LEICESTERSHIRE SCHOOLS' FORUM

The Leicestershire Schools' Forum to be held on <u>Tuesday 12th September 2023</u> at 2pm via Microsoft Teams. The primary contact for forum arrangements is as follows:

Antoine Willie

- E-Mail. LeicestershireSchoolsForum@leics.gov.uk
- **Tel.** 0116 305 1158

Please see below for the agenda for the meeting.

AGENDA

<u>lte</u>	<u>m</u>	<u>No. of</u> Papers
1.	Apologies for Absence/Substitutions.	
2.	Minutes of the meeting held on 13/06/2023 (previously circulated) and matters arising.	1
3.	Schools' Forum Self-Assessment	2
	Members will be asked to review and comment on the self- assessment compiled by the Chair and Vice-Chair and the Local Authority's response to it.	
4.	Early Years Funding Update	1
	Members will be asked to note the use of the early years supplementary grant and the extension of the Free Entitlement to Early Education (FEEE) in 2024/25.	
5.	2024/25 Provisional DSG Settlement	2
	Members will be asked to note the provisional settlement for 2024/25.	
6.	High Needs Funding Framework	1
	In response to queries on the High Needs Funding, this report sets out the legal position.	
7.	Any Other Business	
8.	Date of Next Meeting	
	Proposed date for the next Leicestershire Schools' Forum is Tuesday 21st November from 2pm – 4pm .	

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Agenda Item 2

Minutes of Leicestershire Schools' Forum via Teams on Tuesday 13th June 2023 at 3:00pm

Chair / Vice Chair

Martin TowersSecondary Academy GovernorSuzanne UprichardMaintained Primary Governor & PRU Representative							
Present							
Alison Bradley Justine Roberts Deborah Taylor Jenny Lawrence Rebecca Wakeley Alison Ruff Jo Beaumont Rebecca Jones Robert Martin Ed Petrie Alison Allford Julie McBrearty	Interim Assistant Director for Education, SEND & Commissioning Head of Service for Education Quality & Inclusion Lead Member for Children and Family Services Finance Business Partner, Schools, and High Needs Senior Education Effectiveness Partner Maintained Primary Headteacher Maintained Primary Headteacher Maintained Primary Governor Maintained Nursery Governor Primary Academy Headteacher Secondary Academy Headteacher						
Kath Kelly Simon Grindrod Kelly Dryden Carolyn Lewis Beverley Coltman John Pye	Secondary Academy Headteacher Secondary Academy Headteacher Secondary Academy Governor Academy (Special) Headteacher CE Representative, Director of Leicester Diocese PVU Early Years Provider Representative RC Representative						
Patrick Grant							
ApologiesJane MooreDirector of Children & Family ServicesFelicity ClarkePrimary Academy HeadteacherLiam PowellSecondary Academy HeadteacherMark MitchleySecondary Academy HeadteacherJulian KirbySecondary Academy Headteacher (Substitute)Jason BrooksMaintained (Special) HeadteacherLisa CraddockPost-16 ProviderVal MoorePrimary Academy GovernorLauren CharltonPrimary Academy TrusteeJane DawdaMaintained Primary Headteacher							

1. <u>Election / Confirmation of Chair & Vice Chair:</u>

Members of the forum have been informed that Patrick Grant is in attendance to observe the forum on behalf of the DfE. Patrick may be able to answer questions on behalf of the DfE, but this is not the purpose of his attendance.

Val Moore acted as temporary Chair of the last Leicestershire Schools' Forum meeting. A new Chair will need to be elected for Leicestershire Schools' Forum. Martin Towers has nominated himself for the position and has received a second nomination from Julie McBrearty; there are no other nominations and no objections to Martin's appointment as Forum Chair.

Martin Towers nominates Suzanne Uprichard as Vice Chair to the Leicestershire Schools' Forum. There are no other nominations and no objections to Suzanne's appointment as Forum Vice Chair.

2. Apologies for Absence/Substitutions:

Apologies provided prior to forum by Val Moore, Lauren Charlton, and Jane Dawda.

3. <u>Minutes of the Meeting Held on 14/02/2023 (Previously Circulated) and Matters</u> <u>Arising:</u>

The minutes of the last Leicestershire Schools' Forum were discussed amongst forum members and the opportunity to raise any issues with the record was presented; no issues of accuracy were raised.

An Induction to Leicestershire Schools' Forum was held on 5th June 2023. The induction provided an opportunity for the Local Authority (LA) and forum members to share information. In addition, the induction led to the Self-Assessment toolkit to be discussed during this forum.

4. <u>Schools' Forum Self-Assessment:</u>

The Schools' Forum Self-Assessment is a toolkit issued by the DfE. Jenny Lawrence noted that it is now appropriate to take stock on how the Leicestershire Schools' Forum is performing. Jenny acknowledged that the forum has faced issues over the last few sessions due to turnover amongst forum members and within the LA. It was agreed that Martin Towers will complete the Self-Assessment as Forum Chair before circulating the assessment to forum members for amendment and approval.

Beverley Coltman has raised concern that she is the only Early Years (EY) representative on the Leicestershire Schools' Forum. The Schools' Forum manages DSG and has oversight over funding agreements, but Beverley feels that EYs is not properly represented amongst forum members. Whilst Beverley understands that the constitution requires one representative from EYs, Beverley has interpreted this as being a minimum requirement; she does not feel that this representation is equitable.

Beverley is the Chair of the National Day Nursery Association of Leicestershire and feels that it is important that EYs settings have a voice. It is important that the profile of EY is raised as the first 5 years of a child's life are significant. Beverley has proposed changing the name of the forum to be more inclusive: "Leicestershire Early Years & Schools' Forum".

Jenny Lawrence has noted that Robert Martin is governor to a maintained special nursery and so also represents EYs on the forum. Schools' Forum regulation requires a proportionate balance between school and non-school members and there is a criterion for membership that must be met. Representation within the forum must be proportionate and balanced, not only between maintained and academies but also between primary and secondary schools.

Rebecca Jones has expressed concern that there is a degree of discussion lost by Leicestershire Schools' Forum being held online rather than in person. Rebecca noted that other representatives may feel the same as Beverley Coltman in terms of not feeling heard.

Simon Grindrod has noted that some agenda items are only for the attention or voting privilege of sub-forums, such as only maintained schools. In such circumstances, Beverley Coltman would be expected to make a decision on her own as the only

representative of EYs. However, the experience offered by the broader forum can help contribute to these decisions. Whilst Beverley agreed that there is value in the collective experience of the forum, she continued to promote a better balance of representation for EYs. Beverley maintained that EYs are overlooked and does not feel that Leicestershire Schools' Forum adds value to EYs; this is something that other LAs perform better.

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Jenny Lawrence encouraged a process of collecting views from forum members on topics they want to be added to the agenda. Jenny agreed that membership of the forum needs to be reconsidered which can also consider forum representation. Issues from placements/providers should be fed to the forum through its members for these issues to be discussed and considered.

Martin Towers has requested that Beverley Coltman provide information on how other LAs incorporate EYs representation to the next Leicestershire Schools' Forum. Beverley has agreed to provide this information for the next agenda.

Martin Towers will complete the Leicestershire Schools Forum Self-Assessment. The Self-Assessment will be circulated amongst forum members for comments or amendments. The Self-Assessment will then be submitted to the LA for response.

5. Leicestershire Scheme for Financing Schools:

Changes to the Leicestershire scheme have been tracked throughout the consultation period. For maintained schools, the scheme ensures the safeguarding of finances and ensures that schools have the proper processes in place; it provides clarity for schools on manging the significant level of additional funds in a school's local bank account. The scheme will apply from the date that it is approved; East Midlands Shared Services (EMSS) payroll contracts cease from August 2023.

