# NORFOLK SCHOOLS FORUM

# AGENDA

**Meeting on Wednesday 19 January 2022 09:00 – 11:30**

**This will be a remote MS-Teams meeting. Members will be asked on the day for their permission to record the meeting.**

**It is lovely to say hello, welcome people and see and hear each other at the start of the meeting. However, to support connectivity for all and to minimise interference, please can we ask that once we make a start upon official business can cameras and mics be turned off unless you are speaking. Please also use the hands-up function if you wish to contribute to an item. Thank you.**

Individual members, named below, are asked to provide verbal reports for these items.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **09:00** | **1** | **Welcome and Introductions**  **Apologies** | **Report** |  |
| **09:05 – 09:10** | **2** | **Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising**  Letter to DfE from Eastern Region School Forums – Reply from DfE.   * Independent Schools – external evaluation * Finance Training for Headteacher | Circulated via email  Circulated via email | **2 - 9** |
| **09:10 – 09:15** | **3** | **Election of Chair/Vice Chair** |  |  |
| **09:15 – 09:30** | **4** | **Review School Forum membership** | **Information** | **10 - 12** |
| **09:30 – 10:30** | **5** | **Dedicated Schools Grant**   * Proposed Schools Budget including central costs * Early Years Block Funding * DSG Management Plan * Special Schools | **Discuss/**  **Decision** | **13 - 36** |
| **10:30 – 10:45** |  | **COFFEE** |  |  |
| **10:45 – 11:00** | **6** | **Pupil Variation** | **Information** | **37 - 40** |
| **11:00 – 11:15** | **7** | **Review Future Meeting Plan** | **Information** | **41 - 42** |
|  | **8** | **Date of Next Meeting****Wednesday 16 March 2022 09:00 – 11:30 hours** |  |  |

**Norfolk Schools Forum**

**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 17 November 2021**

**09:00 – 13:00 hours**

**Teams Meeting**

**Present: Representing**

Adrian Ball, Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Academies

Trust

Keith Bates, Eaton Hall Specialist Academy Special School Academy

Chris Caddamy, (Vice Chair) City College 16 – 19 Representative

Lacey Douglass Early Years Representative

Mike Grimble, Avenue Junior School Primary Maintained Governors

Bob Groome Association of Teachers & Lecturers

Glyn Hambling, Unity Education Trust Alternative Provision

Howard Nelson, Diocese of Norwich Diocesan Board of Education

Clare Jones, Boudica Schools Trust Academies

Peter Pazitka, SJB CMAT Academies

Joanne Philpott, City of Norwich School Academies

Sarah Porter, The Heart Education Trust Academies

David Shaw, Creative Education Trust Academies

Sarah Shirras, St Williams Primary Primary Maintained Schools

Joanna Tuttle, Aylsham High School Secondary Maintained Schools

Martin White, (Chair) Nebula Federation Primary Maintained Governors

Rebecca Wicks, The Clare School Maintained Special Schools

Michael Bateman Assistant Director, SEND Strategic Improvement & Early Effectiveness

Martin Brock Accountant, Schools, SEN, and Early Years

John Crowley Assistant Director Learning & Achievement

Sally Cutting Senior Accountant

Marilyn Edgeley Admin Officer

Dawn Filtness Finance Business Partner

Nicki Rider Head of High Needs SEND

Chris Snudden Director of Learning & Inclusion

**Apologies:**

Carol Jacques Maintained Nursery School

Sara Tough Executive Director Childrens Services

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Members noted that it would have been inappropriate to meet face to face due to the number of covid cases in the county

Members were sad to note that Gerry Batty a former School Forum representative has died.

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Apologies were received from Carole Jacques. It was noted that Andrew Aalders-Dunthorne has resigned and an election will need to take place for an Academy Representative.

1. **Minutes of the Last Meeting and Matters Arising**

It was agreed the minutes were a true record of the meeting.

* **Joint letter to the government with other School Forums in the Eastern Region on insufficient funding for the High Needs Block.**

This letter has been emailed to the Secretary for Education.

* **Update on age groups of increased EHCPs**

A report was circulated previously to members.

1. **Consultation from the Department of Education.**

Officers said this consultation will have implications for the authority and for Schools Forum. The consultation is about the removal of funding supporting school improvement and the movement of the political agenda.

The funding would be reduced by 50% next April with the loss of the following 50% April 2023.

Officers urged School Forum Members to respond to the consultation.

If the Authority wants to carry on supporting school improvement it will have to go to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).

Members noted that page 7 of the consultation lays out what the Government intend to do. Officers are compiling a regional response and a Directors of Children’s Services response. The consultation closes at the end of this month with an announcement Dec/Jan.

Officers will monitor this closely.

One criticism in the consultation is that LA’s (Local Authorities) have had these powers but not used them. Officers said Norfolk has used them and intervened when required and achieved positive results with schools improving and gaining a good ofsted result.

1. **Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)**

**a. Early Years Block**

Following the Chancellor’s autumn Spending Review the DfE confirmed to local authorities that there will be additional funding for the early years entitlements worth £160m in 2022/23, £180m in 2023/24 and £170m in 2024/25. This is for local authorities to increase hourly rates paid to childcare providers for the government’s free childcare entitlement offers and reflects the costs of inflation and national living wage increases.

Officers went through the paper and highlighted points that were worth discussing.

Officer said they do not know exactly what the funding will be – so helpful to have a steer for the direction School Forum would like the Authority to go.

Comments:

* Members asked about the Early Years Recovery package and how quick this could come into effect. Providers will see money coming into early years and expect an increase.

Officers said the papers did not make it clear if this is additional money or the same money being counted more than once.

* Tough for Early Years at the moment with low numbers of children and the living wage increase.
* I think we should have a base rate plus a mandatory deprivation supplement.

Officer comment – yes previous discussions suggest same direction and reduce supplements and increase base rates.

* Agree regarding the need to be mindful regarding the transitional arrangements for removal of supplements.
* Difficult to make any comment or steer without knowing what is the level of funding as we would be in risk of robbing Peter to Paul! Base rate is key.
* There should be some kind of minimum growth factor.
* Concerned about Early Years recovery package – how quick can this come in to effect?

Officers said there are a lot of Budget announcements but unclear what is a one off or recurring amounts; difficult to unpick!

* There were no comments on the level of contingency.
* There were no comments on the SENIF Funding.

Officers said it was probably right to encourage a better base rate to get more two year olds into the system.

This item will be brought back to the January meeting.

**b. De-delegation/Central School Services Block**

The primary representatives have had a pre-meeting to discuss their votes – however they still wished a vote to take place today.

Voting took place and the following votes were recorded:

Decision 1a – Should staff cost budgets for the primary sector be de-delegated? (To be agreed by maintained primary representatives).

**Unanimous - Yes**

Decision 1b – Should staff cost budgets for the secondary sector be de-delegated? (To be agreed by the maintained secondary representative).

**The maintained secondary representative agreed for the de-delegation of Special Circumstances only.**

Decision 2 – To agree de-delegation of a contingency at an indicative rate of £0.79 per-pupil for 2022/23 from primary schools’ budgets, for a budget of £25k (to be agreed by maintained primary representatives).

**Unanimous - No**

The maintained secondary representative said that on a matter of principle it was unfair that secondary schools were not included in the contingency.

Others agreed it should be everyone’s concern.

Decision 3a – Should Free School Meals eligibility be de-delegated for the primary sector (maintained)? (To be agreed by maintained primary representatives).

**Unanimous – Yes**

Decision 3b – Should Free School Meal eligibility be de-delegated for the secondary sector (maintained)? (To be agreed by the maintained secondary representative).

**The maintained secondary representative agreed de-delegation.**

Decision 4a - The maintained special school representative is asked to decide on the buyback of services for all maintained special schools in the 2022/23 financial year.

**The maintained special school representative agreed to buy back services for maintained special schools.**

Decision 4b - The academy special school representative is asked to decide on the buyback of services for academy special schools in the 2022/23 financial year.

**The special school academy representative confirmed that special academies did not wish to buy back services.**

Decision 5 - The maintained nursery school representative is asked to decide on the buyback of services for maintained nursery schools in the 2022/23 financial year.

**Although not present at the meeting, the maintained nursery school representative agreed to buyback for nursery schools via email.**

Decision 6a – To approve a £500,000 centrally retained fund for pre-16 growth in 2022/23.

**Unanimous – Yes**

Decision 6b – To approve the pre-16 growth fund criteria as detailed in section 1.6 of this paper

**Unanimous – Yes**

Decision 7a – To approve the level of Admissions funding (£487,011).

**Unanimous – Yes**

Decision 7b – To approve the level of funding for Schools Forum (£30,000).

**Unanimous – Yes**

Decision 7c – To approve the level of funding for Fees to Independent Schools for pupil without SEN (£100,000).

**Unanimous – Yes**

**Action – Officers agreed to share with Forum Members a previous external evaluation of the service.**

Decision 7d – To approve the level of contribution towards the Director of Learning & Inclusion central budgets- Early Intervention and Achievement (£119,700).

**Unanimous – Yes**

Decision 7e – To approve the level of Termination of Employment Costs (£64,994).

**Unanimous - Yes**

Decision 8 – Schools Forum to approve funding for responsibilities held for all schools from Central School Services Block, including Teachers’ Pay Grant and Teachers’ Pension Employer Contribution Grant for centrally employed staff (£2,477,132).

