# NORFOLK SCHOOLS FORUM

Meeting on Friday 11 January 2019 09:00 – 12:00 hours at South Green Park Mattishall Tea/Coffee available from 08.30 hours

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

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **09:00 - 09:05** | **1** | **Welcome and Introductions**  **Apologies** |  |  |
| **09:05 - 09:15** | **2** | **Election of Chair/Vice Chair** |  |  |
| **09:15 – 09:30** | **3** | **Minutes of Last Meeting held on 17 October 2018**  **Matters Arising**   * Staff Costs – check process and information going out to schools – information available on School Forum website * Licences – Further information on CLEAPSS -information available on School Forum website * SF Membership -organisations to vote on subs. SS/CD to raise at next CEO meeting * Fair Funding – circulate decisions from Secretary of State – also include outcomes for schools in results of consultation going out to schools * Central Licencing – MI Sheet to Schools |  | **2 - 7** |
|  | **4** | **School Forum Structure**  **Paper attached – M. Brock** | **Discussion** | **8 - 10** |
| **09:30 – 10:20** | **5** | **Dedicated Schools Grant 2019/20**  **Paper attached – M. Brock** | **Decision/**  **Information** | **11 - 14** |
| **10:20 – 10:40** |  | **COFFEE** |  |  |
| **10:40 – 10:50** | **6** | **Pupil Variations (to be tabled)**  **M. Brock** |  |  |
| **10:50 – 11:10** | **7** | **Nursery School Protection**  **Paper attached – M. Brock** | **Comment** | **15 - 17** |
|  | **8** | **Communication** |  |  |
|  | **9** | **Future Agenda Items** |  |  |
|  | **10** | **Dates of Meetings** **School Forum**  Friday15 March 2019 09:00 – 12:00  South Green Enterprise Centre Mattishall |  |  |

**Norfolk Schools Forum**

**Minutes of Meeting held on Wednesday 17th October 2018**

**09:00 - 12:00 hours**

**South Green Park Mattishall**

**Present: Representing**

Mark Adamson Academies

Keith Bates, Eaton Hall Specialist Academy Special School Academy

Chris Caddamy, City College 16 – 19 Representative

Carol Dallas, Taverham High School Secondary Academies

Sandra Govender Engage Trust

Mike Grimble, Avenue Junior School Primary Governors

Bob Groome JCC (Secondary phase)

David Hicks EMAT (substitute for Christina Kenna)

Fiona-Louise Tilden Academy Representative (substitute for Alan Evans)

Fyfe Johnston, Clare School Special Schools

Sarah Porter Academy Representative (substitute for Christina Kenna

Carole Jaques Substitute for Holly Bowman

Gavin King Academy Substitute for Clare Jones

Sarah Shirras, (Chair) St Williams Primary Primary Schools

Joanna Tuttle Maintained Secondary

Vicky Warnes JCC (primary phase)

White Martin Primary Governors

Michael Bateman Head of Education High Needs

Jane Blackwell Place Planning Manager

Martin Brock Accountant

Paul Cook Interim Finance Business Partner

Sally Cutting Senior Accountant

Marilyn Edgeley Admin Officer

Chris Snudden Assistant Director (Education)

Services

**Apologies:**

Alan Evans

John Banbury

Holly Bowman

Alison Clarke

Howard Nelson

Clare Jones

Christina Kenna

**1. Welcome**

**2. School Forum Membership**

Welcome to Martin White as a primary maintained representative.

In the recent elections for a primary governor the only nomination was Mike Grimble who was duly elected. Martin White subsequently learned of the election and expressed an interest in serving on the Schools Forum and therefore has filled the second vacancy.

**3. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Accepted - no corrections.

**4. Matters Arising**

Fair Funding % has been used in consultation papers

Additional Growth information – will be discussed as part of the agenda

**5. De-delegation**

Schools Forum are asked on an annual basis to vote by primary and secondary sector on de-delegation of the services below:

Staff Costs

Members asked that as the budget was 86% underspent why they were being asked to contribute the same amount as last year.

This is to mitigate the risk, the underspend goes to the DSG (Dedicated Schools Grant).

The process goes through Human Resources and schools are made aware of this process in their budget information.