An internal working group has been convened to ensure all aspects of the payroll changes that will affect schools are considered. LEAMIS will ensure that appropriate information continues to be shared; there will need to be established mechanisms for updating the 5-year plans and for collecting statutory information that the LA must report on, such as the number of staff within numeration bands and full-time equivalents that schools employ.

Alison Ruff has questioned whether the LA will update its finance policy in accordance with the new scheme. Jennifer Lawrence has advised that the finance policy maintains all statutory provisions and requires consultation for any amendments; guidance for schools will sit outside the Scheme to allow changes to be implemented quickly.

Martin Towers does not think that the changes to the scheme are tracked clearly enough and has recommended a clearer list of amendments to the scheme.

Carolyn Lewis felt hampered by the requirement for this decision to be for maintained schools only; she represents a lot of schools and wanted this noted for future exploration. Carolyn drew forum members to Section 10 Insurance and questioned Jenny Lawrence's interpretation of the scheme and what the LA's position on school insurance policies would be. Jenny noted that no LA maintained schools take part in the Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) and are still utilising the LA for insurance. However, Jenny will provide further clarity on the LA's position as an appendment to the forum minutes.

Update: Information to follow as appendment to circulated/published minutes.

Alison Ruff has drawn the forum's attention to Section 3 Instalments of the Budget Share; Banking Arrangements, Sub-section 4 Interest Clawbacks. Current interpretation allows

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the LA to claim money from schools based on potential interest earned during the interim of LA payments and the schools' payroll runs. However, LA provides payroll payments the day before the schools make payments and so any interest would be nil or negligible. Jenny Lawrence has agreed that further clarification is needed to Section 3.4 Interest Clawbacks as it is unlikely that interest would be earned during this interim. The vote on approval for the Leicestershire Scheme was subject to this revision.

Jenny Lawrence has confirmed that Suzanne Uprichard was eligible to vote on behalf of her maintained school.

Votes to approve the Leicestershire Scheme was made by Rebecca Jones, Jo Beaumont, and Alison Ruff. Suzanne Uprichard and Robert Martin abstained from voting. There were no votes to not approve the Leicestershire Scheme.

The Leicestershire Scheme passed approval from the forum. **Communications will be** released to maintained schools via the Headteachers Bulletin; this will inform of all decisions made by the forum.

6. 2022/23 Schools' Budget Outturn:

This item was provided to inform members of the LA's financial position in relation to the Schools' Budget.

Paragraph 4 provides an analysis on areas that the LA has an underspend or overspend, including £6.7m overspent on High Needs, £1m overspend on EYs Block, and a £1.8m underspend on the schools' block. The High Needs overspend will be tackled by TSIL to ensure sustainability whilst also ensuring that the needs of schools are met.

Paragraph 5 outlines this as the third year in succession in which Leicestershire has opened additional schools. There is uncertainty around when that growth will hit due to the current housing market. The DfE are looking to standardise how school growth is funded and will move towards a standardised approach in 2024-25.

Paragraph 6 details that maintained school balances have decreased by £2.2m. This reduction is consistent with messages from schools regarding financial pressures which may also impact on High Needs position. The LA is trying to understand the significant factors of these pressures but the unique position and circumstances to schools makes this difficult. The LA will continue to scrutinise financial plans.

A financial risk assessment is undertaken for schools including their financial performance from the previous years to assess adherence to budget plans. Schools with the highest concern will receive visits from someone within the finance team as a method of support.

Simon Grindrod has expressed concern that the pressure to reduce expenditure on High Needs has led to either a reduction or a delay of provisions. Current provisions are not allowing schools to fund the requirements of EHCPs. Simon noted that a reduced overspend is not beneficial if it impacts the provisions available. Furthermore, Simon felt that there needs to be an investigation into the provision of plans and their timeliness; the whole process must be considered for discussion, how provisions are funded and how the LCC plans to break on its expenses.

Jenny Lawrence has clarified that there is no planned break on the LA's High Needs spend. The reported reduction in overspend is due to a slower roll out than expected in opening new resource bases in schools with some places delayed due to planning issues and age profiles for the school.

The LA seeks to balance its funding for SEND budgets with the needs of the children. It has been acknowledged that there are problems revolving around timely and accurate payments to schools, which has been raised frequently by schools for LA attention. The TSIL workstream is looking at finance workstream improvements and more robust processing. It would be beneficial to bring members of the Leicestershire Schools' Forum into discussions regarding workstream improvements.

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Robert Martin commented that it would be interesting to acquire the views of schools and their experiences. The LA saving on overspends does not help children with SEND. In addition, each decline in provisions results in EHCPs which cost more to support and transitions to special provisions schools, which will ultimately cost the LA more money. Robert expressed that a review of schools' views should be presented to the forum at future meetings.

Robert Martin reported instances around the county in which schools aren't receiving SEND funding; parents have been told by SENCOs that provisions are unavailable due to delays in funding. Whilst these reports were anecdotal and second hand, Robert noted that these reports had come in from various sources.

Jenny Lawrence provided clarification to the discussion, noting that the LA was not reporting an underspend but was reporting a reduction in deficit. Furthermore, where some schools have expressed concern that they are not receiving funding to cover EHCPs, Jenny noted that the first £6,000 to support EHCPs is the responsibility of the school and not the LA as per legislation.

Carolyn Lewis has questioned the collective understanding of the notional £6,000 to be paid by schools to cover EHCPs. Not every child on the SEND register requires funded support but Carolyn noted schools' understanding that where a child has an EHCP it should fall to the LA to fund this entirely. Carolyn was concerned that there wasn't a shared understanding of what the £6,000 is or how it should be applied; she has questioned whether the DfE should provide clarification on this. Simon Grindrod noted pushback from schools that the £6,000 expectation is questionable.

Jenny Lawrence clarified that the £6,000 expectation for schools to cover EHCPs was written in legislation and was not subject to LA interpretation. Jenny has previously issued guidance, information, and structure charts on how funding for SEND works; this can be provided again for forum members: <u>High Needs Funding: 2022 to 2023</u> <u>Operational Guide, School's Operational Guide: 2022 to 2023</u>, <u>The Notional SEND</u> <u>Budget for Mainstream Schools: Operational Guidance</u>.</u>

Simon Grindrod has requested the opportunity to present case studies to the Leicestershire Schools' Forum to explore different provisions for SEND.

Alison Bradley noted that concerns for SEND funding are considered as part of the TSIL workstream. Comments from maintained schools are fed back to DfE and representatives are encouraged to sit as part of the workstream. Recommended changes are done within the system of TSIL and must not be done in isolation.

Paragraph 10 refers to the 3 Tier intervention programme from the DfE. The highest tier covers safety valve agreements for highest deficits, agreed actions, and additional funding from DfE. The second tier delivers better value within SEND, which is where the Leicestershire LA sits; its deficits are concerning but not as high and does not require immediate intervention. The lowest tier of intervention consists of discussions between the respective LA and the DfE. Leicestershire LA is in phase two of this programme and is confident that it is moving in the right direction, which is reflected in DfE improvement plans.

The LA attempted research into what causes surplus or deficit within schools – there is no significant correlation between the size of a school and its deficit, the National Funding Formula appears to be less beneficial to schools with less than 220 pupils. There are many factors which affect the financial position of schools, and the environments are complex, making identifying causes difficult.