**Unanimous - Yes**

**c. Fair Funding Consultation/National Funding Formula**

Officers said they wanted to discuss the position the Authority is in in relation to the 0.5% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block. We would also be interested in your views on an additional 1% transfer. The deficit is growing exponentially with the biggest rise in one month just realised. At the meeting with the ESFA they felt we had provided a comprehensive picture. However they had no helpful suggestions. They asked in any future disapplication request to be very clear on School Forum reasons for supporting or not and reasons why.

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Forum members were asked to respond to the first 3 bullet points on the paper:

Comments:

* At headteacher briefings it was obvious that a lot of people did not understand these high level issues and this makes it difficult for them to respond to the consultation – it would be beneficial in the new year to have some finance training between School Forum and Educate Norfolk and the roll of the School Forum.

**Action - Sarah Shirras will take this back to Educate Norfolk.**

* From feedback early intervention comes up. It is fundamentally really difficult to keep seeing a massive deficit year on year. I appreciate the difficulties the LA is facing but I feel we are just putting good money after bad putting the additional % in there. Do we need to know money will have a good long term objective? Independent places seem to be causing the difficulties.
* All about early intervention and delivery of change – not sure of quality of independent places. Special Schools are doing a brilliant job.

Officers said early intervention was absolutely in their thoughts we have to invest more up front but we have to meet needs. We did invite the DfE to work with us in piloting some new approaches and how we hold on to youngsters in main stream. They were not in a position to do they but we will pursue it. They said it was impossible to dis-aggregate where the money goes. One thing they wanted to consider was how to get more money into schools earlier.

* Appreciate huge amount of effort on this but figures are mind boggling looking at the increase in costs. If we have 1% transfer will just pay for standing still. How much are you going to put into your predictions for cost rises? This needs to be built in.

Officers said they are doing some work locally and regionally around procurement of places.

* Will we see more support staff laid off if we do not support the transfer – lot of support staff reduced in last few years. Maybe we need to attract more support staff to help more children stay in main stream schools.
* On the 1% transfer – seems on the outturn that the 1% is forecasted in for every year what will be the DfE view on this – if we approve gives the message given the wider reforms that are needed in the SEND funding that we have this money in the sector to give away.

If the debt continues to grow thinking about the reforms that Stoke have had to do and the controls they have had to adopt to be eligible to get the extra funding what is the LAs view on this.

Officers said it is hard to know what the mood of the department is.

With the level of deficit – if regulation changes and it becomes an LA problem it will bankrupt a number of authorities and leaves our council under a potential threat.

**Members were asked to vote on continuation of the movement of 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block for 2022-23**

**Yes 15**

**No**

**Abstain 1**

**At this point members of School Forum were asked give there views/decision on request for an additional 1% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block.**

A.Ball – No not right time to put 1% to supplement the High Needs Block.

B.Groom – No, by moving the 1% more support staff will be made redundant and compound the problem even more meaning not being able to meet need in schools therefore places rising in special needs schools.

G.Hambling – Key issue I am abstaining from a point of the 1% something I think in the longer term we are going to have to consider and put points to but in line with a strategic over view plan as we have been discussing. I totally understand the reasoning behind the request to make the big strategic decisions but challenging for us as a School Forum to determine whether it is right or not now based on NCC strategy. It is a decision which NCC will make, if they go ahead we will attempt to support as is.

C.Caddamy – Difficult to call for me as no effect on college. I do think any additional funding for schools to help early intervention which supports students to progress and not need those additional high needs funds when they get into a college is important but I think it is right for me to abstain on this one.

C. Jones - Abstain too complex.

D.Shaw – Mirror what Glyn said completely understand requirements but a No – across nation is an issue so should be an element of national funding not local funding.

R.Wicks – I agree too complicated is a national picture – abstain until I have further information.

H.Nelson – No – is a national issue size of deficit so large actually will not make a difference.

K.Bates – Yes will support on the point of view of giving a message to the DfE around schools being behind the LA application and supporting the application to be doing everything they can to alleviate the situation rather than us looking completely dis-united as a system. So I will be a yes.

L. Douglas – I will abstain as does not impact on me.

M.Grimble – Totally support what has been going on to try and address this issue but Schools Forum has been providing the half percent for year after year which is an indication that we are very positive to getting this issue sorted out concerns provision not there adequately outside maintained schools and basically money needed in schools to make sure those pupils are looked after as there have been times when complex needs not met in the high needs block and still in the schools. I think money better spent in the schools but continue to support the efforts and don’t think the 1% will make much difference so NO.

J.Philpott – No as so much financial uncertainty for schools so planning incredibly difficult and we are dealing with all the problems of SEN in schools and to have 1% going out will make a significant impact on schools and the children we are supporting and will not make a significant impact on the deficit so will have to be No.

P. Pazitka – No for much the same reasons 1% will not make a difference especially in primary schools where a systematic fix is needed for the deficit

S.Porter – No, school budgets already constrained and extra 1% would have a significantly negative impact in primarys’ and will impact on the SEN pupils – national issue as much as a local issue and needs a national solution.

S.Shirras – Impossible situation puts us all in and the insult I felt last year when the implication was that we as a school forum working with the LA did not understand the issues and that is just not the case, we go into intelligent open discussion about this and I am proud how we deal with this collectively so would hate for any of our decisions to look as if we don’t understand. This is not an individual schools issue it needs a national solution. As primary rep here I need to support the views of the consultation I wouldn’t be in support of it it but does not mean I don’t support the LA and schools forum trying to find a solution to this.

J.Tuttle – No – same reasons – as secondary schools representative if we could have seen evidence of a creative solution focused approach of a budget set within that recovery plan looking at a more creative approach then actually we may have said Yes. Would probably of changed our decision if the focus had been slightly different within that recovery plan.

M.White – Echo what Sarah has said as we both got caught in the middle of it as chair and past chair of schools forum – lack of understanding from DfE totally agree with what Sarah has said and to echo the thing that has been said again and again the problem with HN Block is a national funding issue and that is where it needs to be addressed and it should not be for schools to bail out the HN block when they so desperately need the money and need it more because of the problems with the HN block, too many of these special needs children are in main stream schools and that’s where the funding needs to be and that is reflected in the consultation that the LA has just completed.

**Forum Members were asked to vote on the proposed change to admissions appeals charges, so that all schools that are their own admissions authority are charged for the use of appeals services from April 2022**.

**Unanimous - Yes**

**d. Special Schools Review (feedback from consultation)**

A decision on the outcomes of the review will need to be made via Council Members and will add an extra burden on the High Needs Block. Officers asked for Forum Members’ views to help inform the next steps regarding this review.

Comments:

* The issue is re-distributing money in the High Needs Block (HNB) or putting extra pressure on the HNB which can’t continue in the way it is going.
* Reiterate issue about will there be a national funding formula for Special Schools – if so this may be a useful exercise for our knowledge but not practical long term.
* It seems leadership costs has caused more negative responses than anything else.
* There was quite a few unsure/need more info. responses.

Officers said they wanted to take this forward with Forum’s comments. If Members have any further comments after this meeting they can email them to Marilyn.

Officers said that they did think that this created a fairer system, it was comprehensively modelled on running costs – some nuances remain e.g. top-up funding for band D. Overall represents the cost of looking after these children.

* One contentious issue is leadership points.
* Some special Schools are all-through schools, the moving parts of a Special School are very multiple compared to a mainstream school and that explains the requirement for more leadership capacity. We can’t escape that a review like this has not taken place for 10 years. I hope we don’t kick this into the ‘long grass’.

Officers said they equally want to support mainstream schools to support a greater level of need.

* I support getting the level of care right – to be prudent need a short time period before this is reviewed again.
* Agree we need to be brave around deficit if this is what our Special Schools need it is the right thing to do.
* If it is more fair than previous model it needs to be taken on board.

1. **Date of next meeting**

19 January 2022 09:00 – 11:30

**Schools Forum**

**Item No. 4**

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| --- | --- |
| **Report title:** | **Schools Forum Membership** |
| **Date of meeting:** | **19 January 2022** |

**Executive summary**

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| **The local authority is required to review the membership of Schools Forum on a regular basis in line with updated pupil numbers. The representation remains correct based on the October 2021 census data. This paper is for information only and no changes are required to membership at this time.** |

**Schools Forum Structure**

The membership of Schools Forum needs to reflect the proportion of pupil numbers in the different school sectors as per the Schools Forums (England) regulations 2012.

Although there has been a small increase in the proportion of academy pupils since the structure of Schools Forum was last reviewed in January 2021 the representation remains correct.

**Minimum Requirements**

**Schools members –** Must be at least 2/3rd of Schools Forum membership

Where the local authority maintains the following type of schools they should each be represented on the Schools Forum:

* Primary Schools
* Secondary Schools
* Special Schools
* Nursery Schools
* PRUs

For each group above the representation can be made up or Headteachers (or their representative) and/or Governors.

There must also be representation (if such exists in the local authority area) for:

* Mainstream academies including free schools, UTCs, and Studio Schools
* Special academies including free schools
* Alternative Provision academies including free schools

Academy representation is not restricted to principals, senior staff or governors.

Primary schools, secondary schools and academies must be broadly proportionately represented on schools forum, based on the total number of pupils registered at them.

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**Non-school members** – Must be no more than 1/3rd of Schools Forum membership

1 16-19 representative

1 Early Years PVI representative

Before considering other groups, the local authority must consider diocesan representation.

Any relevant person may represent these non-school groups.