**Action S. Cutting to check process and information going out to schools.**

**Decision**

**The primary sector was unanimously in favour of this service being de-delegated.**

**The secondary sector was against this service being de-delegated.**

Licences

Subscriptions paid centrally by the Local Authority. This includes the Norfolk Governor Network Annual Grant (NGN), and the Consortium of Local Education Authorities for the Provision of Science Services (CLEAPSS). The reduction to the Basic Per-Pupil Entitlement value would be £0.70 per pupil.

**Total budget £26,923** (£24,916 primary and £2,007 secondary).

**Decision**

**Licences/Subscriptions for the Primary sector should be de-delegated**

**Unanimously agreed**

**Licences/Subscriptions for the Secondary sector should be de-delegated**

**Unanimously agreed**

**Action**

**Further information on CLEAPSS for next meeting**

Contingencies

In 2018/19 no contingency budget was de-delegated, there have been no academy deficits costs charged so far in 2018/19. This would be the fund to go to if a deficit cost occurred otherwise costs would fall to the authority and this could result in a slow down of academisation. Any underspend would go to whole of DSG.

Primary sector members highlighted that they would not get back any underspends.

**De-delegation of a £100k contingency budget for 2019/20 to be used to meet costs of sponsored academy deficits upon conversion.**

**Decision (primary sector only)**

**For 2**

**Against 1**

**Abstentions 0**

Free School Meals

The reduction to FSM deprivation funding would be £5.63 per eligible pupil to provide a central service checking FSM eligibility data.

**Decision**

**Free School Meals eligibility for the Primary sector should be de-delegated**

**Unanimously agreed**

**Free School Meals eligibility for the secondary sector should be de-delegated**

**Unanimously agreed**

Growth

The growth fund sits within the School Block and Schools Forum are required to vote on the criteria and amount. It was proposed to maintain the current level of £950k and to use the same criteria for allocation in 2019/20.

Closing Schools

An additional growth fund to address pupil increases resulting from the early movement of pupils from closing schools was discussed, and it was proposed to retain £15k for this purpose, and to add an additional criterion for allocation of this.

Significant Growth Fund

A paper was presented to Schools Forum in September, suggesting that a significant growth fund, for pupil number increases in-year exceeding the greater of 15% of NOR or 10 pupils.

Further information was requested and is included in the de-delegation paper.

The recommendation is to not include growth fund for 2019/20 as all schools checked against the suggested criteria failed the test for an allocation due to growth popularity.

**Decision 5a There should be a £950,000 centrally retained fund for pre-16 growth, with the same criteria to be used as in previous years for allocation of that funding.**

**Unanimously agreed**

**Decision 5b There should be £15,000 centrally retained fund to support growth in schools resulting from the early movement of pupils following school closures.**

**For 13**

**Abstentions 1**

Central Services School Block/Education Services Grant

These are a set of statutory duties and Schools Forum are required to vote on the retention of the funding by the Local Authority to carry out these duties.

**Decision 6a – Agree the central retained items**

**Unanimously agreed**

**Decision 6b – Agree the Historic Commitments**

**Unanimously agreed**

**Decision 6c – Agree the Education Services Grant retained element**

**Unanimously agreed**

**5. Forum Guidance and Terms of Reference**

In September the DfE released updated Schools Forum Guidance and two paragraphs have additional wording.

* It is suggested that good practice for school forums would be to offer training to new and existing members.
* Timing of meetings should take note of local authority deadlines.

It is proposed to amend the Norfolk Constitution and Terms of Reference and these changes are highlighted in red. With regards to substitutes for meetings members must identify a substantive substitute that is deployed by the relevant organisation when the member cannot attend.

**It was suggested that individual organisations could vote in substitutes.**

**Action: S.Shirras/C.Dallas to raise at next CEO meeting.**

It was suggested that dates and times of meetings should be varied, and this will be given consideration at the time when meetings are agreed.

**Information – Schools Forum noted the DfE’s updated Schools Forum guidance, the changes to wording are highlighted in this paper.**

**Decision – Schools Forum agreed the change to Norfolk School Forum’s Terms of Reference.**

**5. DSG and High Needs Block update**

Chris Snudden circulated slide handouts to update members on this item.