A financial planning tool is available to maintained schools and some academies, which can also be accessed by governors to assess their schools' finances against efficiency models issued by the DfE, giving them a means to challenge their schools. Broader work around this has been attempted through Leicestershire Education Excellence Partnership (LEEP) but it has been delayed due to staff turnover.

7. TSIL Update:

Alison Bradley delivered a TSIL updates as a reflection on the activities and workstreams that have taken place throughout the year in partnership with Newton Europe. EYs has been amongst TSIL focuses, considering the transition of children into mainstream or special provision schools and setting specific planning to identify offers to schools for inclusivity and SEND. Alison covered pages 69 – 76 of TSIL Update agenda item.

Robert Martin expressed concern that the timeliness of Education Psychology assessments is reducing; he reported that Leicestershire has the lowest timeliness rating in the country. Contacting SENA is difficult and the caseload for practitioners is high due to reduction in SENA staffing levels. Robert has questioned whether SENA has enough staff to fulfil statutory duties, whether this is acknowledged by TSIL and, if so, what plans there are to tackle these concerns. Robert has expressed concerns that marginal changes will not be enough to improve Leicestershire's position.

Alison Bradley provided assurance that TSIL is considering the efficiency of workflow in all aspects. TSIL will consider the profile of demand, decision making, the assessments received, and seeks to manage the expectation of parents. However, Robert Martin has questioned whether there are enough efficiencies to be found within TSIL to make up the required improvements; he questioned whether there is a fundamental benchmark issue relating to staffing and caseloads which underpins the question of whether the LA has enough staff in SENA. Alison noted that it is important that TSIL's considerations are robust; whilst there are perceived delays in remodelling, impacts must be evidence based to ensure correct solutions.

Alison Ruff has looked at the 'Every Teacher is a Teacher of SEND' handbook and toolkit and believed that it was helpful. Alison agreed with Robert Martin, however, that the number of children with SEND are not decreasing and there has been an increase in SEND requirements. There is not enough funding in Leicestershire.

John Pye has noted that there has been a lot of fact finding and attempts to make better use of available resources. However, it is difficult to reduce deficit whilst continuing to provide support. It is not clear what funding actions have been made available but headteachers have been critical; there are only so many committees and toolkits that schools can partake in when not feeling adequately supported. Alison Bradley apologised that she could not respond directly to this at the time, but the LA is exploring the connecting factors of concern areas; work into the SENA service will link to funding streams which will in turn link to inclusion schemes. This is a complex programme to which the LA cannot make changes in isolation, and so it welcomes contribution from school leaders.

Simon Grindrod has noted that there is no materials or advice for schools to inform parents of how SEND should work; schools have difficult and sensitive conversations

with parents and there is no training or guidance on what should be said. Simon was concerned that staff and governors are not trained to discuss SEND and other sensitive topics. Alison Bradley encourages Simon to bring these concerns through the SEND Hub to TSIL for consideration. Alison has also advised that SENDIAS is a third-party agency that schools can use for SEND advice.

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8. Any Other Business:

Robert Martin has requested an update from Jenny Lawrence on whether provisions can be given SEND funding where there has been delay.

Update: It can be confirmed that funding is provided from the point and EHCP is agreed.

9. Actions:

- 1. Martin Towers has requested that Beverley Coltman provide information on how other LAs incorporate EYs representation to the next Leicestershire Schools' Forum. Beverley has agreed to provide this information for the next agenda.
- 2. Martin Towers will complete the Leicestershire Schools Forum Self-Assessment. The Self-Assessment will be circulated amongst forum members for comments or amendments. The Self-Assessment will then be submitted to the LA for response.
- 3. Jenny Lawrence will provide further clarity on the LA's position on Section 10 Insurance of the Leicestershire Scheme for financing schools as an appendment to the forum minutes.
- 4. Jenny Lawrence to revise Section 3.4 Interest Clawbacks of the Leicestershire Scheme for financing schools as per the approved vote.
- 5. Communications to be released to maintained schools via the Headteachers Bulletin; this will inform of all decisions made by the forum.

10. Date of Next Meetings:

Tuesday 12th September at 2pm.

Tuesday 13th February at 2pm.

13th June 2023

CHAIRMAN: Martin Towers

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SCHOOLS FORUM

SCHOOLS FORUM SELF ASSESSMENT

12 SEPTEMBER 2013

Content Applicable to;		School Phase;	
Maintained Primary and	Х	Pre School	X
Secondary Schools			
Academies	Х	Foundation Stage	Х
PVI Settings	Х	Primary	Х
Special Schools /	Х	Secondary	Х
Academies			
Local Authority	Х	Post 16	Х
		High Needs	Х

Purpose of Report

Content Requires;		By;	
Noting	Х	Maintained Primary School Members	
Decision	Х	Maintained Secondary School Members	
		Maintained Special School Members	
		Academy Members	
		All Schools Forum	Х

1. This report sets out the Schools Forum self-assessment completed by the Chair and Vice-Chair and the response to it from the Local Authority and seeks direction on the format of future meetings.

Recommendations

- 2. That Schools Forum consider the self-assessment making further comment as appropriate
- 3. That Schools Forum note the response of the Local Authority and the proposed actions.
- 4. That Schools Forum determine approach for holding future meetings.

Background

- 5. The operation of Schools Forums' is set out within Primary Legislation <u>here</u>.
 - The Department for Education (DfE) provide several documents with practical guidance to ensure they operate effectively and efficiently. This can be found at <u>Gov.uk</u> <u>Schools' Forum Operational and Good Practice Guide</u>.
- 6. As a result of operational issues in meetings on 29 September 2022 and 16 February 2023, namely difficulties in electing Chair and Vice-Chair and some comments on how Forum operates, the self-assessment toolkit was presented at the meeting of Schools Forum on 13 June 2023. The toolkit has been completed by the Chair and Vice-Chair and is now presented to Forum to gather further views. The document is shown at Appendix 1 together with the initial response of the Local Authority which identifies a number of actions.
- 7. A representative of the DfE attended the meetings in both February and again in June. Following the June meeting they have now noted the election of a permanent Chair and Vice-chair and the completion of the self-assessment and are comfortable with the actions that have been taken to raise the profile of the Forum through the headteacher and governor briefings. They also noted the concerns raised in the with respect of the high needs funding legislation which is subject to a further report on today's agenda.
- 8. Regulations were laid in 2020 to allow meetings to be conducted virtually, these regulations have now been laid permanently which allow for all meetings to be held virtually. In response to some views that meetings should be held in person an induction session was arranged to be in person, however most attendees wished the session to be held virtually. Schools Forum is asked to denote how meetings should be held in future virtually, in person or hybrid or a combination.

Resource Implications

9. Holding meetings in person or as hybrid has cost implications through room hire and potential expenses for members and local authority staff that are not incurred when holding meetings virtually.

Equal Opportunity Issues

10. None arising directly from this report. However, there may be limitations for individual members dependent upon the future nature of meetings.

