year programme and at the end of the two years the schools involved in the scheme get a payment of £2,600 from the DfE.

Total **1,425**

CSSB allocation **1,478**

Unallocated balance 53 Unallocated balance which can be held to smooth in further funding reductions against the CSSB in 2023/24 / as a contingency for demand led items, such as the cost of school admission appeals heard by the Council.

4.4. Proposed allocations against the CSSB, are in Appendix A and descriptions of budget lines are provided in Appendix B.

5. High Needs Block

5.1. We are continuing to experience significant demographic cost pressures on high needs. An analysis of future demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) by the SEND team indicates that costs could increase by an average of £1m per annum, however we have seen increases in excess of this in recent years.

5.2. The growth in High Needs Block funding is sufficient to cover anticipated cost pressures in high needs in 2022/23. We are looking at options to distribute further funding to mainstream schools in 2022/23 to ease pressures that they are experiencing in relation to pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, particularly in relation to the early years to primary transfer. We will do this through the High Needs Sub Group and report back to Schools Forum on our proposals in due course. We are also considering how we fund children and young people with education health and care plans as part of the SEND review. We need to be cautious over the allocation of funding as the outlook for further growth for high needs is uncertain in the medium-term and we are facing increasing levels of demand and complexity. The DfE are also reviewing the funding formula for high needs which could see Islington lose funding and the SEND green paper will have an impact on demand and cost.

5.3. The only changes we are making to central retention in the High Needs Block are as follows:

- £83k contribution to iTIPS to help sustain the programme in future years. This is on top of £163k investment by the Council. iTIPs has been working effectively in Islington over the past four and a half years, building local networks of peer and clinical support to embed and sustain trauma informed, relational practice among a wide range of professionals and volunteers – in our schools, early years settings and voluntary and community organisations. iTIPs has provided evidence on our work on exclusions and inequalities for Council Scrutiny and has been included in their reports and recommendations. It formed part of the evidence for both the social care and recent SEND inspection and was identified as a key strength in the 2018 joint targeted area inspection.
- £11k top-up to the contract with health for speech and language activities at Children's Centres and support for practitioners to develop understanding of speech and language that was previously funded through the early Years Block. This will bring total High Needs funding for SALT to £224k (see Paragraph 6.1 below).
- £12k top-up to contract for CAMHS services through Children's Centres and advice to parents previously funded through the Early Years Block. This will bring total High Needs funding for CAMHS to £86k (see Paragraph 6.1 below). This service is mainly funded by the CCG.

5.4. Allocations against the High Needs Block, are in Appendix A and descriptions of budget lines are provided in Appendix B.

6. Early Years Block

- 6.1. Local authorities are able to centrally retain funding for central services to lead and support the system. Central retention remains capped at 5% of Early Years Block funding for the statutory entitlements to free early education and childcare for 3 & 4 year olds and 2 year olds in 2022/23 This follows two years of reductions in 2017/18 and 2018/19 at a cost of over £1m. It is proposed to continue to retain funding in line with the 5% cap in 2022/23, which is the equivalent to £899k, a reduction of £80k (8%) from 2021/22. Some of the reduction in funding can be managed by meeting the full cost of SALT and CAMHS from the High Needs Block which are currently topped up from the Early Years Block (£23k), we are currently working through how we manage the remaining reduction of £57k within the EYFS Team and Strategy and Management service without impacting services.
- 6.2. Central services include the strategic and operational leadership and management of the early years system and its finances. It is through these central services that we are able to take actions to mitigate any changes brought about by the DfE. **It is proposed that the following services are continued to be funded through the Early Years Block, as per the Early Years Funding consultation:**

<u>EYB Central Retention 2021/22 Allocations and Proposed Allocations for 2022/23</u>			
Service	2021/22 Allocation £k	2022/23 Proposed £k	
Finance	61	61	Annual budget statements and adjustments. Technical advice to Schools Forum and its sub groups. School Funding Consultation. Financial implications on changes to funding
ICT and data services	101	101	Software licences and systems management to fulfil our duties in relation to safeguarding children, early years headcount and payments. Critical response to e-safety incidents, advice and guidance on information governance and digital communications with settings and schools
Family information service	99	99	Children's services elements of the maintenance of Family Directory and Early Years and Childcare web pages including the Local Offer providing information to families about services and support for children and young people including childcare and schools; childcare brokerage; information about events for children and young people.
Early Years Foundation Stage Team, Strategy and Management	625	568	EYFS school and setting improvement (primary and nursery schools, children's centres, PVI providers, childminders) through bespoke in-setting support, projects, central training and guidance on meeting statutory requirements. EYFSP moderation; integrated health and education check at aged 2. Strategic development, management and administration of early childhood services pregnancy to 5 and out-of-school childcare. This includes commissioning and support for setting up systems to meet national requirements and ensuring the Council meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient childcare. Approximately 30% of the budget for these services comes from the Early Years Block, 55% from core Council funds, 5% from de-delegated funding and the remainder from income
SALT	11	0	The top-up to the contract with health for speech and language activities at Children's Centres and support for practitioners to develop understanding of speech