Children’s Services are requesting capital and revenue borrowing in the region of £120m for a new specialist provision programme. A report will go to the Policy and Resources Committee on 29 October. The authority is presently paying up to £85,000 for each child in non-maintained provision.

We want to:

* Invest more in SRBs
* Create up to 4 more special schools

If the current cohort of children in independent places were moved to state funded the annual revenue saving would be £5.796m.

These proposals are dependent on a sign off by the Policy and Resources Committee at the end of this month.

Given the significant pressure on the high needs block the Local Authority will apply to the Secretary of State to move an additional £4.580m from the schools block to the high needs block in 2019/20. The capital investment will significantly reduce down revenue spending.

Comments

Driving down demand and changing the culture, is there more specific details to this how will be achieved.

* The council is looking at engaging external capacity for bringing sectors together
* Area SEND Board which includes parent voice and we need to communicate through these organisations
* Important for people to attend Educate Norfolk secondary Meeting

Important not to enshrine children in EHCPs

* The LA agrees this is very important.

Capital works – in the past SRB’s have closed due to a school becoming an academy

* The authority is aware of this, and new SRBs will be protected.

The SEND transformation will need to change the culture and drive down demand for assessment/diagnosis enabling schools to meet needs earlier.

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

In September forum were given the proposals - this paper summarises the responses from the consultation and gives the final proposal.

The Chair congratulated Martin and Sally on a very well-run consultation.

77 people responded to the consultation 23 of which attended the workshops.

School Forum had already agreed the 0.5% movement of funding from the Schools block to the High Needs block in September and the consultation included this information.

Through the Survey and School Forum Working Group the authority’s preferred choice is option is 1A to move towards the National Funding Formula.

**Option 1A**

**NFF with movement of £6.94m (0.5% plus extra £4.58m) to the High Needs Block. This is the Local Authority’s and Schools Forum’s NFF Working group preferred option.**

The main reservation from schools was the government’s ‘moving’ timetable, with no clear date of a full NFF implementation.

We also consulted on movement of extra funding of £4.58m in addition to the 0.5% to the High Needs block. It was made clear during the consultation that the authority would need to submit a disapplication to support this to the Secretary of State.

This would be an annual application.

In January a report will go the Children’s Services Committee proposing that Norfolk implements the unit values and methodologies of the National Funding Formula for 2019/20.

Schools Forum are asked to:

* Consider and comment on the proposed changes to the distribution formula of the Schools Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant.
* Consider and comment on the movement of funding to the High Needs Block, above the 0.5% already agreed at September’s Forum meeting.

Comments

* Concerns over the future of the School Forum being here to oversee the recovery plan.
* Schools will have to make cutbacks
* Can’t support money coming out of schools
* This is the right proposal – looking at the bigger picture
* Agree with LA strategy but concerns on how it is delivered
* Cluster funding did not meet need in the past

**Does School Forum support the authority’s preference of option 1A**

**For 7**

**Against 4**

**Abstain 2**

**Action –**

**Circulate decision from secretary of State**

**Include outcomes for schools in results of consultation going out to schools**

**8. Central Licencing Scheme**

This includes all licences top-sliced by the DfE for state funded maintained schools.

The DfE website has been updated to make process clearer and is summarised in the paper.

There is a check permission tool – links in paper.

It was suggested an MI Sheet is circulated to schools.

**9. Any Other Business**

None

**10. Dates of Meetings**

Friday 11th January 2019 – 9am-12pm – South Green Park Mattishall

**Norfolk Schools Forum**

**11 January 2019**

**Item No. 4**

**Schools Forum Structure**

**Schools Forum members are asked to consider the proposed structure of the forum, and the next steps for election and nomination of members.**

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.

Secondary maintained schools represent 1.7% of Norfolk pupil numbers, and this means that only one maintained secondary representative is required.

There has been an increase in the number of Academies since the structure of Schools Forum was last reviewed in January 2018. The number of maintained Primary representatives need to be reduced by one Headteacher from 4 primary representatives to 3, and the number of Academy representatives increased by one, from 6 to 7.

An Academy election will need to be held, to reflect the proportion of pupil numbers in Academies. We will need to hold an election for 2 representatives as we currently only have 5 in attendance.