**Current Representation**

**School members – 15 members**

1 Primary maintained Headteachers

2 Primary maintained Governors

1 Secondary maintained school representative

7 Academy representatives

1 Special School Headteacher

1 Nursery School Head teacher or Governor

1 Special School Academy representative

1 AP Academy representative

**Non School members – Up to 6 members**

1 16-19 representative

1 Early Years PVI representative

1 C of E Diocesan Rep

1 Roman Catholic Rep (currently vacant)

1 JCC Primary Rep

1 JCC Secondary Rep

Therefore, as required, at least two-thirds of Schools Forum members are schools/academy members.

Check of pupil numbers from October 2021 census:

Primary Maintained 31,825 = 29.61%

Secondary Maintained 1,109 = 1.03%

Primary and Secondary Academy 74,544 = 69.36%

Total 107,478

Schools Forum currently has 11 school members for maintained primary, maintained secondary and academies. The latest pupil number proportions translate into:

3.26 primary representatives (currently we have 3 so this is correct)

0.11 secondary representatives (we need at least 1 so this is correct)

7.63 academy representatives (currently we have 7 so this is correct)

**Schools Forum is asked to note the information provided.**

**Schools Forum**

**Item No. 5**

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| --- | --- |
| **Report title:** | **Proposed Schools Budget 2022/23** |
| **Date of meeting:** | **19 January 2022** |

**Executive summary**

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| **Schools Forum is asked to:**   * **Note information provided for the 2022/23 Dedicated Schools Block allocations and other DfE grants (Sections 1 and 2);** * **Consider and make recommendations to Cabinet as to the funding model used for Maintained Special Schools and academies, including an additional allocation for the Health and Social Care Levy (Section 4);** * **Note the latest updates to Norfolk’s DSG recovery plan (Section 5);** * **Note the funding announcements in relation to the Schools Block (Section 6);** * **Note the Maintained Nursery Supplement provide by the DSG and comment on the proposal to continue to provide additional protection (£81,160 for 2022/23) from the EY Block (Section 7);** * **Vote on retention of 5% of 3- and 4-year-old allocations for EY central services (Section 7);** * **Recommend a preferred option in relation to 2-year-old contribution for EY central services (Section 7);** * **Consider and make recommendations to Cabinet for the allocation of increased hourly rates for Early Years funding in 2022/23 (Section 7);** * **and, Note the funding announcements in relation to the Central Services Schools Block (Section 8).** |

1. **Background**

This report follows on from the Dedicated Schools Grant reports to Norfolk Schools Forum in November 2021 (items 4a to d), available [here](https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-finance/norfolk-schools-forum/forum-agendas-and-papers), considering the updated information now available and identifying the further decisions or recommendations required.

**1.1 Key Decisions and Recommendations Previously Made**

At the November 2021 meeting of Norfolk’s Schools Forum, the following key decisions, recommendations and views were shared:

* Comments and steer provided by Members regarding the potential distribution of Early Years additional funding announced in the Spending Review
* De-delegation / Central School Services Block decisions by the appropriate sector representatives
* Schools Forum agreed to a continuation of the movement of 0.5% Schools Block to High Needs Block for 2022/23
* Schools Forum Members were given the opportunity to individually provide views on a request for an additional 1% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block for 2022/23
* Schools Forum Members provided views and comments regarding the next step of the Maintained Special Schools Funding Review

Further information is available within the minutes of the meeting, available [here](https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-finance/norfolk-schools-forum/forum-minutes).

**1.2 Key events or changes since November 2021 Forum**

Since the last Schools Forum meeting, the key events or changes have been

* Submission by the LA of a disapplication request to move an additional 1% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block for 2022-23;
* DSG 2022-23 allocations in December 2021;
* Schools Supplementary Grant and additional High Needs allocations;
* Increase in both the 2-year-old and 3-and-4-year-old Early Years National Funding Formula hourly rates;
* Autumn 2021 Early Years census;
* and, Authority Proforma Tool issued by DfE.

1. **Central Government Funding Allocations**

**2.1 2022-23 Dedicated Schools Grant Allocation**

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation for 2022/23 was published by the DfE in December 2021 and totals £729.191m before academy recoupment. This compares to a total DSG allocation of £699.382m in 2021/22 as at the November 2021 DSG update; an overall increase of £29.809m between years.

The 2022/23 financial year will be the third and final year of funding increases announced in autumn 2019 by the Government totalling £14bn of extra funding for schools and high needs over the three years 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23.

In addition to the increased DSG allocation, the Government has announced an additional £1.6bn[[1]](#footnote-2) nationally for 2022/23 on top of the increased allocation already expected, in the form of a Schools Supplementary Grant[[2]](#footnote-3) of £1.2bn to meet Health and Social Care Levy[[3]](#footnote-4) and wider costs in mainstream schools and academies, plus additional High Needs allocations of £325m for the Health and Social Care Levy and wider cost pressures in special schools and alternative provision.

Norfolk’s share of the additional funding is £16.540m for the Schools Supplementary Grant, which will be allocated to mainstream schools and academies in 2022/23. Further detail is expected from the DfE in spring 2022. Plus £4.350m for additional High Needs allocations (bringing the total High Needs allocation to £119.235m), subject to DSG conditions of grant, to support additional costs of the Health & Social Care Levy and wider cost pressures in special schools and AP, and additional support for colleges and other providers offering extra hours of study to students requiring high needs top-up funding.

The DfE have stated that it is their intention to incorporate the additional grant into core allocations where possible from 2023/24. Their guidance states that the supplementary grant will be rolled into the schools National Funding Formula for 2023/24, and the LA expects that the additional High Needs allocation will be included within the published DSG allocation spreadsheet for 2023/24 (instead of separately as in 2022/23).

**2.2 DSG - Changes Between Years (by Funding Block)**

The overall difference in the DSG allocation from the prior year funding is set out in the table overleaf:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Funding element** | **2022/23\***  **(£m)** | **2021/22\*\***  **(£m)** | **Change**  **(£m)** | **Explanation for change** |
| **Early Years Block** |  |  |  |  |
| Early Years 3- & 4-year-olds: 15 hours universal entitlement | 27.025 | 28.840 | (1.815) | Fewer eligible hours based on January’21 Census, however there is an increase of £0.17 per hour. |
| Early Years 3- & 4-year-olds: 30 hours for working parents | 9.349 | 9.543 | (0.194) | Fewer eligible hours based on January’21 Census, however there is an increase of £0.17 per hour. |
| Early Years 2-year-olds: 15 hours, where eligible | 4.243 | 4.548 | (0.305) | Fewer eligible hours based on January’21 Census, however there is an increase of £0.21 per hour. |
| Early Years Pupil Premium | 0.581 | 0.503 | 0.078 | Increase of £0.07 per hour, updated EYPP take-up. |
| Nursery Schools Supplement | 0.284 | 0.222 | 0.062 | Increase of £0.09 per hour, increased Part Time Equivalents in January’21 Census. |
| Early Years Disability Access Fund | 0.227 | 0.181 | 0.046 | Increase of £185 per eligible child, updated DLA data from February’21. |
| **Schools Block** | 568.631 | 547.933 | 20.698 | Increase of 624 pupils, £3.676m, and additional money from DfE through NFF, £17.022m. |
| **Central School Services Block** | 3.965 | 3.772 | 0.193 | Increase of 624 pupils, funding per-pupil has increased from £33.87 to £35.75 per pupil, £31k reduction to historic commitments funding. |
| **High Needs Block\*\*\*** | 114.886 | 103.840 | 11.046 | Additional funding as a result of the National Funding Formula additional DfE money. AP census figures used will be checked by LA when DfE releases further detail. |
| **Total\*\*\*\*** | **729.191** | **699.382** | **29.809** |  |

\*Source: DfE’s DSG allocation tables 2022-23 (published Dec’21)

\*\*Source: DfE’s DSG allocation tables 2021-22 (Nov’21 update)

\*\*\*Excludes High Needs additional allocation of £4.35m outside of main DSG allocation (total HN allocation therefore £119.235m)

\*\*\*\*Excludes £16.54m of supplementary grant for mainstream schools and academies which will be distributed using school-level allocations from DfE

Note: All figures are shown rounded to nearest thousand per DfE allocation table

**2.3 Movement Between Funding Blocks**

Movement of 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block was agreed by Schools Forum at the November 2021 meeting with the intention of alleviating the forecast pressure on the High Needs Block caused by the demand on high-cost specialist placements, the increase in high needs in the school population and the proportion of placements in independent provision as opposed to state-maintained provision. Based on the updated DSG allocation for 2022/23 this is a one-off movement of approximately £2.843m. Following that transfer the new totals will be £565.788m for Schools Block and £117.729m for High Needs Block.

The Local Authority submitted a disapplication of regulations request to the Secretary of State in November 2021 requesting a further 1% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block in 2022/23, equivalent to approximately £5.686m. The Local Authority has not yet received a response from the Secretary of State, but for now, the DSG Management Plan update includes the requested transfer. If the disapplication request is subsequently refused, the forecast DSG deficit will increase accordingly.

**2.4 Existing DSG Cumulative Deficit**

Norfolk is carrying an outstanding DSG deficit of £31.797m from previous financial years as a result of pressures within the High Needs Block. A further DSG deficit of £22.527m for 2021/22 is forecast based upon the latest information available. The overall DSG starting position for 2022/23 is, therefore, forecast to be a deficit of £54.324m (£31.797m from previous years plus £22.527m for 2021/22).

**2.5 Other Schools Grants**

**2.5.1 Pupil Premium**

The DfE has stated that Pupil Premium funding will increase in line with inflation for 2022/23, and that the new rates will be:

Primary FSM6 pupils: £1,385

Secondary FSM6 pupils: £985

Looked-after children: £2,410

Children who have ceased to be looked-after: £2,410

Service children: £320

The DfE will publish allocations and conditions of grant in spring 2022.