EYB Central Retention 2021/22 Allocations and Proposed Allocations for 2022/23

			and language will be funded through the High Needs Block. Total High Needs funding for SALT will be £224k.
CAMHS	12	0	The top-up to contract for services at Children's Centres and advice to parents will be funded through the High Needs Block. This service is mainly funded by the CCG and through the High Needs Block – total high needs funding will be £86k.
Strengthening Parenting	71	71	Parenting programmes including Incredible Years courses
Total	979	899	

6.3. Proposed allocations against the Early Years Block, are in Appendix A and descriptions of budget lines are provided in Appendix B.

Contact:

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	Sch Block	Sch Blk De-del	CSSB	High Needs Blk	Early Years Blk	Total
50C	SEND Additional needs			600,000		600,000
50D	SEND Enhanced individual support			60,000		60,000
50E	SEND Additional SEND Support provision			100,000		100,000
50F	SEND Exceptional Needs			200,000		200,000
50H	High Needs Headroom			3,463,810		3,463,810
51	Refugees			75,000		75,000
52	CAMHS (Over 5s)			350,000		350,000
53	Outreach			730,016		730,016
54	Radio Aids Maintenance			26,200		26,200
55	PRU Family Support			150,000		150,000
56	SENCO Network Co-ordinator			14,000		14,000
58	Travel Special			414,600		414,600
59	Alternative Provision			131,308		131,308
60	Families First			70,000		70,000
61	Safeguarding Post			25,000		25,000
62	PRU Managed Moves			200,000		200,000
63	Virtual school			164,000		164,000
65	Equalities		30,000			30,000
66	Legal Services SLA		30,000			30,000
67	Sports Co-ordinators		25,000			25,000
69	Licences		122,777			122,777
72	Trade Union Facility Time	60,039				60,039
73	NQTs	121,065	53,800			174,865
74	UPEG (School Improvement Service)	136,872				136,872
75	Priority Support	219,165				219,165
76	Schools in Financial Difficulty	187,416				187,416
78	ISCB			50,000		50,000
79	Falling Rolls	400,000				400,000
80	Growth Fund	300,000				300,000
81	MNS Supplementary Funding				334,658	334,658
82	Disabled Access Fund				94,400	94,400
83	Schools Redundancies		83,396			83,396
85	Early Years Pupil Premium				229,893	229,893
		101,326,605	1,270,282	1,424,969	36,756,771	18,636,356
	DSG allocation after deductions	101,326,605	1,270,282	1,477,880	36,756,771	18,636,357
		-	-	52,911	-	1
						159,414,983
						159,467,895
						52,912