**Schools Forum Membership Proposals**

**Minimum Requirement**

**School members –** Should be at least 2/3rd of the forum membership

Primary Headteacher and a Governor must be based on pupil proportions

1 Secondary School representative

1 Special School Headteacher or governor

1 Special Academy representative

1 AP Academy representative

1 Nursery School Headteacher or governor

Academy reps – this is not restricted to principals, senior staff or governors and must be based on pupil proportions

(Headteacher or senior staff)

.

**Non school members** – Should be no more than 1/3rd of forum membership

1 16-19 representative

1 Early Years PVI representative

**Suggested Membership**

**School members – 15 members**

3 Primary Headteachers or governors (reduce from 4)

1 Secondary maintained school representative

1 Special School Headteacher

1 Nursery School Head teacher or governor

1 Special School Academy representative

1 AP Academy representative

7 Academy representatives – this is not restricted to principals, senior staff or governors (we currently have 5)

**Non School members – 6 members**

1 16-19 representative

1 Early Years PVI representative

1 C of E Diocesan Rep

1 Roman Catholic Rep

1 JCC Primary Rep

1 JCC Secondary Rep

Pupil numbers from October 18 census:

Primary Maintained 35,374 = 33.6%

Secondary Maintained 1,747 = 1.7%

Primary and Secondary Academy 68,030 = 64.7%

The attached appendix shows how the current membership would translate into the suggested membership.

**Action**

**Schools Forum is asked to discuss the information provided and consider the next steps to bring the schools forum in line with current regulations.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **School Members 15 Non School Members 6** |  |
|  |  |
| **Primary Representatives (3)** | **Secondary Representatives (1)** |
| Sarah Shirras (chair) | Joanna Tuttle |
| Martin White |  |
| Mike Grimble |  |
|  |  |
| **Special School Representatives (1)** | **Special School Academy Representatives (1)** |
| Fife Johnston | Keith Bates |
|  |  |
| **Nursery School Representative (1)** | **Alternative Provision Representatives (1)** |
| Holly Bowman | Sandra Govender |
|  |  |
| **Academy Representatives (7)** | **Early Years PVI Representatives (1)** |
| Mark Adamson | John Banbury |
| Carol Dallas |  |
| Alan Evans | **Roman Catholic Representative (1)** |
| Clare Jones | Vacancy |
| Christina Kenna |  |
| Vacancy | **Church of England Representative (1)** |
| Vacancy | Howard Nelson |
|  |  |
| **16 - 19 Representatives (1)** |  |
| Chris Caddamy |  |
|  |  |
| **JCC Representatives (2)** |  |
| Bob Groome (secondary phase) |  |
| Vicky Warnes (primary phase) |  |

**Norfolk School Forum**

**11 January 2019**

**Item no. 5**

**Dedicated Schools Grant 2019/20**

**Purpose**

To update Schools Forum on the allocations of the Dedicated Schools Grant.

The total DSG allocation received for 2019-20 was confirmed in December 2018 and totals £610.792m before academy recoupment. This compares to a total DSG allocation of £600.391m in 2018-19 as at the December 2018 DSG update.

The Schools block is £482.012m, this is an increase of £8.969m from the £473.043m received in 2018-19, £3.453m of this increase is the additional pupil numbers on the October census, from 104,456 pupils to 105,132 pupils. The remaining £5.516m is as a result of the new National Funding formula, including an extra £806k for in-year growth based on Middle Super Output Area data comparing previous October censuses.

The Central Services School Block of £3.358m covers central items previously held within the Schools Block. This block covers central licences, historic commitments and the retained services provided to all schools previously covered by the Education Services Grant. Schools Forum voted to retain these items centrally at October 2018 Forum meeting.

The Early Years block for 3 and 4-year old universal entitlement totals £29.785m. The Early Years National Funding Formula sets out that Local Authority central costs should be no greater than 5% of the Early Years block for 2019-20, this percentage adjusts within the financial year as it is based on pupil numbers accessing an Early Education place on the January census dates. The Early Years Funding Formula is paid to the Local Authority at £4.30 per hour.

Since September 2017 working parents have been able to access an additional 15 hours of funded 3 and 4-year-old early education. Taking the total amount to 30 hours of funded childcare. The Department of Education has provided additional funding of £7.368m as estimated take up of the additional 15 hours by parents, this will be adjusted based on take up at the January 2019 and 2020 census dates.