**2.5.2 Other grants for 2022 to 2023**

The DfE have said that information about other grants for 2022 to 2023 will be issued during 2022.

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

* **Note information provided for the 2022/23 Dedicated Schools Block allocations and other DfE grants.**

1. **High Needs Block**

The 2022/23 financial year will be the third and final year of funding increases announced in autumn 2019 by the Government totalling £14bn of extra funding for schools and high needs over the three years 2020/21, 2021/22, and 2022/23.

The High Needs block allocation generated by National Funding Formula for 2022/23 has increased to £114.886m from £103.840m in 2021/22. This is an increase of £11.046m (10.6%) compared to the 2021/22 High Needs Block (as at the November 2021 DSG update) and is based on the DfE’s National Funding Formula for High Needs.

The increase of £11.046m between years includes a £0.026m reduction based on the number of pupils in special schools, down from 2,305 to 2,299.50 pupils, however the LA will be reviewing this adjustment for accuracy when the DfE releases their pupil number tool in spring 2022, due to an ongoing issue with the LA’s January 2021 AP Census submission.

In addition to the High Needs Block DSG, the LA will receive an additional High Needs allocation of £4.350m in 2022/23 to support costs of the Health and Social Care Levy and wider cost pressures in special schools and alternative provision. This additional High Needs grant allocation is subject to DSG conditions and brings the total funding allocated to Norfolk by the DfE for High Needs to £119.235m for 2022/23.

1. **Maintained Special Schools Alternative Top-up Funding Model**

Following the recent announcement by the Government of the additional High Needs block allocation of £4.350m for 2022/23, it is proposed that the alternative funding model for maintained special schools shared at the last Schools Forum meeting is implemented along with an allocation in relation to the Health and Social Care Levy, the impact of which was not included in the alternative funding model.

Please note that due to the timescales involved for budget-setting, the LA has not yet been able to further consider some of the issues raised through the consultation process, for example setting out how often band values might be reviewed in future.

For further information regarding the results of the consultation and November’s Schools Forum considerations please see 17 November 2021 Schools Forum papers and minutes, which are available at the links provided below:

Papers: [Norfolk Schools Forum agendas and papers - Schools](https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-finance/norfolk-schools-forum/forum-agendas-and-papers)

Minutes: [Forum minutes - Schools (norfolk.gov.uk)](https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-finance/norfolk-schools-forum/forum-minutes).

The alternative funding model is provided in **Appendix 1**.

The estimated financial impact of the funding model is **£1.328m**, including the cost of MFG protection where appropriate. At the time of writing, the special schools’ funding model for 2022/23 has not yet been completed, and so the estimate is based upon 2021/22 data. The final additional allocation to special schools will reflect the latest pupil data.

The Health and Social Care Levy is a 1.25% increased employer contribution on all pay above the National Insurance lower threshold from April 2022. For Norfolk’s maintained special schools[[4]](#footnote-5), this is estimated at a total of £0.131m, and on average works to an additional £103 per-place. It is proposed that this is added to the new top-up values for special schools and academies for 2022/23. Based on the total number of places increasing to 2,040 during 2022/23 the additional allocation for the levy is estimated at **£0.210m** for 2022/23.

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

* **Consider and make recommendations to Cabinet as to the funding model used for Maintained Special Schools and academies, including an additional allocation for the Health and Social Care Levy.**

1. **Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan**

**5.1 Previous DSG Deficit Recovery Plan**

The previous DSG deficit recovery plan shared with Schools Forum in November 2021 was based on period 6 (end of September) monitoring. This projected a DSG deficit of £129.680m by the end of the 2025/26 financial year, with further details available in the November 2021 Forum papers.

Link to Schools Forum papers on website: [Forum agendas and papers](https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-finance/norfolk-schools-forum/forum-agendas-and-papers)

**5.2 Latest DSG Management Plan Forecast**

Following a review of budget pressures for 2022/23 and considering the most recent monitoring available at the time of writing (period 8, end of November 2021), the latest forecast DSG deficit recovery position is shown in a table overleaf.

The Local Authority submitted a disapplication of regulations request to the Secretary of State in November 2021 requesting a further 1% transfer from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block in 2022/23, equivalent to approximately £5.686m. The Local Authority has not yet received a response from the Secretary of State but, for now, the DSG Management Plan update includes the requested transfer. If the disapplication request is subsequently refused, or only partially agreed, the forecast DSG deficit will increase accordingly.

The modelling continues to be improved and refined on an iterative basis. Some of the changes in this latest update are corrections or improvements to previous figures or assumptions. These assumptions include the additional High Needs Block allocation of £4.350m for 2022-23, as well as implementation of the alternative funding model for maintained special schools as per section 4 above.

The current financial year forecast (2021/22) outturn has increased from previously reported £21.025m overspend to £22.527m overspend at the end of period 8 monitoring, an increase of £1.502m. The reasons for these increases are included in **Appendix 2**.

Based upon the latest information and modelling, the forecast in-year deficit for 2022/23 has now increased from previously forecast £13.100m to £17.924m, and the cumulative DSG deficit by 2025/26 has now increased from a forecast of £129.680m to £154.706m.

Improvement/amendments to assumptions for the latest modelling are summarised in **Appendix 3.** Changes in 2022/23 affect future years’ forecasts too unless it is stated otherwise.

The LA is aware that the continuing increases to the future years’ forecasts for the DSG Management Plan will be concerning to Forum Members, as it is to LA Officers and Members. However, the LA can only prepare revisions to the plan based on the latest trends and data available, including market forces. The statutory responsibilities that the LA has means that increases in demand or complexity of demand are expected to be met whether the High Needs Block funding is sufficient or not. The LA continues to explore, with the wider system, how increasing needs can be met so that children and young people achieve good outcomes through cost effective provision.