Appendix B - Description of budget lines

1-4	Primary and Nursery / Secondary / Special Schools and PRU General	Individual school budget adjusted for de-delegated funds. Special school and PRU place funding and top-up.
6	3&4 Year Old EYSFF	Early Years Single Funding Formula for all Early Years settings for the statutory entitlement to free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds.
7	Early Years Growth Contingency	2.75% contingency budget for demographic growth for providers in line with the DfE's changes. This will be used to fund increasing numbers of 3 and 4 year olds in the summer term and new provision.
8	iTIPS	Contribution to iTIPS to help sustain the programme in future years. This is on top of £163k investment by the Council. iTIPs has built local networks of peer and clinical support to embed and sustain trauma informed, relational practice among a wide range of professionals and volunteers – in our schools, early years settings and voluntary and community organisations.
9	Admissions	Statutory points of entry and exit, casual admissions and monitoring children missing from education. Management of school exclusions.
9A	Administration of school admission appeals	Cost of hearing admission appeals
10	SEN Team	SEN Team to support statutory assessment, placement and review.
11	Independent Advice and Support for Parents	Statutory requirement to provide 'arm's-length' advice. Service commissioned from Family Action.
12	SEND Mediation	Mediation. Statutory requirement to resolve SEND disputes between parents and LA, parents and schools
13	SEN Commissioning	Includes £150K for additional SALT, support for Visual Impairment and Multi-sensory
14	Access and Engagement Service	Start advice and guidance on improving attendance and targeted support to specific schools where needed. Work with schools on legal proceedings. Elective Home Education process.
15	School Improvement Service	De-delegated funding. Work in Support of Schools, Headteacher briefings and strategic planning meetings.
17	Finance Services	De-delegation. Support to Projects Groups. Restructuring support for schools in financial difficulty. Data implications on budget allocations. Support for monitoring of P16 data for funding. Agreement on redundancy packages. Headteacher briefings. SBM briefings. Assessing of Free School Meals eligibility. Implementing on-line assessments. Eligibility checks for EYPP and 2 year old entitlement.
18	Servicing of Schools Forums	Support to Schools Forum.
19	Capital and Asset Management	Management of the capital programme including preparation and review of asset management plan, and negotiation and management of BSF. General landlord duties.
20	Schools HR & Payroll	De-delegation. Support for SLT in relation to strategic restructures. Sickness management. Agreement on redundancy packages. Headteacher briefings. SBM briefings.
21	Support to Governors and Governor Services	De-delegation. Supports Project Groups and strategic support for the resolution of Governor issues.
22	ICT Services	De-delegation. SMIFs. Data Analysis. Place Planning. Supports Safeguarding / CME Links to SEN / Admissions / Attendance.
24	Directors and Assistant Directors	DCS, support staff and planning for education service as a whole.
25	Early Years SEN Additional Needs	Funding allocated to individual children with SEND (not allocated a UFAG place) in early years provision for additional staffing and/or equipment to ensure individual children's needs can be met. Funding allocated on a termly basis through a multi-agency panel.
26	Early Years PEL SEND Places	36 Priority Early Learning (PEL) SEND places in children's centres for children with severe and complex needs. Places are allocated through the PEL SEND panel
27	Early Years PEL Places	Childcare / early education places for children with complex social and / or emotional need. These children may also have SEND. Children are referred through the termly PEL panel.
28	Early Years SENCOs	SEN and inclusion support, development and training for all EYFS providers including children's centres, PVI's, nursery classes and child-minders. Support for children with SEND on

		transition to school. Strategic management of early years inclusion and early intervention.
29	Early Years Priority Referral Team	Operational management, administration and support for EYPR placements.
31	Family Information Service	Children's Services elements of the maintenance of Family Directory and Early Years and Childcare web pages including the Local Offer providing information to families about services to support children and young people including childcare and schools; childcare brokerage; information about events for children and young people.
32	Early Years Foundation Stage Team, Strategy and Management	EYFS school and setting improvement (primary & nursery schools, children's centres, PVI providers, childminders) through bespoke in-setting support, projects, central training and guidance on meeting statutory requirements. EYFSP moderation; integrated health and education check at aged 2. Strategic development, management and administration of early childhood services pregnancy to 5 and out-of-school childcare. This includes commissioning and support for setting up systems to meet national requirements and ensuring the Council meets its statutory duty to provide sufficient childcare.
34	Speech and Language Therapy (Early Years)	Speech and language activities at Children's Centres and support for practitioners to develop understanding of speech and language.
35	CAMHS (Early Years)	Contribution to CAMHS services at Children's Centres including advice to parents.
36	2 Year Old EYSFF	Early Years Single Funding Formula for all early years settings for the statutory entitlement to free childcare for 2 year olds.
37	Strengthening Parenting	Parenting programmes including Incredible Years courses
39	Islington Families Intensive Team	Attendance support and Behaviour Support Services.
40 & 41	OB Maint Sch SEN Exp - pre and post 16	Mainstream and special schools out borough. About 30% of this goes to Stormont House - secondary special school in Hackney for children with significant needs in one or more of moderate learning difficulties, speech and language communication needs, high functioning Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC), specific literacy difficulties and social, emotional and mental health.
42 & 43	Academy SEN Spend- pre and post 16	In and out borough, mainstream and special academies. About 40% of this goes to ILS (Islington Free School for complex ASC) and The Courtyard (Islington Free School for high functioning ASC - secondary).
44- 46	Independent SEN prov – post16 and Independent School Fees – pre and post 16	Provision independent that is independent of the local authority but registered with the DfE. Tends to be more specialist provision e.g. deaf and blind.
47 & 48	JAP Placements – pre and post 16	Placements for children with severe education, health and social care needs. Commissioned through a joint agency panel.
49	SEN Contingency – pre16	This is for EHCPs issued in year plus exceptional needs.
50B	Estimated SEN Placement Costs growth	Estimated increase in demand re. provision in rows 40 to 49 above
50C	SEND Additional Needs	Funding to strengthen our SEND Support offer, particularly for Key Stage 1 where schools are reporting particular need. Proposals are being developed through the High Needs Sub Group
50D	SEND Enhanced individual support	Additional funding that means that we can increase top-up for a small number of children with complex Autistic Spectrum Condition that present challenges beyond the resources normally available to mainstream schools.
50E	SEND Additional SEND Support provision	Fixed term appointments for part-time SEND Support Co-ordinator and Schools Area SENCO roles. A further fixed term post is being recruited to with expertise in the area of mental health to help our response to growing numbers of young people presenting with diagnosed psychiatric disorders, Tier 4 discharge planning and additional duties introduced through statutory NHS Care, Education and Treatment reviews.
50H	Provisional High Needs Headroom	Growth in funding being held against funding risks – this will reduce as top-up rates are agreed for 2022/23. Options are being considered for distributing some of this funding to mainstream schools to support them meet the needs of pupils with SEND in 2022/23. We need to be cautious over the allocation of funding as the outlook for further growth for high needs is uncertain after 2022/23 and we are facing increasing levels of demand and complexity. The DfE are also reviewing