Officers to Contact Jenny Lawrence Finance Business Partner Email: jenny.lawrence@leics.gov.uk Tel: 0116 305 6401

Leicestershire Schools Forum self-assessment – September 2023

This document assesses the strengths and weaknesses of the school's forum and presents a local authority response to 21 questions set by the DfE within their published <u>Schools Forum Self-Assessment Toolkit</u> toolkit:

Question	Yes / No	Notes – Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
 Are meeting dates set in well advance and details (including time and venue) published in an accessible manner to enable interested parties to plan their attendance? 	Yes	 Meeting dates are normally confirmed at the end of the meeting. Minutes are normally published within 2weeks of the meeting. 	 Aim is to set meetings for the academic year, dates are confirmed in minutes of meetings. No further action required
2. Are meetings timed to coincide with key dates? (for example, reporting of funding formula)	Yes	 Historically, meeting dates have moved if key dates or deadlines require it. OR we have had an 'extra' meeting. 	 Yes, dates coincide with the need for decisions in respect of the budget, outturn data and NFF provisional announcement Additional meetings added when specifically required which for 2023 will include a late November meeting to look at new requirements for 2024/24 in respect of revision to growth policy and Notional SEN review No further action required
3. Are meetings held in an accessible venue to enable observers to attend easily?	Yes	 Meetings are still in teams currently, collectively it may benefit from being in a face to face setting at least half of the time so we can meet and interact with each other. Possibly back to Beaumanor? 	 The ability to hold meetings virtually currently expires in March 2024. The recent induction session was offered in face with limited take up resulting in a virtual only session Facilities for hybrid meetings is limited

Question	Yes / No	Notes - Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
			 Further actions – Forum members will be canvassed for preference for virtual or face to face. Hybrid options will be explored
4. Is there a dedicated website link for schools forum, is it current and regularly updated?	Yes	 There is a link. Could potentially be updated with key information for induction, purpose of forum, decision capabilities etc. Possibly even a role profile for a forum member and a up to date list with contacts of who represents which area of education. 	 The website has been in place for a number of years and needs to be reviewed for appropriate information and updated where necessary Needs to be in line with LCC
5. Are the agenda and papers publicly available on the authority's website at least 6 working days in advance of the meeting?	Yes	 Always emailed out with plenty of time. 	 Papers published in accordance with LCC corporate standard for committee papers No further action necessary
6. Are the papers published as a single document, so that users can download easily?	Yes	• Yes, normally a single PDF which makes it very accessible for all.	 Papers published in accordance with LCC corporate standard for committee papers No further action necessary
7. If papers are tabled at the meeting, are they published on the website promptly after the meeting?	Unsure	 Not sure I can remember items ever being tabled, but should they be, then they must be published on the website promptly 	done in exceptional circumstances

Question	Yes / No	Notes – Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
			block transfer where timing has been exceptionally short and in the development of the former High Needs Development plan and now TSIL where issues have been exceptionally fast moving.
8. Are draft minutes published a reasonable time (for example, within 2 to 3 weeks) after the meeting, rather than waiting until the following meeting?	Unsure	 I have never seen draft minutes, but these are usually only sent to the chair and lead executive, i.e., Jenny. Q: Are all minute's draft, until verified at the next meeting? 	 Draft minutes are not published, minutes are included in the report pack for the following meeting and checked for accuracy and matters arising No further action required, draft minutes were circulated to Chair and Vice-Chair for the June 2023 meeting and will be continued
9. Are the minutes clear and unambiguous, with sufficient detail to illustrate the discussions, without reporting verbatim every point made?	Yes	 Yes, they are also checked via page number in each meeting for any in accuracy. Think they provide a good summary. They are always agreed before becoming a record. 	 Agreed, it should be noted that minutes for LCC constitutional committees record only decisions and the reasons for them. No further action required
 10. Is the constitution clear and appropriate? Including for example: a clear process for ensuring proportional representation the process for electing members and their tenure the timescale for review is clearly set out the process for dealing with 	No	 I think a refresh of all key elements of point 10 for all would be appropriate. 	 Agreed. The constitution has not been reviewed for a number of years Further action – Finance Business Partner to review constitution and to include all bullet points under question 10. Please note any changes to the constitution require the approval of the County Councils Cabinet.

Question	Yes / No	Notes – Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
repetitive non attenders			
11. Is there an induction pack or training programme available for new members?	Yes	 There has been a recent improvement with this. Don't think it's a current set process, might be worth adding something on the GDS training packages / Targeted invitation for new forum members and noting on EEP newsletter? 	 Schools Forum has had a relatively stable membership over previous years, However, this point was significantly highlighted by a large membership turnover in the past year. Individual induction for members has routinely been offered Induction materials have been developed and an induction session arranged which had limited attendance Further actions – new members will be invited to targeted induction sessions

Question	Yes / No	Notes – Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
12. Is the election process clear and transparent? Representatives are elected only by the group they are representing, whether phase-specific for maintained schools, or by the proprietors of academies for academy members.	No	 I wouldn't say all members feel they have a good handle on this. I would also say that non-forum members don't know how to become a member easily. I accept than not all turned up for the induction when invited but before the induction some of the older members (me) never got that when we started. Think we need to develop a starter/induction pack. 	 The process for electing / nominating members is set out within the constitution The constitution also includes a Code of Conduct for both members and the LA setting out clear expectation. Communication of Schools Forum business shas been strengthened. In advance of meetings an alert is now in place to the business to be be conducted at meetings and the decisions made. Both are included in both governor and headteacher briefings Induction pack is now in place Further actions – revise election / nomination process to ensure it remains applicable
13. Do the papers contain clear recommendations and indicate in a consistent manner whether the item is for information, consultation or decision?	Yes	 Think they have always done this, the most recent change with a box at the start of each section with who is expected to make decision or vote is clearer. Think it would be good for forum members to know each other's background a bit to give each other comfort of background knowledge. Will share WPAs governor pack as a suggestion. 	Reports have included two tables. The first sets out what is being requested from Forum e.g. decision

Question	Yes / No	Notes – Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
			maintained and kept up to date. The Schools Forum area of the LCC website is the only place these could be stored so members need to be comfortable with this information being in the public domain.
14. Is it clear to observers who attendees at the forum are representing? (for example, by use of name plates, indicating sector)	Not on Teams, Yes in face to face meetings.	 Yes in face to face situations. No on teams, as people don't title themselves as 'Martin Towers, Secondary Representative'. Q: Can we move to face to face more next year? 	 Name plaques are in place for face to face meetings June meeting introduced segregated voting procedure via Teams for specific groups
15. Does the chair manage the meeting well, ensuring that all are able to contribute to the agenda items, that no bias towards any sector is evident and that no single person or organisation is able to dominate the discussion?	Work in progress, first meeting.	• TBC	 Issues were incurred at the commencement of the 2022/23 academic year where no nominations for either chair or vice chair were received, and the issue continued to the February meeting but is now resolved. The new Chair is being supported and is actively contributing to the further development of Schools Forum No further action required
16. Is there inclusive participation in discussions for all phases and types of members?	Yes	 Think there are ample opportunities for people to speak up. Think it takes time for new people, took me 12 months before I thought I could speak up. 	individuals and membership groups including the ability for non-

Question	Yes / No	Notes – Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
			 the constitution and the code of practice included in it. Further actions – any member of Schools Forum unclear about their role and how to undertake it to contact the Finance Business Partner for clarification
17. Do members actively canvass views and objectively represent their whole peer group at the forum and provide feedback after meetings?	Mixed	 Think some do, some don't. Think this is a clear area of future development. Think members and LCC need to work on members having the ability to contact their peer group easily. 	 This is a key requirement for all members who serve on Schools Forum to represent the views of the groups that they are elected / nominated to represent Full membership details for all members have been provided which includes email addresses for communication within groups. A dedicated email inbox has recently been set up where the LA can facilitate communication through members of within headteacher / governor briefings if requested Further actions, Schools Forum members to consider the best method for communicating with the groups they represent including area in which the LA may be able to facilitate this
18. Where votes are required, is it clear who is eligible to vote for different items?	Yes	 Since the change with the minutes, I would say yes. Think on Teams is hard to know who needs to vote for certain items? 	 Fully covered above in Q 13 & Q14 No further action required