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

**Note the latest updates to Norfolk’s DSG Management Plan.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **DSG Recovery Plan, £m** | **Outturn** | | |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** | **2025/26** |
| High Needs Block DSG Income | 80.462 | 81.917 | 93.311 | 103.840 | 114.886 | 119.544 | 122.534 | 125.390 |
| 0.5% Schools Block Transfer | 2.365 | 2.410 | 2.535 | 2.621 | 2.881 | 2.909 | 2.938 | 2.968 |
| Additional Schools Block to High Needs Block Transfer | 0.000 | 4.580 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 5.649 | 5.705 | 5.763 | 5.820 |
| Additional High Needs Block allocation (notified Dec 2021) |  |  |  |  | 4.350 | 4.350 | 4.350 | 4.350 |
| Schools Block / Early Years Block / Central Services Schools Block Underspends | 4.095 | 1.491 | 0.369 | 0.184 |  |  |  |  |
| **Total Resources** | **86.922** | **90.398** | **96.215** | **106.645** | **127.765** | **132.508** | **135.584** | **138.528** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Placement Budget starting point |  |  | 87.103 | 93.441 | 106.961 | 120.941 | 130.365 | 136.995 |
| Demographic Growth |  |  | 7.711 | 16.993 | 20.370 | 15.671 | 9.929 | 8.731 |
| Savings |  |  | -1.373 | -3.474 | -6.389 | -6.248 | -3.299 | -2.369 |
| **Total Placements** | **80.488** | **87.103** | **93.441** | **106.961** | **120.941** | **130.365** | **136.995** | **143.357** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exceptional Circumstances inc. Inclusion & AP | 0.396 | 1.342 | 2.205 | 5.087 | 5.277 | 5.277 | 5.277 | 5.277 |
| EHCP/SEN Support | 5.680 | 7.420 | 7.815 | 9.454 | 10.973 | 11.723 | 12.473 | 13.223 |
| New Special School Start-up Costs |  |  | 0.113 | 0.568 | 0.318 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| Speech and Language Therapy Service contribution | 0.771 | 1.002 | 1.004 | 1.066 | 1.068 | 1.000 | 0.970 | 0.970 |
| Sensory Support | 1.566 | 1.565 | 1.565 | 1.565 | 1.943 | 1.943 | 1.943 | 1.943 |
| Youth Offending Team contribution | 0.290 | 0.290 | 0.290 | 0.290 | 0.290 | 0.290 | 0.290 | 0.290 |
| Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service contribution | 0.251 | 0.251 | 0.251 | 0.251 | 0.251 | 0.251 | 0.251 | 0.251 |
| High Needs Inclusion Infrastructure | 0.832 | 0.854 | 1.632 | 2.026 | 2.026 | 2.026 | 2.026 | 2.026 |
| Permanent Exclusion charges | -0.999 | -1.082 | -0.506 | -0.622 | -0.500 | -0.500 | -0.500 | -0.500 |
| Other | 0.447 | 0.469 | 0.498 | 0.642 | 0.720 | 0.720 | 0.720 | 0.720 |
| Health & Social Care levy |  |  |  |  | 0.500 | 0.500 | 0.500 | 0.500 |
| Teachers' Pay Grant and Teachers' Pension Employer Contribution Grant |  |  |  | 1.886 | 1.882 | 2.056 | 2.171 | 2.258 |
| **Total Expenditure** | **89.722** | **99.214** | **108.308** | **129.172** | **145.688** | **155.650** | **163.115** | **170.314** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Surplus (+)/Deficit (-)** | **-2.800** | **-8.816** | **-12.093** | **-22.527** | **-17.924** | **-23.142** | **-27.531** | **-31.786** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cumulative Deficit** | **-10.887** | **-19.703** | **-31.797** | **-54.324** | **-72.248** | **-95.389** | **-122.920** | **-154.706** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Placements Costs by type, £m:** | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** | **2025/26** |
| Maintained / Academy / Free Special Schools | *31.587* | *34.260* | *36.260* | *38.955* | *45.379* | *49.350* | *51.416* | *53.043* |
| Independent Special Schools | *25.604* | *30.456* | *33.050* | *41.455* | *43.597* | *47.904* | *51.539* | *55.246* |
| Add/Other Provisions |  |  |  |  | *2.870* | *3.370* | *3.870* | *4.370* |
| Medical Needs/Hospital Provision |  |  |  |  | *0.684* | *0.184* | *0.184* | *0.184* |
| Personal Budgets | *0.451* | *0.501* | *0.246* | *0.466* | *0.300* | *0.300* | *0.300* | *0.300* |
| Section 19 Placements and Support^ | *0.000* | *0.060* | *0.938* | *1.174* | *1.174* | *1.174* | *1.174* | *1.174* |
| Alternative Provision | *6.455* | *4.693* | *4.198* | *2.143* | *2.142* | *2.142* | *2.142* | *2.142* |
| Post-16 (Further Education) | *6.440* | *6.774* | *7.090* | *7.483* | *7.851* | *8.159* | *8.295* | *8.686* |
| Specialist Resource Bases & Deaf Resource Bases | *3.089* | *3.242* | *3.714* | *5.241* | *6.815* | *7.528* | *7.686* | *7.686* |
| Short Stay Schools | *6.129* | *6.821* | *7.110* | *8.989* | *8.900* | *8.888* | *8.888* | *8.888* |
| Other Local Authority Recoupment | *0.734* | *0.298* | *0.837* | *1.054* | *1.230* | *1.366* | *1.502* | *1.638* |
| **Total Placement Costs** | **80.488** | **87.103** | **93.441** | **106.961** | **120.941** | **130.365** | **136.995** | **143.357** |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Placements Numbers by type:** | | **2018/19** | **2019/20** | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** | **2025/26** |
| Maintained / Academy / Free Special Schools | | *1,484* | *1,577* | *1,630* | *1,827* | *2,040* | *2,165* | *2,246* | *2,317* |
| Independent Special Schools | | *615* | *847* | *922* | *892* | *942* | *992* | *1,042* | *1,092* |
| Section 19 Placements and Support^ | |  | *83* | *33* | *120* | *130* | *130* | *130* | *130* |
| Alternative Provision | | *351* | *252* | *113* | *102* | *102* | *102* | *102* | *102* |
| Post-16 (Further Education) | | *588* | *677* | *632* | *659* | *689* | *722* | *757* | *795* |
| Specialist Resource Bases & Deaf Resource Bases | | *242* | *242* | *260* | *354* | *450* | *466* | *466* | *466* |
| Personal Budgets | | *55* | *65* | *52* | *74* | *74* | *74* | *74* | *74* |
| Short Stay Schools | | *350* | *370* | *370* | *432* | *432* | *432* | *432* | *432* |
| Other Local Authority Recoupment | | *74* | *83* | *94* | *107* | *116* | *125* | *134* | *143* |
| **Total Placement Numbers** | | **3,759** | **4,196** | **4,106** | **4,567** | **4,975** | **5,208** | **5,383** | **5,551** |
|  | | | | | | | | | |
| ^ Section 19 pupils are not placements as such, but are pupils that the LA has a statutory duty to support whilst they are either on the waiting list for Short Stay School, CME, or awaiting specialist placement. | | | | | | | | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Forecast (£m)** | | | | | |
|  | **2020/21** | **2021/22** | **2022/23** | **2023/24** | **2024/25** | **2025/26** |
| Savings (iterative) | -1.373 | -3.474 | -6.389 | -6.248 | -3.299 | -2.369 |
| Savings (cumulative) | -1.373 | -4.847 | -11.235 | -17.484 | -20.783 | -23.152 |
| Savings (cumulative total) | -1.373 | -6.219 | -17.455 | -34.938 | -55.721 | -78.873 |

1. **Schools Block**

The Schools Block allocation for 2022/23 is £568.631m; an increase of £20.698m from the £547.933m received in 2021/22. Of this total increase, the LA estimates that £3.676m is extra funding for additional pupil numbers on the October census, up from 106,836 pupils to 107,460 pupils compared to the previous year. The remaining £17.022m is from additional National Funding Formula funding distributed by the Department for Education (DfE) as part of the 3-year settlement for schools’ funding announced in autumn 2019 that will allocate an additional £14bn nationally between 2020/21 and 2022/23.

The Schools Block will be allocated to mainstream schools and academies in 2022/23, after deductions for an agreed growth fund and any agreed transfers to High Needs Block, mirroring National Funding Formula factor values and methodologies as closely as possible subject to a final calibration of the formula to funds available (as set out in the autumn 2021 consultation).

Schools Forum agreed at the November 2021 meeting:

* A top slice of £0.500m Schools Block funding for a growth fund for maintained schools and academies;
* A transfer of 0.5% (£2.843m based on final Schools Block allocation) from Schools Block to High Needs Block to support pressures within the High Needs Block and to support recovery of the DSG deficit.

In addition to the 0.5% transfer agreed by Schools Forum in November 2021, a further transfer of an additional 1% (£5.686m) to High Needs Block has been requested by the LA in a disapplication request to the Secretary of State and a response is awaited.

The total allocation to mainstream schools’ and academies’ budget shares will be £565,288,092 (including National Non-Domestic Rates) if the disapplication request is refused, or £559,601,779 if the disapplication is approved. In addition, the agreed £0.500m growth fund will be allocated in-year based on the growth fund criteria agreed by Schools Forum in November 2021.

In addition to the Schools Block DSG allocation, Norfolk’s share of the additional funding for the Schools Supplementary Grant is £16.540m which will be allocated to mainstream schools and academies in 2022/23 based on school-level allocations provided by the DfE in spring 2022.

Further details of the new grant are available at the link below:

[Schools supplementary grant 2022 to 2023: methodology - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-supplementary-grant-2022-to-2023/schools-supplementary-grant-2022-to-2023-methodology)

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

* **Note the funding announcements in relation to the Schools Block**

1. **Early Years Block**

**7.1 3- and 4-Year-Old Universal Entitlement**

The indicative Early Years Block for 3- and 4-year-old universal entitlement (15 hours per week) in 2022/23 totals £27.025m compared to £28.840m in 2021/22. The reduction in funding is due to decline in the number of Part-Time Equivalent (PTE) children as calculated by DfE. The percentage of 3- and 4- year-olds children in education has increased to over 94% (Autumn 21), but the number of 3-and-4-year-olds in Norfolk’s population has decreased and the part time equivalent (PTE) for 3- and 4-year-oldsx funded children has decreased, which suggests that some families are choosing not to claim their child’s full universal entitlement.

The Early Years Funding Formula for 2022/23 will be paid to the Local Authority at £4.61 per hour, which is an increase of £0.17 per hour compared to 2021/22.

**7.2 3- and 4-Year-Old Additional Entitlement**

Working parents may access an additional 15 hours of funded 3- and 4-year-old early education, taking the total amount to 30 hours per week of funded childcare. Based on the January 2021 census, the DfE has provided indicative funding of £9.349m for the estimated take up of the additional 15 hours by parents in 2022/23, compared to £9.543m in 2021/22. This is a decrease of £0.194m, based on the data used for the indicative allocation, however the funding for additional hours for working parents will be paid to the Local Authority at the new higher rate of £4.61 per hour in line with the universal entitlement, which is an increase of £0.17 per hour compared to 2021/22.

**7.3 2-Year-Old Entitlement**

Parents can access 15 hours of funded 2-year-old early education, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The Department of Education is providing £4.243m of funding initially based on the January 2021 census (compared to £4.548m in 2021/22). The Local Authority will receive £5.57 per hour for Early Education of 2-year-olds, which is an increase of £0.21 per hour compared to 2021/22.

**7.4 Early Years Pupil Premium**

Early Years Pupil Premium continues for 2022/23 at an increased rate of £0.60 per hour (£0.53 per hour in 2021/22) per eligible child claiming 3 and 4-year-old funding, up to a maximum of 570 hours per year. The initial published allocation is £0.582m.

**7.5 EY Final Allocations and Budgeting for 2022/23**

Final Early Years Block allocations for 2022/23 will be based on 5/12th of Part Time Equivalent data from the January 2022 Census and 7/12th of PTE data from the January 2023 Census. The local authority will account for EY Block income on an accruals basis, entering estimated adjustments into the accounts at year end to reflect the estimated final EY Block funding for 2022/23. The final adjustment to 2022/23 Early Years Block will take place in July 2023, after year end.

Initial budgets, and the funding formula, will be set based on the DfE’s indicative Early Years Block allocation.

**7.6 Disability Access Fund**

Finally, the Early Years Block includes a Disability Access Fund aids access to early years places. In 2022/23, early years settings are eligible for £800 per year (increased from £615 in 2021/22) for each child in receipt of Disability Living Allowance using February 2021 data. The allocation for 2022/23 is £0.227m, and this figure is not updated during the financial year.

**7.7 Maintained Nursery Supplement**

The Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) places nursery schools on the same funding model as all Early Years Settings, and supplementary funding of £0.284m (increased from £0.222m in 2021/22) has been provided to continue to protect fixed sums that the 3 Nursery Schools in Norfolk receive. The increase includes a £0.09/hr uplift to the supplementary funding rate and the PTE’s in nursery schools have increased from 151.6 as at January’20 to 187.43 in the January’21 Census. The fixed sums fund the higher overheads and cost of qualified teaching staff in a Nursery School.