		the funding formula for high needs which could see Islington lose funding.
51	Refugees	Additional funding to identified secondary schools (Holloway, H Grove, AMSI) for meeting needs of newly arrived in KS4.
52	CAMHS (Over 5s)	Additional provision commissioned by schools
53	Outreach	Provided by Islington Special Schools /PRU agreed to support mainstream in developing their SEND offer.
54	Radio Aids Maintenance	Maintenance of equipment for children with hearing impairments.
55	PRU Family Support	Additional support for students at NRC.
56	SENCO Network Co-ordinator	Seconded SENCO (1 day per week) to co-ordinate SENCO network and support new SENCOs.
58	Travel Special	DSG contribution. Total budget is £2.9m including core Council budget but spend is £3.3m.
59	Alternative Provision	From 2017/18: Top-up costs for AP placements above £10k.
60	Families First	Education contribution to Families First that funds the equivalent of 2 Family Support Workers – each primary school has a linked worker
61	Safeguarding Post	Education contribution to multi agency mandatory safeguarding training and audits for schools on request.
62	PRU Managed Moves	Funding for the NRC in relation to children moving into provision.
63	Virtual school	Funding to support pupils in Islington schools who present significant difficulties in school on entry to care and contribution to tuition fees.
65	Equalities	Ongoing work with all schools (including academies and free schools) to raise progress and achievement for the two lowest achieving groups in schools (black Caribbean and white British) and Equaliteach
66	Legal Services SLA	Legal SLA @ £500 per school.
67	Sports Co-ordinators	Sports co-ordinators in schools.
69	Licences	DfE charge for national copyright licences on behalf of all schools and academies.
72	Trade Union Facility Time / EAP	De-delegated funding. Charging of Trade Union Facility time. Employee Assistance Programme.
73	NQTs	De-delegated funding. Release time for NQTs. Central retention. NQT recruitment.
74	UPEG (School Improvement Service)	De-delegated funding. Work in Support of Schools, Headteacher briefings and strategic planning meetings
75	Priority Support	De-delegated funding. Support specific projects in schools where schools are in, or at risk at being, in a category. There are 10-15 schools requiring support each year.
76	Schools in Financial Difficulty	De-delegated funding. Support schools which are required to restructure, provide support schools with falling rolls and to fund items of contingency which schools would not be expected to pay from their own budgets.
78	ISCB	Education contribution to the statutory multi-agency Islington Safeguarding Children's Board.
79	Falling Rolls	Fund to support schools with falling rolls in exceptional circumstances. Allocated in-line with agreed criteria.
80	Growth Fund	Fund to support schools which are required to provide extra places in order to meet basic need including pre-opening and reorganisation costs. Allocated in-line with agreed criteria.
81	MNS Supplementary Funding	Supplementary funding provided by the DfE for maintained nursery schools only until the end of the current parliament to help manage the transition to lower funding levels under the new EYSFF.
82	Disabled Access Fund	The DfE is going to introduce additional targeted Disability Access Funding (DAF) worth £12.5m per annum nationally, which will be paid to all providers for children in receipt of DLA taking a place in their setting. This would be paid annually and is worth £615 per 3 and 4 year old per year. This funding will be a ringfenced grant outside of the EYSFF to enable these children to access the new 30 hour entitlement.
83	Schools Redundancies	De-delegated funding. If schools follow HR advice, this covers a proportion of redundancy costs in schools.
85	Early Years Pupil Premium	Additional funding for early years settings to improve the education they provide for disadvantaged 3- and 4-year-olds. Funding is the equivalent to 53p per hour per eligible child. This is a ringfenced grant outside of the EYSFF.