**Schools forum are asked to vote to retain centrally 5% of the 3 and 4-year-old funding, £1.858m for the Local Authority to continue to provide central support and payments to all providers of Early Years Education, in schools and in private, voluntary and independent settings.**

Parents can access 15 hours of funded 2-year-old early education, if they meet the eligibility criteria. The Department of Education provides £5.581m of funding based on an estimated take up which will be adjusted based on the January 2019 census. The Local Authority receives £5.20 per hour for Early Education of 2-year olds.

Early Years Pupil Premium is 53p per hour per eligible child claiming 3 and 4-year-old funding, up to a maximum of 570 hours per year, this will be adjusted based on January 2019 take up.

The Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF) places Nursery Schools on the same funding model as all Early Years Settings, and £0.274m has been provided to continue to protect and fund the fixed sums that the 3 Nursery Schools in Norfolk receive. The fixed sums fund the higher overheads and cost of qualified teaching staff in a Nursery School.

The Disability Access Fund aids access to early years places. The early years setting is eligible for £615 per year for each child in receipt of Disability Living Allowance.

The High needs block has increased to £81.822m from £80.462m. This includes an additional £1.803m allocated for both 2018/19 and 2019/20 in the December 2018 DSG update. The High Needs Block has increased between years by £0.461m based on the new National Funding Formula, this is based on a 50% historic baseline exercise and the remaining 50% is calculated on population growth, places created and additional needs. Also included in the increase between years is £0.898m which has been generated for basic entitlement from the special schools and alternative provision census (headcount has increased from 1749.5 pupils to 1974 pupils, at £4k each).

The overall difference in the DSG allocation from the prior is set out in the table below:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Funding element** | **2019/20**  **(£m)** | **2018/19**  **(£m)** | **Change (£m)** | **Explanation for change** |
| Early Years 3 & 4-year olds | 29.785 | 29.785 | 0.00 | No change |
| Early Years 3 & 4-year olds – 30 hrs | 7.368 | 7.368 | 0.00 | No change |
| Early years block 2-year olds | 5.581 | 5.581 | 0.00 | No change |
| Early Years Pupil Premium | 0.438 | 0.438 | 0.00 | No change |
| Nursery Schools Supplement | 0.274 | 0.270 | 0.004 | Protection calculated by DfE based on EYNFF funding rate vs Nursery School funding rate |
| Early Years Disability Access Fund | 0.153 | 0.170 | (0.017) | Reduced headcount of pupils claiming Disability Living Allowance |
| Schools Block | 482.012 | 473.043 | 8.969 | Increase of 676 pupils (£3.453m), new in-year growth allocation (£0.806m) and ongoing increase from the National Funding Formula (£4.71m) |
| Central Services School Block | 3.358 | 3.272 | 0.086 | Funding per pupil increased from £29.03 to £29.66 per pupil, and additional 676 pupils in headcount |
| High Needs block | 81.822 | 80.462 | 1.36 | Additional £0.461m of funding as a result of the National Funding Formula, and £0.898m due to basic entitlement increase from special school and AP headcount |
| **Total\*** | **610.792** | **600.391** | **10.401** |  |

\*Source: DfE’s DSG allocation tables (figures shown rounded to nearest thousand)

Movement of 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block was agreed by Schools Forum at the October 2018 meeting, to alleviate the forecast pressure on the High Needs Block, due to the demand on high cost specialist placements and the increase in high needs in the school population. Based on the updated DSG allocation for 2019/20 this is a one-off movement of £2.41m. Following that transfer the new totals will be £479.602m for Schools Block and £84.232m for High Needs Block.

The Local Authority is awaiting a decision from the Secretary of State for a disapplication to the regulations allowing a further transfer of £4.58m from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block in order to meet ongoing cost pressures of high needs specialist placements. The requested level of the further transfer between blocks remains at £4.58m despite the announcement of additional High Needs Block funding for 2019/20, as the increased allocation is not sufficient to meet demand in Norfolk. The Local Authority has submitted a statement to the DfE that we wish the original disapplication request to still be considered for approval. Norfolk is already carrying an outstanding DSG deficit of £8.087m from previous financial years as a result of pressures within the High Needs Block, with a further forecast High Needs Block deficit of £10.586m for 2018/19. There is a £5.517m overall DSG deficit forecast for 2018/19 when taking into account underspends on the Schools and Early Years Blocks and the additional £1.8m of funding announced in December 2018 within the High Needs Block. The overall DSG starting position for 2019/20 is therefore forecast to be a deficit of £13.604m (£8.087m from previous years plus £5.517m for 2018/19). If the Secretary of State approves the full additional transfer of £4.58m, the new totals will be £475.022m for Schools Block and £88.812m for High Needs Block.