Question	Yes / No	Notes – Completed by Forum Chair	LA Response
19. Where votes are required, are the arrangements for recording the votes clear and unambiguous?	Yes	 Clearly in minutes or a Teams poll is used. 	 A Team poll was recently included For face to face meetings votes are recorded as per the decision needed No further action required
20. Is there a system in place for a decision if votes are tied?	Unsure	 Don't know this, does the Chair have a casting vote? 	 The constitution makes no provision for this situation Further actions – constitution review to confer a casting vote for the Chair. Note – any changes to the constitution require the approval of the County Councils' Cabinet
21. Is the operational & good practice guide used to regularly review the forum's adherence to good practice?	Not to my knowledge	 Is this the constitution? 	 This has been used in the past but not regularly or routinely Further actions – implement a review on an annual basis to ensure Forum operates effectively

Source – Questions 1 - 21 and columns 1 -3 are as per the DfE's Schools Forum self-assessment toolkit



SCHOOLS FORUM

Early Years Funding Update

September 2023

Content Applicable to;		School Phase;	
Maintained Primary and	Х	Pre School	Х
Secondary Schools			
Academies	Х	Foundation Stage	
PVI Settings	Х	Primary	
Special Schools /	Х	Secondary	
Academies			
Local Authority	Х	Post 16	
		High Needs	

Purpose of Report

Content Requires;		By;	
Noting	X	Maintained Primary School	
		Members	
Decision		Maintained Secondary	
		School Members	
		Maintained Special School	
		Members	
		Academy Members	
		All Schools Forum	X

1. This report sets out for Schools Forum information on the recent Government announcement of the Early Years supplementary Grant and the implications for Leicestershire and the new Entitlements for children aged 9 months up to 2 years from 2024-25

Recommendations

2. That Schools Forum note the contents of this report

Introduction

Early Years supplementary Grant

- At Spring Budget, the Chancellor announced that the government would invest additional funding for the existing early years entitlements from September 2023.
- This is for local authorities to increase hourly rates paid to childcare providers for the government's existing entitlement offers.
- The grant provides supplementary funding for all existing early years funding streams: 3-4Year Olds; 2Year Olds, (government funded hours for universal and extended hours) Disability Access Fund (DAF for children who have disability living allowance); Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP children who meet the eligibility criteria are free school meals).
- It covers the funding period September 2023 to March 2024
- The funding via the Early Years Supplementary Grant (EYSG) is additional too and separate from funding provided via the early years block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the existing entitlements in 2023-24 and is subject to its own terms and conditions of grant
- This additional funding is for local authorities to increase hourly rates paid to childcare providers for the government's existing entitlement offers
- The intention is that LAs must pass on the EYSG in full to early years providers for each of the funding streams.
- LAs have the flexibility to determine how best to pass on this funding to their providers.
- The DfE does not require local authorities to consult their Schools Forum but encourages local authorities to engage appropriately with their early years providers about the funding amounts from September
- The uplift will be reflected in the actual headcount October payment for providers.
- The additional funding from September 2023 for the funding streams are:
 - Three- and four-years olds will receive an additional 33p per hour which increases the rate to £4.77 per hour, per child
 - Two-year-olds will receive an additional £1.74 per hour increasing the rate to £7.07 per hour, per child
 - EYPP will receive an additional 4p per hour, per child increasing the rate to £0.66p per universal hour
 - DAF will receive an additional £53 per eligible child increasing the rate to £881.00 per annum for claiming 3- and 4-year-old funding

New Entitlements for children aged 9 months up to 2 years from 2024-25

- The Department for Education expects to publish the conditions of grant and the initial EYSG funding allocations in September
- For 2024-25, the additional £288m will be mainstreamed into the DSG. Funding rates to Local Authorities for 2024-25 will be announced in the autumn in line with the Department for Education's normal timetable.
- The DfE have extended the early education offer to working parents of children aged 9 months up to 2-years, the Department for Education has launched a consultation on their proposed approach to distributing funding to local authorities for 2-year-olds and under in 2024-25, along with the accompanying local rules for local authorities to follow when passing on this funding to providers.

- Early indications from the consultation show that Leicestershire are likely to receive less than the DSG base rate and Early Years Supplementary grant that providers will receive during Sept 23- March 24
- The funding rates paid to Providers will be updated again with effect from April 2024. Providers will be consulted on the 2024-25 funding rates in Spring 2024. However, no definitive information will be available on this until autumn 2023 after the consultation has closed

Pass through rate 95% pass through rate to each funding stream in 2024-25: the 3- and 4-year-old offers; the 2-year-old disadvantaged and working parent offers; and the 9 months to 2-year-old offer

'Pass through' definition will continue to include funding for base rate, supplements, SENIF (paid as top-ups to providers), and contingency funds

Supplements Apply the same allowable supplements to every entitlement funding stream - a mandatory supplement for deprivation

Special educational needs inclusion fund (SENIF) Establish SENIF for the entitlements for 2-year-olds and under. Providers will be consulted on the amount required for this, as this may impact on the base rate for two-year-olds dependent on the uplift for 2024/25.

Contingency If LAs have set a side contingency budget at the beginning of the financial year 2023-24 to manage changes in take-up, then they can set aside a proportionate element of their EYSG for contingency. But the EYSG should **not** be used to create new contingency budget for 2023-24. The local authority is fully passing all of the Early years supplementary grant to providers and is not retain any funding for the contingency fund

Resource Implications

The Early Years Block of DSG records a deficit of £4million, as previously reported to Forum. The contingency fund created in 2023-24 is planned to recover £950,000 of the deficit. The remainder of the deficit is to be recovered over the following 3 years.

In 2024/25 the recovery mechanism will be reviewed in line with the uplift in funding announced by the government whilst still ensuring the sector remains sustainable. It should be noted that DSG is a ringfenced grant with Leicestershire being funded at the lowest rate.

Equal Opportunity Issues

Background Papers SCHOOLS FORUM 2021/22 Early Years Block Deficit 29 September 2022

Jenny Lawrence

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SCHOOLS FORUM

2024/25 Provisional Dedicated Schools Grant Settlement

12 September 2023

Content Applicable to;		School Phase;		
Maintained Primary and	Х	Pre School		
Secondary Schools				
Academies	Х	Foundation Stage	Х	
PVI Settings		Primary	Х	
Special Schools /	Х	Secondary	Х	
Academies				
Local Authority	Х	Post 16		
		High Needs	Х	

Purpose of Report

Content Requires;		By;				
Noting	Х	Maintained Primary School				
		Members				
Decision		Maintained Secondary				
		School Members				
		Maintained Special School				
		Members				
		Academy Members				
		All Schools Forum	Х			

1. This report sets out the detail of the provisional 2024/25 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) settlement

Recommendations

2. That Schools Forum note the content of this report and the actions to be taken in respect of funding growth in new and expanding schools and the notional SEN budget

Background

- 3. The provisional DSG settlement was released by the Department for Education (DfE) in July. The settlement sets out details of the National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools and high needs DSG, all information is provisional and will be updated once the October 2023 census has been processed. Additionally the indicative NFF budgets published by the DfE are incomplete in that they exclude premises funding and any comparison is between the 2021 and 2022 school census.
- 4. Whilst school level data is indicative schools are able, and should, to use the NFF underlying data combined with local pupil forecasts within their financial planning cycle to predict their expected 2024/25 budget.