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

Chair: Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy
c/o Governor Services
222 Upper Street
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SCHOOLS FORUM

MEETING DATE	20 January 2022
AGENDA ITEM 11	Early Years Funding Formula 2022-23
RECOMMENDATIONS	That the Schools Forum: a) Agrees the recommendations in relation to 2022-23 Early Years funding

In the absence of consultation outcomes, the consultation proposals and principles were discussed and agreed by members at the Early Years Sub Group on 11 January 2022

1 Background

- 1.1 A consultation relating to the 2022-23 funding proposals of 2, 3 and 4 year olds in Islington ran with all early years' providers from 6 January – 13 January (inclusive).
- 1.2 The consultation addresses the annual DfE changes, which, for 2022-23 sees an national increase to the 2 year old rate; £0.21p to £6.87, whilst the 3 & 4 year old has remained unchanged; £7.81. Despite the funding freeze on 3 & 4 year olds, the LA has proposed a 2% inflationary increase to the base rate.
- 1.3 The consultation set out our proposals for the disapplication process, providing detailed explanations of where the funding would be directed and the funding rates that providers could expect to receive should the disapplication process be successful.
- 1.4 Furthermore, we asked questions in relation to the SEN Inclusion Fund, which is outside of the central retention funding, and whether this was set at an appropriate level.
- 1.5 There were 16 respondents to the consultation and these are broken down as follows:

Type of Setting	No. of responses
Childrens Centre	6
Mtd Nursery School	1
PVI	1
Primary	8
Total	16

- 1.6 The responses have been collated and the results are shown at Appendix A.
- 1.7 Appendix B in this report shows the agreed 2022-23 funding rates for 2, 3 & 4 year old rates subject to final participation numbers following the completion of the January 2022 census.

2 Consultation section responses

SEN Inclusion Fund & High Needs Block Funding

- 2.1 We asked whether we should continue with a SEN Inclusion Fund at the increased level; £1,289k. Of the 16 responses, all were in favour. There were a number of comments with regards to the increasing numbers of children with SEND, early identification and the complexities of need. These comments and issues are noted and will be addressed in the forthcoming period and will form a part in the wider SEND strategy.

Central Retention & Contingency

- 2.2 There were no adverse comments in relation to the 5% central retention. The majority of responses were supportive of the services provided from the LA, particularly during the pandemic. Respondents felt 5% (central retention) and 2% (contingency) were set at the right levels to deliver services but wanted assurance of how the funding is monitored, allocated and provided value for money. A detailed breakdown of the allocation of centrally retained funds is included in Item 9 for agreement by Schools Forum – any variances against these budgets are included in monitoring updates to Schools Forum. A breakdown of the use of contingency funding is included in the annual outturn monitoring report to Schools Forum but we will also incorporate this breakdown in future monitoring updates.
- 2.3 In regards to the contingency fund most responses agreed that funds should be held at the proposed reduced percentage rate. Some respondents were concerned that the reduced level would not be sufficient to meet potential reductions in participation and the necessary clawbacks from DfE; should this be the case, the underspends from previous years would be used to smooth the reduction to the LA / providers. As above, a respondent requested additional information as to how the funds are used in line with the wider surplus funds. This to be addressed in future monitoring reports

Disapplication Proposals

- 2.4 This is the key question to determine whether the Local Authority can go ahead with applying for a disapplication of funding regulations to the DfE. This will enable Islington to reduce the pass-through rate from 95% to 93.6% but it should be noted that the difference is fully pass-ported to qualifying early years' settings and is not used for central service spend.
- 2.5 The consultation illustrated the hourly rates that providers were expected to receive from April 2022 and these were explicitly highlighted as being based on the disapplication being successful. Therefore, these were the minimum levels.
- 2.6 We asked whether funding for 2, 3 and 4 year olds should better reflect the staffing ratios required. By doing so, Islington would be able to provide a small increase to the 2 year old quality supplement. Of the 16 responses to this question, 15 responses were in favour of proceeding with the disapplication and increasing the 2 year old rate.

3 & 4 Year old EYNFF

- 2.7 The next section of questions relates specifically to the 3 and 4 year old Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) and focuses on the base hourly rate and which other factors should be used.
- 2.8 The Base Rate within the consultation has been indicated as £6.02 and this is on the assumption that our disapplication of funding is successful. This higher rate represents a 2% increase compared to 2021-22.
- 2.9 The next question asks whether the supplementary funding factors continues to be to be used. All responses all were in agreement.
- 2.10 The supplementary question asked if the Early Years Pupil Premium indicator continues to be the measure of deprivation. 15 responded favourably. Some respondents queried

whether there were alternatives to using EYPP and if solely using PP as an indicator of deprivation could mean some children may not be identified as having needs. This has been explored in previous years but it is recognised that there is a need to review this option in future years.