In addition to the Maintained Nursery Supplement (MNS) provided to nursery schools by the DfE, the LA currently provides additional protection to the schools to meet the remainder of the fixed sums that were paid to nursery schools prior to the introduction of the Early Years National Funding Formula (less a reduction of 1.5% per year previously agreed for transition). The combined total level of protection in 2021/22 for nursery schools is currently £370,905 made up of £222,079 for MNS from DfE and £148,826 additional protection provided by the LA from EY Block.

If we continue to reduce the total protection by 1.5%, the new total protection required for 2022/23 would be £365,342 which would be funded by £284,182 for MNS from DfE and £81,160 additional protection provided by the LA from the EY Block.

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

* **Note the Maintained Nursery Supplement provide by the DSG and comment on the proposal to continue to provide additional protection (£81,160 for 2022/23) from the EY Block**

**7.8 EY Pass-Through/Central Services**

Based on the 2022/23 published DSG allocations, the upper limit of the 5% of total 3- and 4-year-old funding that can be retained centrally by the LA will be £1,818,710. Schools Forum will be asked to vote on retention of the 5% for 2022/23 so that the Local Authority will continue to use this funding to provide central support and administer payments to all providers of Early Years Education, in schools and in private, voluntary and independent settings.

By retaining 5% of the 3- and 4-year-old funding allocation towards the cost of EY central services, Norfolk will meet the requirement for 95% pass-through of 3- and 4-year-old funding to providers.

At present, Norfolk’s formula for 2-year-old funding does not include a contribution towards EY central services and there has been sufficient funding contribution, along with NCC’s contribution, to fund these services. The 2021-22 budget for these jointly funded services is as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NCC Early Years Service & Finance** | **Centrally Retained DSG** | **LA Contribution to Service** |
| Early Years Staff Costs | £1.553m | £0.129m |
| Early Years Finance Staff Costs | £0.205m |  |
| Contribution to Portage | £0.161m |  |
| Training Programme and Projects |  | £0.689m |
| Resources |  | £0.096m |
| Funding Panel |  | £0.379m |
| Contribution to Speech and Language Contract |  | £0.270m |
| **TOTAL** | £1.919m | £1.563m |
| £3.482m | |

However, with the drop in PTEs at a 3-and-4-year-old level, there will be a reduction of £100,460 in the contribution to the EY central services from the DSG. As there is no additional funding available from other sources, this will mean that the central services budget overall (including the training and sufficiency funding) will need to be reduced by this amount. The only alternative option would be for the 2-year-old funding to make a contribution that would either mitigate, or partially mitigate, the loss.

Due to the significantly smaller 2-year-old PTE than 3-and-4-year-old PTE, replacing the c. £100k reduction would require a 2.4% deduction, equivalent to approximately 13p per funded hour. Each 1p is equivalent to just under £8k contribution.

Based upon the responses to the previous consultation[[5]](#footnote-6), there was narrative support for 2-year-old funding to contribute towards EY central costs, but this was not overwhelming. The question had been combined with the question about the creation of a SENDIF for 2-year-olds and so made it difficult to distinguish results for both elements.

The key narrative response in support of a contribution from 2-year-old funding was in relation to fairness as those providers in receipt of 2-year-old funding had equal access to services that providers in receipt of 3-and-4-year-old funding are contributing towards.

The vast majority of providers who receive 2-year-old funding will also be in receipt of 3-and-4-year-old funding and so will, to some extent, already be contributing towards the central services provided by the LA. However, those who are heavily weighted to either 2-year-old or 3-and-4-year-old funding with either relatively under- or over-contribute respectively.

Therefore, the LA is of the view that the options are:

1. EY central services, specifically the training programme and funding panel (sustainability), are reduced to mitigate the loss in contribution from the DSG
2. 2-year-old funding contributes 2.4% to maintain the EY central services at the current level
3. 2-year-old funding contributes a smaller amount, say 1% (equivalent to 6p) to mitigate the reduction to EY central services and to move towards a fairer model of central services funding

Given the short notice for providers and in recognition of the significant cost increases that providers are expecting in April, the LA is minded to implement option 1. Regardless of whichever option is implement, it is the view of the LA that the EY reference group meets at the end of Spring to discuss options for future consultation on several areas, including central services, ahead of the 2023-24 budget.

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

* **Vote on retention of 5% of 3- and 4-year-old allocations for EY central services**
* **Recommend a preferred option in relation to 2-year-old contribution for EY central services**

**7.9 Early Years Increased Hourly Rates 2022/23**

**7.9.1 Previous Decisions and EYNFF Hourly Rate Increases**

At the November 2021 Schools Forum meeting, the Forum discussed approaches to modelling the increase in hourly rate for Early Years for 2022/23, for a recommendation to be made at the January 2022 meeting. A final decision regarding the formula will be taken by Norfolk County Council’s (NCC) Cabinet on 31st January, along with other decisions regarding the DSG budget.

As per sections 7.1 to 7.3 above, in December 2021 the DfE announced that the Early Years National Funding Formula would provide Norfolk with hourly rates from April 2022 increasing from £4.44/hr to £4.61/hr for 3- and 4-year-olds (universal and additional entitlement) and from £5.36/hr to £5.57/hr for 2-year olds. Indicative EY Block allocations were published in December 2021.

The formula to be recommended to NCC’s Cabinet needs to take account of the additional funds allocated in the EY Block due to the increases in these hourly rates. Therefore, a recommendation is sought from Schools Forum.

**7.9.2 Proposals**

**3- and 4-year-old Hourly Base Rate**

The 3 and 4-year-old allocation for Norfolk will increase by £0.17/hr for Norfolk in 2022/23 from £4.44/hr to £4.61/hr.

Key increases in costs for providers will be the increase in National Living Wage (NLW) (and any subsequent impact to higher paid roles) and the Health and Social Care Levy. It is estimated that for 3-and-4-year-olds the impact on staffing costs will be approx. £0.08p/hr per child on average, based upon a £0.59/hr increase in the NLW from April 2022 and the 1.25% levy above the lower National Insurance threshold.

The local authority has considered various options for the distribution of the additional funding and, following detailed modelling work, proposes to increase the hourly base rate for 3- and 4-year-olds (including additional entitlement from £3.98/hr to £4.08/hr, **an increase of £0.10/hr**.

The reasons for the difference between the increase to Norfolk via the National Funding Formula and increase in rate proposed by the LA are:

* Approximately £0.01/hr of the remaining £0.07/hr will go towards increasing the SEN Inclusion Fund in 2022/23 to meet increased demand;
* £0.06/hr was previously overallocated in 2021/22 when the funding model was revised.

The LA had previously advised that following such significant changes to the model, careful review would be required; the data on the year to date has been reviewed and indicates, at this stage, that post clawback there will be an overspend and this is due to an overestimation as to the hourly rate that could be distributed.

Modelling of the Early Years Block is challenging in ‘normal’ years due to difficulties in estimating take up and the impact of supplements. The 2020/21 financial year was particularly unusual for the Early Years Block due to the pandemic, including in relation to anticipating future patterns of demand. Additionally, the model leant towards maximising the rate distributed and minimising the amount of contingency available

The impact is that providers have, effectively, received £0.06p/hr more in 2021/22 and this needs to be rectified for 2022/23 to ensure that the model is affordable.

**3- and 4-year-old SEN Inclusion Fund (SENIF)**

The local authority proposes to increase the SENIF fund from £0.800m to £0.850m in 2022/23, at a cost of approximately £0.01/hr, to meet increased demand for low and emerging need for 3- and 4-year-olds.

**Supplements**

It is proposed that deprivation and other supplements will remain unchanged for 2022/23.

However, it is acknowledged that the direction of travel from the comprehensive Autumn 2020 EY funding consultation was to remove discretionary supplements completely so that there is a standard base rate for all providers. It has not been proposed that these are removed for the 2022-23 financial year given the significant additional staffing costs anticipated for all providers from April 2022.

The LA would like to explore the future timing and appropriate conditions for the removal of the discretionary supplements with the EY reference group. As previously mentioned, it is anticipated that this group will meet at the end of the Spring term to discuss options for future consultation on several areas ahead of the 2023-24 budget.

**2-year-old Hourly Rate**

The 2-year-old allocation for Norfolk will increase by £0.21/hr for Norfolk in 2022/23, from £5.36/hr to £5.57/hr.

Key increases in costs for providers will be the increase in National Living Wage (NLW) (and any subsequent impact to higher paid roles) and the Health and Social Care Levy. It is estimated that for 2-year-olds the impact on staffing costs will be approx. £0.16p/hr per child on average, based upon a £0.59/hr increase in the NLW from April 2022 and the 1.25% levy above the lower National Insurance threshold.

The local authority has considered various options for the distribution of the additional funding and, following detailed modelling work, proposes to increase the hourly base rate for 2-year-olds from £5.34/hr to £5.50/hr, **and increase of £0.16/hr**.

The remaining increase of £0.05/hr would be used to increase the 2-year-old SENIF in line with anticipated demand (increasing the SENIF amount from £0.02/hr to £0.07/hr).

**2-year-old Inclusion Fund**

Following the successful introduction of the SEN Inclusion Fund for 2-year-olds during 2021/22, it is proposed to increase the 2-year-old SEN Inclusion Fund from £0.017m to £0.050m in 2022/23 to meet increased demand for low and emerging need for 2-year-olds.