If the Secretary of State declines the disapplication request or only partially agrees it, i.e. a funding transfer to the High Needs Block is rejected or accepted at a lower amount than the £4.58m requested, then the Schools Block and High Needs Block budgets will be adjusted accordingly, and the budget shares issued to schools would be adjusted via the funding cap on gaining schools.

**Other Schools Grants**

The rates per pupil for the Pupil Premium for 2019 to 2020 are maintained at their current rates. Further details are available in the [pupil premium conditions of grant](http://links.govdelivery.com/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbXNpZD0mYXVpZD0mbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTgxMjE5Ljk5MjYxMjQxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE4MTIxOS45OTI2MTI0MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3MzM2NjU0JmVtYWlsaWQ9bWFydGluLmJyb2NrQG5vcmZvbGsuZ292LnVrJnVzZXJpZD1tYXJ0aW4uYnJvY2tAbm9yZm9say5nb3YudWsmdGFyZ2V0aWQ9JmZsPSZleHRyYT1NdWx0aXZhcmlhdGVJZD0mJiY=&&&109&&&https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2019-to-2020).

Teachers pay grant will continue in academic year 2019 to 2020.

The Year 7 Catch-up Premium continues in financial year 2019 to 2020. Further details will be available in 2019.

The meal rate for Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) continues at £2.30 for the 2019 to 2020 academic year.

The [free school meal supplementary grant](http://links.govdelivery.com:80/track?type=click&enid=ZWFzPTEmbXNpZD0mYXVpZD0mbWFpbGluZ2lkPTIwMTgxMjE5Ljk5MjYxMjQxJm1lc3NhZ2VpZD1NREItUFJELUJVTC0yMDE4MTIxOS45OTI2MTI0MSZkYXRhYmFzZWlkPTEwMDEmc2VyaWFsPTE3MzM2NjU0JmVtYWlsaWQ9bWFydGluLmJyb2NrQG5vcmZvbGsuZ292LnVrJnVzZXJpZD1tYXJ0aW4uYnJvY2tAbm9yZm9say5nb3YudWsmdGFyZ2V0aWQ9JmZsPSZleHRyYT1NdWx0aXZhcmlhdGVJZD0mJiY=&&&110&&&https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/free-school-meals-supplementary-grant-2018-to-2019) will continue in 2019 to 2020.

To date, the DfE has not released any information about the future of the primary PE and Sport Premium beyond the 2018 to 2019 academic year.

**Actions:**

* **Schools Forum is asked to agree the central expenditure of 5% from the 3 and 4-year-old Early Years Funding Formula.**
* **Schools Forum is asked to note for information the Dedicated Schools Block Allocations.**

**Schools Forum**

**11 January 2019**

**Item No. 7**

**Maintained Nursery Schools Protection**

Schools Forum is asked to comment on the level of additional protection for maintained nursery schools in 2018/19 and on the continuation of additional protection for the 2019/20 financial year.

In 2017/18 the Department for Education (DfE) introduced the Early Years National Funding Formula (EYNFF). This moved the three maintained nursery schools in Norfolk onto the same funding formula as all Early Years settings in Norfolk.

Since the introduction of the EYNFF, the DfE has allocated a Maintained Nursery School Supplement as part of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). This is allocated to protect the level of funding given under fixed sums previously paid to the three nursery schools by the local authority, intended to cover the additional costs of a Headteacher, qualified teaching staff and stand-alone premises. The original additional fixed sums allocated by the local authority totalled £400,020. The DSG supplement allocation for 2017/18 was only £320,736 and is £269,528 for 2018/19. For 2019/20 the allocation is £273,790. The DSG allocation is linked to the number of 3 and 4-year-old pupils.

The DSG Maintained Nursery School grant is only guaranteed for 2019/20, there is currently no further information on the supplement beyond this point in time.