2 Year old EYNFF

- 2.11 The 2 year old rate was the focus of the next section of the consultation. Islington remains committed to funding 2 year olds at an appropriate rate according to staffing ratios which means the hourly rate continues to be higher than that received from the DfE. Whilst there has been a £0.21p increase to the funding the LA receives, the base rate remains at £6.00 per hour for all settings and the following questions ask about additional supplements.
- 2.12 The next question asked whether we should continue to use the quality factor as the only other additional factor in the formula. All 16 respondents were in agreement.
- 2.13 To ensure that Childminders also benefit from additional funds we asked whether the small setting factor be used. 16 responded to this question and 15 were in favour.
- 2.14 The LA asked whether the formula protects the 2 year old hourly rate in 2022-23. All 16 responses to this question were positive.

General

- 2.15 As a general question we asked whether providers would continue to offer funded early education for 2, 3 and 4 year olds at the proposed rates set out within the consultation. Of the 16 responses to this question, all providers were committed to offer the service.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 In the absence of the consultation responses, the following principles were agreed by the Early Years Sub Group on 11 January 2022 and we ask Forum to ratify all points below:
- Continue with the SEN Inclusion Fund at the level stated in the consultation; £1,289k
 - To proceed with the disapplication process to the DfE to maintain the current 2 year old funding rate.
 - 3 & 4 yr old EYNFF – to maintain existing supplementary factors across all types of provider
 - 3 & 4 yr old EYNFF - To continue to use EYPP as the measure of deprivation
 - 2 yr old EYNFF - To continue to use the quality factor
 - 2 yr old EYNFF - To continue to use the small setting factor for childminders
 - 2 yr old EYNFF - To protect the 2 year old hourly rate for 2022-23

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Appendix A - Summary of consultation responses

	Question	Response Y	Response N	Recommendation
1	SEN Inclusion Fund - Do you agree that we should provide an SEN Inclusion Fund at the level as set out in the consultation paper to support pupils with SEND?	16	0	Continue with SEN Inclusion Fund
<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More would be even better, but understand the limitations • A higher number of children coming into settings with an undiagnosed SEN so additional funding will support nurseries with being able to support children's learning • This will really help support children with SEND and is a sensible move. • A number of settings have significantly high SEND needs and this increase would help to apply more funding to settings where there are high needs identified. • Higher proportion of 3&4 year olds identified with high needs year on year, needing additional support, so support increase in funding • Number of children with SEN is increasing. • We think the PELSEND funding should be increased. The level of funding has not been increased for many years and does not reflect the increase cost of staff salaries, NI , pension contribution etc. In addition support from Therapist such as SCT is very limited which means more children need assessment on admission. Evidence shows there is a significant increase in the number of children starting nursery with high level needs. The additional funds can only be applied for once the assessment and interventions plans have been undertaken. None of this is funded.. There is no recovery money in early years for covid and this is what nurseries are now undertaking . We understand that this is likely to continue for some time. In this context some contingency funding should be allocated to support the work needed before the funding application can be made • No just that it should be provided as fairly across schools as possible. 				
2	Central Retention - Do you have any comments about central retention?			To continue with the rate of Central Retention as set out in the consultation
<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It has been great that we have been supported during COVID with top up funding • Both the 5% retention and holding 2% for demographic growth is prudent so I am in agreement. • I think that central retention is fine as long as allocations are fair and continue to be based upon the demographic and needs of the individual schools, • I agree with the 5% retention for strategic and operational leadership • Central services to support all schools/settings by managing funds strategically in the best interests of all children in the borough, mitigating DfE funding changes, is the most efficient approach • It is required in order to continue the provision of support. • We think the funds are used to provide a good service • I understand why this needs to happen. • We agree with the central retention rate of 5%, provided that costs are monitored and impact is evaluated, assuring value for money for these central services. 				
3	Central Retention - Do you have any comments about retaining 2% contingency for demographic growth and supporting any claw back of EY funding from the DfE due to a reduced January 2022 headcount as a result of the pandemic?			To reduce the 2022-23 contingency held for demographic growth to 2%