**EY Block Contingency**

It is proposed that the level of contingency remains at 0.5% (£208,551) of the Early Years Block for 2022/23, in line with the agreed contingency level (based upon a percentage of the Block) following last year’s consultation with providers on the Early Years formula.

**7.9.3 2022/23 EY Rates Proposal Summary**

The proposed final formula for 2022/23, based upon the above recommendations is therefore:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Current Rate 2021/22 (£/hr)** | **Proposed Rate 2022/23 (£/hr)** |
| **Base rate (3-to-4-year olds)** | 3.98 | 4.08 |
| **Base rate (2-year olds)** | 5.34 | 5.50 |
| **Quality supplement** | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| **Flexibility supplement** | 0.10 | 0.10 |
| **Deprivation supplement (10% most deprived based on IDACI)** | 0.25 | 0.25 |
| **Deprivation supplement (11-20% most deprived based on IDACI)** | 0.15 | 0.15 |

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

* **Consider and make recommendations to Cabinet for the allocation of increased hourly rates for Early Years funding in 2022/23**

1. **Central Services Schools Block**

The Central School Services Block allocation for 2022/23 is £3.965m (£3.772m in 2021/22) and covers centrally retained budgets that support schools. The increase of £0.193m is due to an increase of 624 pupils between years, an increase in the amount allocated per-pupil (from £33.87 per-pupil to £35.75 per-pupil), and a decrease in funding for historic commitments (down from £154k to £123k). This DSG block will be used, in agreement with Schools Forum at the November 2021 Schools Forum meeting, as follows:

* To meet the cost of central licences for all schools which will be charged to the LA by the DfE;
* To meet historic commitments (Termination of employment costs and contribution to Learning and Inclusion) and ongoing central functions (School Admissions, Schools Forum, Boarding Partnership) which were agreed on a line-by-line basis by Schools Forum at the November 2021 meeting;
* To meet the costs of teachers’ pension employer contributions for centrally employed teachers;
* To provide a budget for the LA to meet responsibilities held for all schools (agreed by Schools Forum in November 2021).

**Schools Forum is asked to:**

* **Note the funding announcements in relation to the Central Services Schools Block**

**Appendix 1: Summary of the Maintained Special Schools Alternative Funding Model**

The following shows the methodology behind the approach for an alternative model.

The modelling is split between place funding of £10k, which is the level of special school place funding set nationally by the DfE, and top-up funding bands which relate to individual pupils’ needs.

The table below shows how the £10k of place funding would be arrived at (figures rounded to the nearest £1):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | £ |  |
| Leadership Structure | 672 | Schools below 250 pupils to receive sliding scale uplift |
|  |  |  |
| Teaching Main Pay Range 6 Maximum SEN | 4,638 | Minimum teaching at 12:1 ratio @£55,658 |
|  |  |  |
| Teaching Assistant, Top of grade D (point 16) 32.5 hours | 1,522 | Minimum TA at 12:1 ratio @£18,261 |
|  |  |  |
| Premises Costs | 1,399 | Cleaning, caretaking, site, etc. staff, building and grounds |
|  |  |  |
| Occupation Costs | 753 | Water, refuse, sewerage, catering, energy, insurance, rates |
|  |  |  |
| Supplies and Services | 1,276 | Educational/admin supplies, bought in professional services |
|  |  |  |
| Admin/Clerical/ICT Staff | 981 | Admin/Clerical/ICT |
|  |  |  |
| Excess over £10k | (1,240) | Excess over £10k to be paid via band values |
|  | **10,000** |  |

The excess of £1,240 over-and-above the £10k place funding will be paid via the proposed band values shown below:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Banding Levels** | **PB** | **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **E** |
| **Modelled Top-Up Bandings** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Leadership Structure | 1,174 | 1,174 | 1,174 | 1,174 | 1,174 | 1,174 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Basic Staffing/Other in excess of £10k | 1,240 | 1,240 | 1,240 | 1,240 | 1,240 | 1,240 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Additional Teaching (based on ratios) | 0 | 928 | 2,319 | 4,638 | 4,638 | 9,276 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Additional TA (based on ratios) | 0 | 304 | 3,044 | 4,565 | 13,087 | 16,739 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Welfare/Medical/PSA etc (provided by schools) | 771 | 771 | 771 | 771 | 771 | 771 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| TPG/TPECG Contribution (towards salary costs) | (660) | (660) | (660) | (660) | (660) | (660) |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Delegated amounts (e.g. maternity) | 365 | 365 | 365 | 365 | 365 | 365 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Modelled Band Values Before Uplift** | **2,890** | **4,122** | **8,253** | **12,093** | **20,615** | **28,906** |

Comparison of band values to existing formula:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Band 1** | **Band 2** | **Band 3** | **Band 4** | **Band 5** | **Band 6** |
| **Current band name:** | **PB** | **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** | **E** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| **Alternative band values**  **(exc. Uplifts):** | **2,890** | **4,122** | **8,253** | **12,093** | **20,615** | **28,906** |
| **Current band values (exc. Uplifts):** | 364 | 2,364 | 8,364 | 12,973 | 18,291 | 27,427 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Difference:** | 2,526 | 1,757 | (112) | (880) | 2,324 | 1,478 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

The model will provide for leadership at a cost of £1,174 per pupil within each of the top-up band values and, in addition, a ‘fixed sum’ of £167,883 has been applied to cover the expected minimum cost of leadership for all sizes of school (which will be allocated via a combination of place funding and an uplift % to top-ups as lump sums cannot be allocated directly to special schools). Below 250 pupils, an uplift % to the top-up values will be given based on a sliding scale in order to meet that fixed cost through the formula. This may be up to around 20% for the smallest schools but would only be around 0.1% for largest schools.

The alternative funding model excludes schools that are still in their growth phase and subject to individual funding arrangements agreed with the LA

An allocation of £32k per pool will be applied via additional uplift % to the band values of schools with pools, in-line with the place and top-up funding mechanism required.

Minimum Funding Guarantee protection will apply to schools to prevent funding losses, based on a like-for-like basis calculation (the same number of pupils and same needs) compared with 2021/22.

**Appendix 2: Significant Forecast Variances, period 6 to 8**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Budget Line** | **£m** | **Reason** |
| Maintained Special Schools | 0.072 | Autumn top-up adjustments and additional places to meet demand |
| Specialist Resources Bases | 0.181 | Centralised SEMH support costs added to forecast (previously omitted) and increase to outsourced SALT support |
| Exceptional Circumstances Fund | 0.469 | Increased applications, higher need, TA salary increases |
| Mainstream SEN Support/Element 3 | 0.050 | Increased applications, higher need, TA salary increases |
| Post-16 High Needs Element 3 | 0.040 | Reduced clawback from FE providers |
| Independent Special School Placements | 0.975 | Additional placements and support |
| Personal Budgets | (0.035) | Commitment reduced for the late start of a high-cost pupil |
| Other Local Authority Recoupment | 0.093 | Additional pupils and fee increases notified by other LA’s |
| Alternative Provision | (0.313) | Duplicated forecasts of pupils at Include (listed in AP and Independent placements) including pupils using online offer |
| Section 19 | (0.130) | Delay in take-up of 25 hours of support, and reduced S19 team salary cost |
| Short Stay School | (0.081) | 1:1 support costs over-estimated in forecast |
| PEX Income | 0.160 | Fewer exclusions than forecast |
| Speech and Language Contract | (0.034) | Final NCC contribution lower than budgeted for |
| Schools Block | 0.056 | School rates changes, additional maternity and suspended staff costs |
| **TOTAL (£m)** | **1.502** |  |

**Appendix 3: Significant changes between the current and previous DSG Recovery Plan**

**Income (Changes to assumptions and confirmed DSG figures)**

* **High Needs Block:**
  + High Needs Block DSG income for 2022/23 amended from £114.911m (which was based on provisional NFF allocations) to the final allocation of £114.886m;
  + Additional High Needs allocation for 2022/23 of £4.35m added, bringing total HN allocation to £119.235m;
  + Additional High Needs allocation of £4.35m included for 2023/24 onwards;
  + High Needs Block income assumption for funding factors increased from 2% for all future years to 5% for 2023/24 and 3% from 2024/25 based on information provided by DfE (other than basic entitlement which assumes changes with lagged place numbers but fixed value of £4,660 per-place).

