

School Funding 2021/22 Onwards

Report to the Schools Forum 14 January 2021

- 1.1 At the Autumn 2020 Forums, in October and November 2020, papers were presented summarising the information released by the DfE up until that point concerning 2021/22 funding. Shortly before Christmas final allocations for the Schools, High Needs and Central School Services DSG blocks were issued. The final early years DSG allocation will not be released until Summer 2022, as it is based upon a combination of January 2021 and January 2022 censuses, but the funding rates were announced (see separate early years paper presented to this Forum).

Schools Block – Mainstream School Funding

- 1.2 Final pupil numbers were similar to those that had been used for modelling purposes and the sum allocated of £136.3m was broadly as anticipated. We will be able to continue to mirror the DfE's national funding formula (NFF) for schools in full, and should be able to slightly increase the funding factors compared to the DfE model. The precise amounts will depend upon which schools are funded on estimated numbers and these will be finalised over the next few days.
- 1.3 T&W primary schools 2021/22 NFF funding factors are shown below, with 2020/21 shown for comparison purposes. The substantial increase in the AWPU is largely due to teachers pay grants being rolled into DSG for 2021/22, as noted at previous Forums. The T&W rates will be finalised shortly as noted above.

2021/22 Primary School Funding Factors

	T&W 2020/21	NFF 2021/22	T&W 2021/22
AWPU	£2,865	£3,123	tbc*
FSM	£451	£460	tbc*
FSM6	£562	£575	tbc*
IDACI A	£602	£620	tbc*
IDACI B	£436	£475	tbc*
IDACI C	£406	£445	tbc*
IDACI D	£376	£410	tbc*
IDACI E	£251	£260	tbc*
IDACI F	£211	£215	tbc*
Low Prior Attainment	£1,068	£1,095	tbc*
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	£537	£550	tbc*
Mobility	£878	£900	tbc*
Lump sum	£114,400	£117,800	tbc*

* but should be at least at the NFF 2021/22 level

1.4 The factor amounts for secondary schools are as follows:

2021/22 Secondary School Funding Factors

	T&W 2020/21	NFF 2021/22	T&W 2021/22
AWPU KS3	£4,030	£4,404	tbc*
AWPU KS4	£4,574	£4,963	tbc*
FSM	£451	£460	tbc*
FSM6	£819	£840	tbc*
IDACI A	£842	£865	tbc*
IDACI B	£627	£680	tbc*
IDACI C	£582	£630	tbc*
IDACI D	£537	£580	tbc*
IDACI E	£406	£415	tbc*
IDACI F	£301	£310	tbc*
Low Prior Attainment	£1,617	£1,660	tbc*
English as an Additional Language (EAL)	£1,445	£1,485	tbc*
Mobility	£1,254	£1,290	tbc*
Lump sum	£114,400	£117,800	tbc*

* but should be at least at the NFF 2021/22 level

1.5 As noted at previous Forums, the minimum per pupil funding levels for 2021/22 have been set by the DfE at £4,180 for primary schools, £5,215 for KS3 and £5,715 for KS4.

1.6 T&W Council's Cabinet approved the 2021/22 funding formula at the meeting held on Thursday 7 January, so we will be able to issue budgets to maintained schools shortly and send the details of the formula to the ESFA to issue to academies.

High Needs Funding

1.7 The DfE published provisional high needs block allocations in September. The final allocations, taking into account the number of high needs pupil in schools at the October 2020 census, were released before Christmas and show a further increase of £79K for T&W due to more pupils in special schools and independent placements. This brings the final allocation for 2021/22 to £28.14m, an increase of nearly £3m compared to 2020/21.

Central School Services

1.8 Compared to the provisional allocation, the final allocation increased by £90K to £1.124m, mainly due to an increase of £81,474 arising from a sum to cover centrally employed teachers pension costs.

- 1.9 The Forum vote concerning central retentions from the Central School Services Block (CSSB) was based on the provisional allocation of the CSSB and therefore did not include this element.
- 1.10 ***The Forum is therefore asked to approve the retention of an additional £81,474 from the CSSB to cover centrally employed teachers pension costs.***
- 1.11 As in previous years, funds remaining in the central school services block after the DfE's charge for licences and the sum agreed by the Forum for statutory central services will be allocated to high needs.

Summary

- 1.12 The final allocations of Schools, High Needs and Central Services DSG were broadly in line with provisional figures. As noted at the November 2020 Forum, both the Schools and High Needs block allocations show significant increases compared to recent years, albeit much of the schools block increase represents teachers pay grants being rolled into DSG.
- 1.13 We will be working on the details of the deployment of the high needs budget over the next couple of months and will update the Forum at the March 2021 meeting.

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