**Schools Forum**

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| **Report title:** | **Exceptional Circumstances Factor - Disapplication** |
| **Date** | **27 January 2023** |

**Executive summary**

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| The Local Authority has made a disapplication request for the application of the exceptional circumstances factor for five schools and it has been approved by the DfE.  **For information only.**  **Schools Forum were asked to agree the application of the exceptional circumstances factor for hire or lease of buildings or land where the school premises is unable to provide the necessary facility.**  **Schools Forum members agreed over email to continue to support the exceptional circumstances factor for the schools affected, and the DfE has now approved the disapplication request.** |

1. **Exceptional circumstances**

The ‘Schools Revenue Funding 2023 to 2024 Operational Guide’ published by the DfE for the funding of mainstream schools in the 2023/24 financial year states that the exceptional circumstances factor must relate to premises costs. It states that the value of the factor requested is more than 1% of a school’s budget and applies to fewer than 5% of the schools in the local authority’s area.

1. **Approval of the exceptional circumstances factor**

The operational guidance states that where the latest approval for the exceptional circumstances factor was prior to 2018/19, the local authorities will need to submit a new disapplication request for consideration.

1. **Application for use of the exceptional circumstances factor in 2023/24**

There are five schools that have been reviewed and require continued use of the exceptional circumstances factor in 2023/24. The schools and amounts that were funded in 2022/23 are:

* Magdalen Academy – Lease of land, £5,363
* Rockland St Mary Primary School – Use of village hall, £3,610
* Sandringham and West Newton CofE Primary Academy – Use of village hall £8,420
* Surlingham Primary School – Use of village hall, £5834
* Winterton Primary School and Nursery – Lease of building, £7,500

The total amount funded through the exceptional circumstances factor in 2022/23 was **£30,727** for all five schools combined. After reviewing each of the schools, costs for 2023/24 are expected to remain at a similar level.

Schools Forum members agreed to the request over email and the DfE has now approved the disapplication.

**Action required:**

**For information only.**

**Schools Forum were asked to agree the application of the exceptional circumstances factor for hire or lease of buildings or land where the school premises is unable to provide the necessary facility.**

**Schools Forum members agreed over email to continue to support the exceptional circumstances factor for the schools affected, and the DfE has now approved the disapplication request.**

###### Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper, please get in touch with:

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