Question	Response Y	Response N	Recommendation
<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If contingency is reduced, concerned if it would reduce capacity to continue flexible support for settings for loss of income due to ongoing COVID fallout. • I do not support any claw back of any funds from the DFE due to their using the January 2022 headcount. This does not support catch up or the impact that the pandemic has had on children, likewise I am uncomfortable about the LEA/DFE retaining a 2% contingency fund. • The advice and support that we get from the EY teams is crucial and i think there should be enough money to run central central services. After all many staff have left in the past few years and have not been replaced. • With the uncertainty around surplus places and lower headcount creating challenges for schools to continue nursery provision, a contingency would be a sensible approach • Supported. • If it is retained will it be reallocated if it is not needed. • No. I agree with retaining 2% • We agree with the retention policy, especially at the reduced rate. However we are not informed of how the fund is used each year, and would appreciate more information on the use of the surplus funds. 			
<p>4 SEND Funding in the High Needs Block - Do you have any comments about SEND funding for early years in the High Needs block?</p>			
<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to continue • No comments but I agree with the proposed suggestions. • IT is quite simply not enough and does not address the increasingly complex needs that are present in EYFS • "Can EY pupil premium: How is this allocated? How do we know how much this is?" • Can the payments to us be easily identifiable please. " • The current needs outweighs the level of funding in some centres • Both Speech and Language Therapy and CAMHS are highly valued at our school - we would appreciate more funding for CAMHS so that there is a greater capacity to address the waiting lists. • With the number increasing needs, it is currently harder to provide the quality for all individual children. Funding needs to ensure we can offer quality interventions that match the increasing cost of quality staff. • PELSEND place funding needs to be considered because there has been no increase for some time. See previous • I know funding is distributed on a case by case basis and in St Luke's, we have always been supported. • Ideally, places for 10% of children attending Nursery in Islington should have potential places, but we acknowledge this is a funding issue. • Agreed 			
<p>5 Disapplication Proposals - Do you agree that funding for 2 year olds should better reflect the staffing ratios required?</p>	15	1	Agree to proceed with disapplication request to DfE in maintaining the two year old rate
<p>Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In support of this 			

Question	Response Y	Response N	Recommendation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of our 2 year olds entering the setting at the moment have not had any form of child care or been able to attend stay and play groups due to the lock downs, so by being able to offer the 1:4 ratio's helps to support their emotional wellbeing and development in a more comfortable environment which parents feel less anxious about • the level of need of 2 year olds has increased due to the pandemic and lock down with more 2 year olds presenting with significant delay especially in speech and language and PSED resulting 2 year olds needing additional support • Given this will be used to specifically support staffing I am in support of this proposal. • I am seriously considering the closure of the two year old provision due to the deficit budget and the funding that does not even cover two staff salaries. • I agree that we should be aiming for 2 year old provision to be led by appropriately highly qualified professionals • With increasing staff costs, this is much needed. • Need to consider the current dynamics and needs of the 2 year olds coming through 			
6 3 and 4 Year Old EYNFF - Do you agree with the supplementary funding factors as prescribed above are used in the formula?	16	0	Continue with the supplementary factors in the EYNFF
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seems sensible • EYNFF is the one good thing that has happened to community nurseries. It has reduced the gap between highly funded CCs and far less funded community Nurseries • We do not receive information on the number of PEL places granted each year. 			
7 3 and 4 Year Old EYNFF - Do you agree we should continue to use EYPP as the measure of deprivation?	15	1	Continue using EYPP as the measure of deprivation within EYNFF
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We were a bit unsure on this one as we would not know what alternatives there are. EYPP can be a bit black and white - some parents don't qualify but would still be low income, therefore deprived. • Saying yes, but the challenge is getting full, accurate and timely data from parents. • Do not know what alternatives are available. This does not take account of two year olds who are not eligible for pupil premium. Not sure how this would impact in terms of deprivation. • Continuation to measure deprivation is essential • I do feel that linking all types of funding to Pupil Premium means that some families fall through the next. 			
8 2 Year Old EYSFF - Do you agree that we continue to use a quality factor in the 2 year old funding formula for nursery schools, primary schools, children's centres and PVI settings?	16	0	Continue with using a quality factor within 2 year old funding formula
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 			

