

School Funding Formula 2022/23

Report to the Schools Forum 18 November 2021

- 1.1 As noted in the paper entitled 'School Funding 2022/23' presented to the Schools Forum held on 16 September 2021, the DfE is increasing the key factors in the National Funding Formula (NFF) used to allocate local authority Schools Block funding by 3%.
- 1.2 For several years, T&W has had a policy of converging to the NFF in our own local funding formula. Once T&W funding was brought up to the NFF level in 2020/21, we were able to mirror the national formula, although due to timing differences in the data used to allocate funds to LAs compared to that determining school allocations, there can be small differences in the T&W formula rates compared to the NFF.
- 1.3 We intend to continue with this approach in 2022/23. As we have yet to receive October 2021 census and other data from the DfE we are unable to provide final details of the funding formula to the Forum, but we can provide indicative information by showing the 2021/22 actual funding factors for T&W schools compared to the 2022/23 NFF factors, as follows:

Factor	T&W Formula FY2021-22	NFF FY 2022-23	Difference
Primary AWPU	£3,137	£3,217	£80
KS3 AWPU	£4,424	£4,536	£112
KS4 AWPU	£4,985	£5,112	£127
FSM Primary	£462	£470	£8
FSM Secondary	£462	£470	£8
Ever6 Primary	£578	£590	£12
Ever6 Secondary	£844	£865	£21
IDACI Primary A	£623	£640	£17
IDACI Primary B	£477	£490	£13
IDACI Primary C	£447	£460	£13
IDACI Primary D	£412	£420	£8
IDACI Primary E	£261	£270	£9
IDACI Primary F	£216	£220	£4
IDACI Secondary A	£869	£890	£21
IDACI Secondary B	£683	£700	£17
IDACI Secondary C	£633	£650	£17
IDACI Secondary D	£583	£595	£12
IDACI Secondary E	£417	£425	£8
IDACI Secondary F	£312	£320	£8
Prior attainment Primary	£1,100	£1,130	£30
Prior attainment Secondary	£1,667	£1,710	£43
Primary EAL	£552	£565	£13
Secondary EAL	£1,492	£1,530	£38
Primary Mobility	£904	£925	£21
Secondary Mobility	£1,296	£1,330	£34
Lump Sum	£117,800	£121,300	£3,500

- 1.4 The DfE now also allocates a formulaic amount of growth funding to local authorities. Based on indicative school numbers in October 2021 (provided by schools to the local authority – we have yet to receive the official census data) we expect to receive around £1.269m for 2022/23.
- 1.5 This is more than the £0.9m received for 2021/221. We intend to fund growth in T&W schools based on applying the same basic principle that had been agreed by the Forum for 2020/21. This was to fund growth in schools that had either increased their pupil admission number (PAN) following requests and agreement with the local authority, or had been requested by the local authority and agreed to admit pupils above the school's PAN.
- 1.6 The method of applying growth funding would be to use estimated numbers to fund schools for the period September 2022 to March 2023 (maintained schools) or September 2022 to August 2023 (academies). In the case of academies, the local authority's growth funding only pays for the first 7 months, matching that for maintained schools, with the ESFA funding the remaining five months.
- 1.7 To date, once a school qualifies for growth funding under the criteria above, the school has been funded for total growth in pupil numbers, not just the increase in the entry year. However modelling suggests that this would cost considerably more (over £300K) than the estimated amount allocated for growth from the DfE and any such excess would have to be taken from the funds available for the main school funding formula.
- 1.8 In order to moderate the cost, for 2022/23 it is therefore proposed to revise the criteria such that only Reception / Year 7 growth is funded. This would reduce the modelled overspend to less than £200K.
- 1.9 Currently, schools that would qualify for growth funding in 2022/23 consist of ten secondary schools and two primary schools. Of the twelve schools nine are academies and three are maintained schools.
- 1.10 The Schools Funding Formula is formally approved each year by the Council's Cabinet, but the Forum is asked to express any views concerning the principles of the 2022/23 formula, as outlined above. Forum views on the funding formula will then be communicated to the Cabinet, to inform their decision.

Tim Davis
Group Accountant
November 2021

Sources:

1. DfE 'The national funding formulae for schools and high needs, 2022 – 2023' July 2021.