The National Funding Formula for Schools

- 5. Nationally funding through the NFF is increasing by 2.7% per pupil compared to 2023/24. This is enacted in a number of ways;
 - The core factors in the NFF have been increased by 2.4%
 - The minimum per pupil funding levels have increased to £4,655 per primary pupil and £6,050 per secondary pupil.
 - A funding floor will ensure that every school will attract at least 0.5% more pupil led funding than for 2023/24
 - The 2023/24 Mainstream Schools Additional Grant is rolled into core funding
- 6. One change is made in the NFF in respect of split-site funding, this is now delivered through the NFF and in accordance with a national formula, local authorities are no longer permitted to have locally agreed criteria.
- 7. The NFF is further implemented by requiring local authorities only to use NFF factors within their local school funding formula and bring the values attached to the 10% closer to the NFF. This has no implications for Leicestershire where funding formula fully aligns with the NFF.
- 8. Local authorities remain able to transfer 0.5% of the schools block to other DSG blocks after consultation with schools and approval from Schools Forum and from the Secretary of State for transfers in excess of 0.5% or where the Schools Forum does not approve.
- 9. The indicative budgets published by the DfE and shown as Appendix 1 are based on the 2022 October school census and will be updated in December for the 2023 census. However, local authority funding remains fixed on 2022 data, as a result local authorities remain able to use capping and scaling of gains to ensure that the NFF remains affordable should there be changes in pupil led data.
- The funding floor for schools is retained at +0.5% per pupil. 15 (7%) of primary schools and 1 (2%) of secondary schools remain on the funding floor compared to 57 (25%) and 7 (16%) respectively for 2023/24. The range of per pupil increases is 0.5% to 10.0% for primary and 0.5% to 7.1% in secondary.
- 11. Whilst per pupil funding has increased the pupil responsive nature of the NFF results in a number of schools predicted to see a reduction in total budget for 2024/25 as a result of reduced pupil numbers. The provisional data shows 56 primary and 4 secondary schools with an expected reduction in their overall cash budget.
- 12. For 2024/25 there are new and mandatory requirements for how local authorities meet the revenue costs for new and expanding schools which is now formally lined to the basic need for places and for schools experiencing falling rolls but where the school

capacity survey (SCAP) indicates that places will be required in the future 3-5 years. The local authority currently has a policy for funding the former but excludes the latter, initial analysis suggests that there are no areas within Leicestershire that trigger falling roll funding for 2024/25. Further detailed analysis needs to be undertaken and will feed into a review of the growth policy which will be reported to Schools Forum in November.

- 13. It is a requirement for mainstream schools and academies to be notified annually of a clearly identified but notional SEN budget within their overall budget allocation. This budget should be used towards the cost of fulfilling their duty to use their 'best endeavours' to secure special educational provision for all their pupils with SEN. It was expected that the DfE would standardise the calculation of the notional SEN budget, this has not happened but there is an expectation that the calculation of the budget and the expectation of how schools use it is reviewed.
- 14. National data shows that Leicestershire has a cautious approach to how the budget is calculated and is in the bottom 20% of all local authorities with 7.5% or less of the total NFF being included in the notional SEN budget i.e. other local authorities appear to have higher expectations of what provision mainstream schools are expected to meet from it. Additionally, Leicestershire only uses the Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU), low prior attainment and deprivation measures from the NFF in its calculation with other local authorities having a more expansive view. Analysis is underway to inform this review which will be reported to Schools Forum in November.
- 15. At the date of publishing this report no information on the 2024/25 Pupil Premium has been published.

Teachers Pay Additional Grant

- 16. The DfE have announced £525m nationally to support schools with the September 2023 pay award. Grant allocations will commence in September 2023 and continue for the 2024/25 financial year before being rolled into mainstream funding for 2025/26.
- 17. Grant allocations will be made to maintained and special schools, pupil referral units and non-maintained specila schools. Funding for maintained schools will be via the local authority and the ESFA for academies. Grant allocations are confirmed as:
 - £36 per primary pupil
 - £50 per key stage 3 pupil
 - £57 per KS4 pupil
 - £1,345 lump sum
 - £31 per primary FSM6 pupil
 - £45 per secondary FSM6 pupil
 - £260 per special school place
- 18. Mainstream school allocations for 2023/24 have been published at: <u>Gov.uk</u> <u>Teachers' Pay Additional Grant</u>.
- 19. There is no additional provision to support the local government pay award for 2023/24 or 2024/25 and additional costs will need to be absorbed through the NFF allocations.

Schools in Financial Difficulty

20. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has <u>published information about the</u> additional funding available to support schools in financial difficulty in 2023 to 2024.

Up to £40 million additional funding has been set aside in 2023 to 2024 to support individual schools that find themselves in particular financial difficulties. This is on top of the £525 million schools will already be receiving this year through the teachers' pay additional grant (TPAG), to support them with the September 2023 teachers' pay award. This funding will be used to expand the DfE's existing support routes available to academies facing the most difficult financial circumstances and help councils to expand the support they provide to their maintained schools facing the most acute financial pressures.

High Needs

- 21. The structure of the High Needs NFF is unchanged from 2023/24 and the provisional settlement at £108.439m is £0.527m in excess of the current forecast and is a 3% increase per head of population. However, it should be noted that the population factor accounts for just £38.7m (36%) of the settlement figure meaning that 63% of the formula is subject to no uplift all factors within the schools NFF are inflated. A ceiling is set at +5%.
- 22. Leicestershire remains at the funding floor i.e. the application of the high needs NFF would generate a lower settlement without this protection. The NFF remains unresponsive to changes in the overall SEN population:
 - £10.1m (9%) of the NFF is driven by the number pupils in special school and independent school places
 - £31.8m (28%) of the formula relates to historic spend from 2017/18, this was £58.4m compared to a forecast spend of £121.2m for 2023/24.
 - £2.8m (3%) of the formula is from the funding floor
- 23. There is no indication of whether the high needs NFF will be reviewed although there is an expectation of national tariffs arising from the SEND and Alternative Provision Action Plan. There is no indication of timescales for nay funding changes and the only reference within the settlement is '.... by the end of 2025, the department [DfE] will have made progress towards introducing a national framework of banding and price tariffs' it is unlikely that any changes to funding structure, and indeed the method by which local authorities fund its provides, before the 2027 financial year. Additionally given that the NFF for mainstream schools commenced in 2018 and remains unfinished, funding change in this financially and politically sensitive area could be many years away.
- 24. For 2023/24 additional grant was given with the requirement to increase funding for special schools, and AP provision. This grant is rolled into the settlement but there is no guaranteed increase in funding for special schools in line with the 2.4% increase in the high needs NFF factors nor the minimum 0.5% funding floor within the mainstream NFF.

Central School Services Block

- 25. The funding allocation remans in two blocks:
 - a) LA on-gong responsibilities. Funding in this sub-block has seen an increase of 3.82% per pupil and risen by £0.128m to £3.49m for 2024/26
 - b) The DfE view of financial commitments against this sub-block remains and this element has seen a reduction of £0.118m which is a 25% per annum planned reduction by the DfE.

- 26. Funding for on-going commitments is relatively stable and of no real cause for concern, that cannot be said for historic commitments which funds two key areas the first being an annual contribution of £0.248m to Education Effectiveness to support maintained schools causing concern and historic school premature retirement costs.
- 27. The DfE's view is that all historic commitments should reduce over time, hence the annual reduction. However, the contribution to Education Effectiveness has been retained at its 2013/14 value despite the reduction in the number of maintained schools. This has previously challenged by the Schools Forum to which the response has been consistent in that whilst maintained school numbers have reduced the number receiving direct and intensive support has remained constant. For historic premature retirement costs the financial commitment is life long and beyond to those staff, the DfE have partially conceded this point and will continue a funding guarantee whereby the 2024/25 grant will not fall below the financial commitment.