The three nursery schools affected are:

* Emneth Nursery School
* Kings Lynn Nursery School
* Earlham Nursery School

In 2018/19, following agreement by Schools Forum at its meeting on 18th May 2018, an additional level of protection was provided to the three nursery schools for 2017/18 and 2018/19 to protect them back up to 2016/17 funding levels less a -1.5% minimum funding guarantee, taken from the Early Years Block contingency.

Given that the level of funding via the DSG Maintained Nursery School Supplement has decreased from £320,736 in 2017/18 to £269,528 in 2018/19 (and is £273,790 in 2019/20) there is now a requirement to recalculate the level of protection being given for 2018/19 and the amount that would be required for 2019/20. Schools Forum had also requested that the protection arrangement be reviewed for the 2019/20 financial year.

The 2019/20 Early Years Operational Guidance states that local authorities can support maintained nursery schools by allocating additional funding using ‘lump sum’ allocations.

**Review of 2018/19 Protection**

The original protection calculated for the nursery schools, presented to Schools Forum at the meeting of 18th May 2018, was as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2016/17 Original Fixed Sum | Nursery Grant | 2017/18 Loss of grant | 2017/18 protection backdated | **2018/19 Protection** | 2019/20 Protection |
| Emneth Nursery | £130,821 | £101,019 | £29,802 | £27,840 | **£25,907** | £24,003 |
| Kings Lynn Nursery | £103,007 | £88,392 | £14,615 | £13,070 | **£11,548** | £10,049 |
| Earlham Nursery | £166,192 | £131,325 | £34,867 | £32,374 | **£29,919** | £27,500 |
| Total | £400,020 | £320,736 | £79,284 | £73,284 | **£67,373** | £61,552 |

Protection for 2018/19 was calculated to be £67,373 in total, based on a Maintained Nursery School Supplement allocation of £320,736 via the DSG, but this allocation has now reduced to £269,528 for 2018/19. The DSG allocation is linked to the number of 3 and 4-year-old pupils.

Based on the lower DSG allocation, the revised protection would now need to be:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2016/17 Original Fixed Sum | 2018/19 MFG Protected Amount | 2018/19 Maintained Nursery Supplement | **2018/19**  **Revised Protection Required** |
| Emneth Nursery School | £130,821 | £126,926 | £84,891 | **£42,035** |
| Kings Lynn Nursery School | £103,007 | £99,940 | £74,279 | **£25,661** |
| Earlham Nursery School | £166,192 | £161,243 | £110,358 | **£50,885** |
| Total | £400,020 | £388,109 | £269,528 | **£118,581** |

If agreed this would be an increase of £51,208 for 2018/19, to be funded from the Early Years Block contingency.

**Review of 2019/20 Protection**

To provide continued protection for the financial year 2019/20 to the three maintained nursery schools would cost £108,498. This would protect fixed sums at 2016/17 funding levels with a -1.5% minimum funding guarantee applied for each year (based on the level of protection given to other schools), and this would be funded from the Early Years Block contingency, as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2016/17 Original Fixed Sum | 2019/20 MFG Protected Amount | 2019/20 Maintained Nursery Supplement | **2019/20**  **Additional Protection Required** |
| Emneth Nursery School | £130,821 | £125,022 | £86,233 | **£38,789** |
| Kings Lynn Nursery School | £103,007 | £98,441 | £75,454 | **£22,987** |
| Earlham Nursery School | £166,192 | £158,825 | £112,103 | **£46,722** |
| Total | £400,020 | £382,288 | £273,790 | **£108,498** |

Protection was originally calculated to be a total of £61,552 for 2019/20 for the previous Schools Forum meeting of 18th May 2018, but the level of Maintained Nursery School Supplement funded via the DSG allocation on which the calculations were based has now decreased from £320,736 to £273,790, linked to 3 and 4-year-old pupil numbers.

If agreed to continue protection this would be an increase of £46,946 compared to the original estimate, making a total allocation of £108,498 for 2019/20.

**Actions:**

* **Schools Forum is asked to comment on the protection level of the maintained nursery schools for 2018/19, in line with updated DSG allocations.**
* **Schools Forum is asked to comment on the continuation of additional protection for maintained nursery schools in 2019/20.**