	Question	Response Y	Response N	Recommendation
9	2 Year Old EYSFF - Do you agree that we continue to use a small setting factor in the funding formula for childminders?	15	1	Continue with using a small setting factor within 2 year old funding formula, for childminders
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There seems to be no information in the consultation relating to the small setting factor. We are unsure why this is necessary given the surfeit of nursery places in Islington. 				
10	2 Year Old EYSFF - Do you agree with protecting the 2 year old funding rate to providers during 2022-23?	16	0	Agree to proceed with disapplication request to DfE re maintaining the two year old rate
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anything that offers stability is a positive at this time. Vulnerability and need for 2 year funded children is increasing and affording quality staff to deliver the offer significantly makes a difference to these children's learning potential. essential as it is unlikely that the number of two year olds with un-addressed high needs will decrease in the near future 				
11	Given all the information above, will you continue to provide funded early education for 2, 3 and 4 year olds (as appropriate to your setting) at the proposed rates set out in the consultation paper?	16	0	Use the 2, 3&4 year old funding rates included in the consultation for 2022-23 funding allocations
12	Please provide below any additional comments you may have on our proposals?			
Comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It has been extremely challenging the last 2 years to increase take up of 2,3 and 4 year old places and having Islington support with top up budgets has helped to alleviate some of the financial stresses I think that given the profound changes that all schools are experiencing that the proposals are well thought through and have my support. It would be useful to be able to sometimes offer additional free 2 year old places when there is high demand. These are difficult times and I think we need to hold fast and wait to see what transpires between now and April from the DfE. For 3 and 4 year olds only. Our setting is only for the year before Reception entry. 				

Appendix B - 2022-23 Funding Rates

		RATE FROM DFE		RATE FROM DFE	
3 and 4 year old EYSFF	Factor	2021-22	2021-22	2022-23	2022-23
ALL group providers <i>(Hourly Rate with disapplication)</i>	Base Rate	£7.81	£5.90	£7.81	£6.02
	Deprivation		£1.51		£1.51
	TOTAL		£7.41		£7.53
Childminders	Base Rate	£7.81	£5.90	£7.81	£6.02
	Flexibility		£1.07		£1.16
	TOTAL		£6.97		£7.18
2 year old EYSFF	Factor	2021-22	2021-22	2022-23	2022-23
ALL group providers	Base rate	£6.66	£6.00	£6.87	£6.00
	Quality factor		£1.05		£1.26
	TOTAL		£7.05		£7.26
Childminders	Base rate	£6.66	£6.00	£6.87	£6.00
	Small setting		£0.97		£1.18
	TOTAL		£6.97		£7.18
EYPP		£302.10 (£0.53 / hr)	£302.10 (£0.53 / hr)	£342.00 (£0.60 / hr)	£342.00 (£0.60 / hr)
DAF		£615.00	£615.00	£800.00	£800.00



ISLINGTON SCHOOLS FORUM

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SCHOOL FORUM

MEETING DATE	20 January 2022
AGENDA ITEM 12	Forward Planning
RECOMMENDATIONS	That Schools Forum: a) Notes the updates and provide comments

1 Forward planning

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the foundation of a future work plan for Schools Forum meetings for the 2022-23 financial year and will be updated on a rolling 12-month period.
- 1.2 The report presented to Schools' Forum in November has been updated to reflect changes that have since emerged.
- 1.3 The table in appendix A provides the updated work plan and includes an additional notes column to enable recognised changes.
- 1.4 Listed within the work plan are suggested standing items, these will be presented either via a written or oral report, dependant on the need for the meeting.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that Schools Forum note the updated work plan and provide comments.

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APPENDIX A – School Forum: Work plan

Standing Items: Declaration of Interest
Forum Composition
Forum Forward Planning
Sub Group Updates

Financial Year	Agenda Item	Information & To Note / Comments & views / Decision	Notes
May 22	School Balances (DRAFT - prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Outturn (DRAFT: prior year)	Information & To note	
	High Needs Places	Decision	
	Scheme for Financing Schools	Comments & Views	Dependent on DfE release of scheme
	Governance Report	Information	NEW
	SALT / CAMHS	Information	NEW
July 22	School Balances (FINAL - prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Outturn (FINAL: prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Allocations (in year)	Information & To note	
	Scheme for Financing Schools	Decision	Following consultation with schools
	Schools Internal Audit Programme Outcomes (prior year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Schools Block estimated funding (new year)	Information & To note	
	Falling Rolls estimated allocations (new year)	Information & To note	
October 22	DSG Budget Monitor (in year)	Information & To note	
	School Funding Arrangements, Consultation results (future year)	Decision	
	School Funding Consultation: DfE	Information & To note	
November 22	DSG Funding Settlement	Information & To note	
	DSG projected allocations (future year)	Information & To note	
	Growth / Falling Rolls proposals (future year)	Decision & views	
	Central School Services Block - Central Retention	Decision	
January 23	DSG Budget Monitor (in year)	Information & To note	
	DSG Settlement (future year)	Information & To note	
	Growth / Falling Rolls proposals (future year)	Decision	
	School Funding Formula (future year)	Decision	
	School Central Retention (future year)	Decision	
	Early Years Funding Formula (future year)	Decision	