Early Years

28. The July announcement contained no information on Early Years which is subject to a different settlement and is the subject to a further report on today's agenda.

Equal Opportunity Issues

29. There have been considered by the DfE, this report purely provides information on the July DfE announcement.

Officers to Contact

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	Baseline NFF funding [Note 1]		Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 [Note 2]					
School Name	2022-23 pupil count	Baseline funding (2023-24) (total cash)	Proportion of the year for which the school was funded (either 2023-24 or 2023/24)	2023-24 pupil count	Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 (total cash)	IN 2024-25	Percentage change in total NFF funding compared to baseline (total)	Percentage change in pupil-led NFF funding (per pupil)
	[a]	[b]	[c]	[d]	[e]	[f] = ([e] / [d]) / [c]	[g] = ([e] - [b]) / [b]	[h]
Booth Wood Primary School	229	£1,232,828	100%	235	£1,267,736	£5,395	2.83%	0.50%
Hose Church of England Primary School	57	£375,698	100%	53	£362,122		-3.61%	0.50%
Long Clawson Church of England Primary School	73	£504,669	100%	59	£448,436		-11.14%	0.50%
New Lubbesthorpe Primary School	253	£1,314,500	100%	346	£1,755,875		33.58%	0.50%
Newbold Church of England Primary School	40	£342,295		39	£338,689		-1.05%	0.50%
Rendell Primary School	375	£1,866,710		385	£1,921,756		2.95% 0.01%	0.50% 0.50%
Saint Peters Catholic Voluntary Academy Thorpe Acre Infant School	204 140	£985,614 £824,890	100%	203 132	£985,677 £791,004	£4,856 £5,992	-4.11%	0.50%
Thorpe Acre Junior School	140	£1,020,568		189	£1,070,580		4.90%	0.50%
Thrussington Church of England Primary School	78	£442,720		88	£483,813		9.28%	0.50%
Thurlaston Church of England Primary School	91	£530,374	100%	94	£553,136		4.29%	0.50%
Tugby Church of England Primary School	51	£394,713	100%	45	£371,917	£8,265	-5.78%	0.50%
Viscount Beaumont's Church of England Primary School	77	£440,032	100%	75	£433,609	£5,781	-1.46%	0.50%
Warren Hills Community Primary School	187	£1,172,053		196	£1,229,291	£6,272	4.88%	0.50%
Worthington School	71	£458,257	100%	72	£464,940		1.46%	0.50%
Lubenham All Saints Church of England Primary School	65 79	£427,930	100%	70	£450,915		5.37%	0.57%
Higham-on-the-Hill Church of England Primary School Barlestone Church of England Primary School	191	£459,031 £904,497	100%	185	£461,091 £885,654	£5,837 £4,787	0.45% -2.08%	0.64% 0.71%
Swannington Church of England Primary School	73	£429,983		74	£436,407		-2.08%	0.80%
St Peter's Church of England Primary School Wymondham	37	£345,430	100%	44	£375,966		8.84%	0.98%
Old Dalby Church of England Primary School	132	£687,332	100%	144	£742,967	£5,159	8.09%	0.99%
Griffydam Primary School	108	£565,329	100%	108	£570,552		0.92%	1.01%
Mercenfeld Primary School	300	£1,370,179	100%	273	£1,270,815		-7.25%	1.05%
St Mary's Church of England Primary School	204	£1,014,135		200	£1,007,493		-0.65%	1.23%
Witherley Church of England Primary School	104	£555,969		104	£561,984		1.08%	1.29%
Bishop Ellis Catholic Voluntary Academy	281	£1,322,222	100%	256	£1,214,352		-8.16%	1.36%
Woolden Hill Primary School	201	£965,180 £624,533	100%	192 103	£938,789 £575.824	£4,890 £5,591	-2.73% -7.80%	1.36% 1.37%
Swinford Church of England Primary School All Saints Church of England Primary School, Coalville	217	£624,533 £1,162,353	100%	217	£575,824 £1,182,256		-7.80% 1.71%	1.37%
Diseworth Church of England Primary School	66	£474,553	100%	45	£389,490		-17.92%	1.51%
Billesdon Church of England Primary School	85	£534,683	100%	94	£578,885		8.27%	1.58%
Enderby Danemill Primary School	388	£1,773,709	100%	372	£1,731,660		-2.37%	1.62%
Barwell Church of England Academy	242	£1,188,647	100%	240	£1,197,000	£4,987	0.70%	1.63%
Eastfield Primary School	366	£1,709,950	100%	353	£1,678,867		-1.82%	1.64%
Ab Kettleby Primary School	67	£457,267	100%	62	£441,599		-3.43%	1.65%
St Margaret's Church of England Primary School, Stoke Golding	221	£1,016,261	100%	218	£1,018,892		0.26%	1.68%
Queniborough Church of England Primary School Foxbridge Primary School	206 15	£963,199 £197,626	100%	203 27	£965,358 £242,607	£4,755 £8,985	0.22% 22.76%	1.74% 1.77%
Woodhouse Eaves St Paul's Church of England Primary School	205	£947,723		195	£925,084		-2.39%	1.84%
Hallam Fields, Birstall	177	£846,996	100%	210	£995,270		17.51%	1.86%
Red Hill Field Primary School	282	£1,287,640	100%	277	£1,289,435		0.14%	1.96%
Congerstone Primary School	182	£845,437	100%	183	£864,298		2.23%	2.01%
Burbage Junior School	365	£1,692,742	100%	351	£1,665,318	£4,744	-1.62%	2.02%
Snarestone Church of England Primary School	68	£445,277	100%	73	£470,895	£6,451	5.75%	2.02%