**Expenditure (Changes to assumptions and budget pressures)**

* **Special schools** – Implementation of alternative top-up model (£1.328m) from 2022/23. Contingency for new unplanned places increased within modelling from 5 places at 7/12th to equivalent of 15 places for full year (increase of £0.268m per year) to reflect higher demand than previously forecast and to allow for some places with earlier admission dates (e.g., some pupils are placed in summer term);
* **Independent Placements** - Estimate of growth in places increased from 50 places at 7/12th to equivalent of 50 places for full year (increase of £1.042m in 2022/23 and with inflation for future years) to reflect higher demand than previously forecast and to allow for some places with earlier admission dates (e.g., some pupils are placed in summer term);
* **Additional/Other Therapies and Medical Needs/Hospital Provision** – Costs and forecasts separated from independent placement forecast from 2022/23 onwards.
* **Additional/Other Therapies** – Increase of £0.500m per year within estimated for additional support based on upwards trend calculated from previous years.
* Medical Needs/Hospital Provision - £0.500m for medical needs as a one-off cost to support additional medical needs as SSSfN places are full;
* Personal Budgets – £0.200m of costs and forecasts moved across to add/other to better reflect the legal definition of a personal budget;
* **Other Local Authority Recoupment** – Increase of £0.268m to reflect increasing costs and to build in future increase in pupils based on 3-year trend;
* **Alternative Provision (AP)** - Reduction of £0.271m due to double-counting of Include (Catch 22) places within independent forecast for single-funded placements;
* **Short Stay School for Norfolk (SSSfN)** – Reduction of £0.171m for reduced 1:1 support costs;
* **PEX Income –** Income reduced from -£0.900m to -£0.500m for 2022/23 onwards reflecting reduction in level of permanent exclusions;
* **Sensory Support** – Increase of £0.378m to meet Deaf Resource Base funding shortfall of £0.150m, VSSS service shortfall of £0.100m, £0.060m for additional DRB, and £0.068m contribution to VSSS (but this £0.068m has been removed from SRB budget). New published figures includes correction of -£0.058m between this line and the ‘HN Infrastructure Inclusion line’ previously reported on incorrect line;
* **Specialist Resources Bases** – Increase of £0.305m for SEMH redesign and specialist interventions;
* **Early Intervention SEN Funding** – Split into EHCP/SEN Support and Exceptional Circumstances for all years. An increase of £1.569m forEHCP/SEN Support in mainstream schools and EY based on a further increase in the number of applications and level of support being requested, an decrease of -£0.091m for Exceptional Circumstances based on latest monitoring position.
* **Speech and Language Therapy (SALT)** – Annual contract cost corrected to £0.970m (reduced from £1.004m for 2022/23 onwards), plus an increase of £0.097m for 2022/23 financial year and £0.030m for 2023/24 to clear existing waiting list upon transfer to new provider;
* **Moving & Handling** – Cost reduced in modelling from £0.080m to contract cost of £0.052m in 2022/23, as 2021/22 costs included some one-off prior year charges, included within ‘other’;
* **Post-16 FE High Needs Places** – £0.260m for increased places required for 2022/23 academic year (a total of 65 additional places split over 3 providers), and £0.169m to reflect increase in latest top-up applications for colleges.
* **Intensive & Specialist Support Service** – Contribution of £0.100m from 2022/23 agreed towards sustainability element of Harmful Sexual Behaviour support from High Needs Block, included within ‘other’;
* **TPG/TPECG** – Reduced from £2.055m to £1.882m for 2022/23 only based on number of special school and AP places funded in December 2021 DSG allocation (this is being looked into further as reduction in numbers was not expected).
* **Health & Social Care Levy –** Estimated at £0.500m per year for special schools/AP.

**Schools’ Forum**

**Item No. 6**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Report title:** | **Planned Growth (Pupil Variations) 2022/23** |
| **Date of meeting:** | **19 January 2022** |

**Executive summary**

|  |
| --- |
| **To inform Schools Forum of pupil variations requested in APT for 2022/23** |

Local authorities are no longer expected to request approval from the Secretary of State to increase the pupil numbers used for calculating funding for specific schools where:

* there has been, or is going to be, a reorganisation, or;
* a school has changed, or is going to change, its admission limit.

Instead, the ESFA expects local authorities to present any pupil variations to their Schools Forum to illustrate the impact to overall funding and specific schools’ budgets.

The exception to this is that any request for a negative pupil variation adjustment would still require a disapplication with compelling evidence as to why it should be approved. Norfolk has not requested any negative adjustments for 2022/23.

For new schools, the regulations require that local authorities estimate the pupil numbers expected to join the school in September and fund in the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) submission accordingly. Norfolk has no new mainstream schools for 2022/23.

The information for Norfolk’s pupil number variations on the initial budget shares for 2022/23 is attached. The effects on those individual schools’ budgets have been estimated as the budgets for 2022/23 are still being processed but the final figures will be brought back to Schools Forum in March.

The modelling of estimated numbers has been based on each of the options used in the draft APT as follows:

* Option 1 from the draft APT – 1.5% transfer of Schools Block to High Needs Block, with +0.5% MFG protection and +2.34% cap on gains. This shows a total difference of £784,082 in pupil variation when compared to the October 2021 census based estimated school budgets.
* Option 2 from the draft APT – 0.5% transfer of Schools Block to High Needs Block, with +2.0% MFG protection and no cap on gains. This shows a difference of £805,615 in pupil variation when compared to the October 2021 census based estimated school budgets.

These pupil variations are in line with the estimated £800k set aside out of the growth factor provided by DfE for the modelling of all consultation options in the autumn term.

In-year growth identified by the Admissions team continues to be funded via the in-year top-sliced growth fund for Sept ’22-March ’23 (and Sept ’22-August ’23 for academies), for which a £500k growth fund was agreed at the November Schools Forum meeting.

**No action required: Information only.**

Option 1 from the draft APT – 1.5% transfer of Schools Block to High Needs Block, with +0.5% MFG protection and +2.34% cap on gains. Summarised in text.

Option 2 from the draft APT – 0.5% transfer of Schools Block to High Needs Block, with +2.0% MFG protection and no cap on gains. Summarised in text.

SCHOOLS FORUM FORWARD PLAN

**I – Information D- Decision**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Autumn Term |  |  | Spring Term |  |  | Summer Term |  |
| **30/09/20**  (Wed)  09:00 – 12:30 | **September**  Dedicated Schools Grant   1. Early Years Block Funding 2. High Needs Block Recovery Plan 3. Schools Block Fair Funding Consultation 4. Amalgamation Protection - Disapplication   Updates on Scheme for Financing Schools  (Financial Regulations) | **D**  **D** | **13/01/21**  (Wed)  Rescheduled to **26/01/21** (Tues)  09:00 – 12:30 | **January**  Election of Chair/Vice Chair  Review Membership  Proposed Schools Budget 2021-22, including DSG Recovery Plan update  Estimated Pupil Variations 2021-22  Admissions Appeals | **D**  **I/D**  **D**  **I**  **I** | **14/5/21**  (Fri)  09:00 – 12:30 | **May**  Dedicated Schools Grant 2020/21 Outturn  Update on DSG Recovery Plan  Annual Audit Report (Norfolk Audit Service) | **I**  **I**  **I** |
| **13/11/20**  (Fri)  09:00 – 12.30 | **November**  Dedicated Schools Grant   1. Early Years Block Funding (consultation outcome) 2. Central Services De-delegation 3. Schools Block Funding including Fair Funding Consultation, Schools Block Transfer & DSG Recovery Plan   Admissions Appeals Task and Finish Group | **D**  **I** | **12/03/21**  (Fri)  09:15 – 11:45 | **March**  Agree next year’s plan  Dedicated Schools Grant:  High Needs Block Update  Final Pupil Variations 2021-22  Mental Health re-design  Updates on Scheme for Financing Schools  (Financial Regulations) | **D**  **I**  **I**  **I**  **I** | **09/07/21**  (Fri)  09:00 – 12:30 | **July**  Discuss proposals to include in Fair Funding consultation document (if DfE info received)  Verbal update on Review of Special Schools  Discuss how future Forum meetings should be held  Admissions Appeals  Cyber Security | **I/D**  **I**  **D**  **D**  **I** |

SCHOOLS FORUM FORWARD PLAN

I – InformationD- Decision

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Autumn Term |  |  | Spring Term |  |  | Summer Term |  |
| **29/09/21**  (Wed)  09:00 – 12:30 | **September (MS-Teams)**  Dedicated Schools Grant   1. SEND Strategic Improvement (inc. Capital update) 2. Special Schools’ Funding Review 3. Indicative DSG/Schools Block Fair Funding Consultation | D  **D** | **19/01/22**  (Wed)  09:00 – 12:30 | **January (MS-Teams)**  Election of Chair/Vice Chair  Review Membership  Proposed Schools Budget including central costs  Estimated Pupil variations 2022-23  Possible school closure – APT adjustment required | **D**  **I/D**  **D**  **I**  **D** | **18/05/22**  (Wed)  09:00 – 12:30 | **May (Mattishall)**  Dedicated Schools Grant 2021/22 Outturn  DSG: Update on Recovery Plan  Annual Audit Report (Norfolk Audit Service)  Outcome of national SEND review/Area SEND strategy update | **I**  **I**  **I**  **I** |
| **17/11/21**  (Wed)  09:00 – 12.30 | **November (MS-Teams)**  Dedicated Schools Grant   1. Early Years Block 2. De-delegation/CSS Block 3. Schools Block (inc. consultation, Schools Block transfer & update to DSG Recovery Plan) 4. Special Schools Review (consultation) | **D**  **D**  **D**  **I/D** | **16/03/22**  (Wed)  09:15 – 11:45 | **March (MS-Teams)**  Agree next year’s plan  Final pupil variations  Decarbonisation  Updates on Scheme for Financing Schools  (Financial Regulations) | **D**  **I**  **D**  **D** | **08/07/22**  (Friday)  09:00 – 12:30 | **July (MS-Teams)**  Discuss proposals to include in Fair Funding consultation document | **D** |

1. [School funding boosted by £4bn to level up education for young people - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/school-funding-boosted-by-4bn-to-level-up-education-for-young-people) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. [Schools supplementary grant 2022 to 2023 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-supplementary-grant-2022-to-2023) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Additional 1.25% National Insurance contributions for employers and employees from April 2022, [Health and Social Care Levy - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-social-care-levy/health-and-social-care-levy) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Detailed salary data was not available for academies, but similar levy costs are assumed. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. 13 November 2020 papers and minutes [Norfolk Schools Forum agendas and papers - Schools](https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-finance/norfolk-schools-forum/forum-agendas-and-papers) , [Norfolk Schools Forum agendas and papers - Schools](https://www.schools.norfolk.gov.uk/school-finance/norfolk-schools-forum/forum-agendas-and-papers) [↑](#footnote-ref-6)