	Baseline NFF funding [Note 1]		Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 [Note 2]					
School Name	2022-23 pupil count	Baseline funding (2023-24) (total cash)	Proportion of the year for which the school was funded (either 2023-24 or 2023/24)	2023-24 pupil count	Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 (total cash)	Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 (full-year equivalent) (£ per pupil)	Percentage change in total NFF funding compared to baseline (total)	Percentage change in pupil-led NFF funding (per pupil)
	[a]	[b]	[c]	[d]	[e]	[f] = ([e] / [d]) / [c]	[g] = ([e] - [b]) / [b]	[h]
Riverside Community Primary School Birstall	490	£2,228,134	100%	456	£2,122,680	£4,655	-4.73%	2.04%
Sherard Primary School	380	£1,731,422	100%	367	£1,708,385	£4,655	-1.33%	2.05%
Loughborough Church of England Primary School	206	£1,012,620	100%	199	£1,000,282	£5,027	-1.22%	2.06%
Beacon Academy	305	£1,637,825	100%	328	£1,785,153	£5,443	9.00%	2.11%
Bottesford Church of England Primary School	227	£1,052,906	100%	234	£1,101,095	£4,706		2.11%
Thornton Primary School	132	£685,158	100%	123	£659,482	£5,362	-3.75%	2.11%
The Pochin School	137	£697,676	100%	134	£698,140	£5,210	0.07%	2.13%
Glenfield Primary School	424	£1,928,718	100%	404	£1,880,620	£4,655	-2.49%	2.14%
The Pastures Primary School	308	£1,400,265	100%	294	£1,368,570	£4,655	-2.26%	2.14%
Albert Village Primary School	200	£955,420	100%	196	£956,267	£4,879	0.09%	2.15%
Old Mill Primary School	380	£1,732,383	100%	374	£1,740,970	£4,655	0.50%	2.15%
St Peter and St Paul Church of England Academy	401	£1,862,251	100%	400	£1,894,991	£4,737	1.76%	2.15%
Richard Hill Church of England Primary School	127	£642,822	100%	124	£641,589	£5,174	-0.19%	2.17%
John Wycliffe Primary School	285	£1,341,624	100%	286	£1,372,203	£4,798	2.28%	2.18%
Sileby Redlands Community Primary School	384	£1,759,946	100%	385	£1,799,711	£4,675	2.26%	2.18%
Richmond Primary School	533	£2,427,034	100%	520	£2,420,600	£4,655	-0.27%	2.21%
St Simon and St Jude CofE Primary School	150	£821,360	100%	162	£892,702	£5,511	8.69%	2.23%
The Latimer Primary School	376	£1,741,636	100%	373	£1,768,405	£4,741	1.54%	2.25%
Broom Leys School	608	£2,769,038	100%	602	£2,802,310	£4,655	1.20%	2.27%
Measham Church of England Primary School	200	£1,029,083	100%	206	£1,076,890	£5,228	4.65%	2.28%
St Edward's Church of England Primary School	193	£941,852	100%	188	£940,768	£5,004	-0.12%	2.29%
Ashby Hastings Primary School	43	£302,328	100%	78	£444,941	£5,704	47.17%	2.31%
Greystoke Primary School	364	£1,656,342	100%	357	£1,661,835	£4,655	0.33%	2.33%
Little Hill Primary	418	£1,902,926	100%	413	£1,922,515	£4,655	1.03%	2.33%
Ashby Hill Top Primary School	315	£1,432,274	100%	307	£1,429,085	£4,655	-0.22%	2.35%
Townlands Church of England Primary School	363	£1,651,818	100%	334	£1,563,500	£4,681	-5.35%	2.35%
Newcroft Primary Academy	398	£1,811,406	100%	393	£1,829,415	£4,655	0.99%	2.36%
Saint Francis Catholic Primary School	207	£1,009,988	100%	205	£1,022,077	£4,986	1.20%	2.37%
Desford Community Primary School	407	£1,874,743	100%	397	£1,848,035	£4,655	-1.42%	2.40%
St Peter's Church of England Primary Academy	245	£1,120,643	100%	237	£1,111,314	£4,689	-0.83%	2.40%
Kibworth Church of England Primary School	610	£2,770,494	100%	587	£2,732,485	£4,655	-1.37%	2.42%
Manorfield Church of England Primary School	411	£1,869,222	100%	405	£1,885,275	£4,655	0.86%	2.42%
Blaby Stokes Church of England Primary School	371	£1,694,145	100%	351	£1,645,977	£4,689	-2.84%	2.43%
Millfield L.E.A.D. Academy	410	£1,866,734	100%	411	£1,913,205	£4,655	2.49%	2.43%
Ridgeway Primary Academy	266	£1,214,065	100%	270	£1,256,850	£4,655	3.52%	2.43%
Brownlow Primary School	565	£2,567,538	100%	552	£2,569,560	£4,655	0.08%	2.44%
Gaddesby Primary School	190	£865,110	100%	188	£875,140	£4,655	1.16%	2.45%
Greenfield Primary School	627	£2,900,250	100%	608	£2,890,298	£4,754	-0.34%	2.45%
Martinshaw Primary School	214	£1,031,466	100%	211	£1,041,948	£4,938	1.02%	2.45%
Swallowdale Primary School and Community Centre	384	£1,749,318	100%	367	£1,715,597	£4,675		2.45%
Bringhurst Primary School	173	£804,776	100%	162	£777,695	£4,801	-3.37%	2.47%
Glen Hills Primary School	512	£2,328,494	100%	509	£2,369,395	£4,655	1.76%	2.47%
Stafford Leys Community Primary School	555	£2,525,748	100%	560	£2,606,800	£4,655		2.47%
Battling Brook Primary School	595	£2,704,714	100%	591	£2,751,105	£4,655	1.72%	2.49%

	Baseline NFF funding [Note 1]		Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 [Note 2]					
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Burton-on-the-Wolds Primary School	193	£890,117	100%	190	£898,602	£4,729	0.95%	2.50%
Outwoods Edge Primary School	417	£1,897,050	100%	417	£1,941,135	£4,655	2.32%	2.50%
Elizabeth Woodville Primary School	212	£980,678	100%	210	£994,346	£4,735	1.39%	2.51%
Ratby Primary School	371	£1,689,154	100%	374	£1,740,970	£4,655	3.07%	2.51%
Hinckley Parks Primary School	559	£2,542,578	100%	564	£2,625,420	£4,655	3.26%	2.52%
Whitwick St John The Baptist Church of England Primary School	369	£1,711,298	100%	375	£1,780,472	£4,748	4.04%	2.53%
The Hall School	418	£1,933,438	100%	413	£1,957,797	£4,740	1.26%	2.54%
Brocks Hill Primary School	420	£1,908,022	100%	414	£1,927,170	£4,655	1.00%	2.55%
Great Glen St Cuthbert's Church of England Primary School	290	£1,343,335	100%	292	£1,385,370	£4,744	3.13%	2.55%
Market Harborough Church of England Academy	370	£1,684,734	100%	376	£1,750,280	£4,655	3.89%	2.57%
Orchard Community Primary School	326	£1,508,652	100%	328	£1,526,840	£4,655	1.21%	2.57% 2.60%
Brookside Primary School Glenmere Community Primary School	436 210	£1,981,550 £973,537	100% 100%	436 209	£2,029,580 £991,238	£4,655 £4,743	2.42% 1.82%	2.60%
Launde Primary School	625	£2,836,586	100%	615	£391,238 £2,862,825	£4,743 £4,655	0.93%	2.61%
Long Whatton Church of England Primary School and Community Centre	99	£526,247	100%	95	£522,175	£5,497	-0.77%	2.62%
Highcliffe Primary School and Community Centre	402	£1,827,270	100%	404	£1,880,620	£4,655	2.92%	2.64%
Little Bowden School	386	£1,783,103	100%	391	£1,851,606	£4,736	3.84%	2.65%
Great Bowden Academy, A Church of England Primary School	127	£636,683	100%	119	£617,635	£5,190	-2.99%	2.66%
Meadowdale Primary School	357	£1,620,826	100%	353	£1,643,215	£4,655	1.38%	2.66%
Ashby Willesley Primary School	414	£1,879,630	100%	411	£1,913,205	£4,655	1.79%	2.67%
Hugglescote Community Primary School	444	£2,059,037	100%	457	£2,169,434	£4,747	5.36%	2.67%
Barrow Hall Orchard Church of England Primary School	515	£2,343,178	100%	535	£2,490,425	£4,655	6.28%	2.68%
Sheepy Magna Church of England Primary School	108	£581,110	100%	112	£608,369	£5,432	4.69%	2.68%
St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School	536	£2,468,646	100%	533	£2,521,822	£4,731	2.15%	2.68%
The Merton Primary School	411	£1,866,890	100%	411	£1,913,205	£4,655	2.48%	2.68%
Fleckney Church of England Primary School Woodland Grange Primary School	424 441	£1,957,676 £2,002,714	100% 100%	432	£2,043,270 £2,057,510	£4,730 £4,655	4.37% 2.74%	2.70% 2.70%
Kirby Muxloe Primary School	394	£2,002,714 £1,788,942	100%	393	£2,057,510 £1,829,415	£4,655	2.74%	2.70%
Badgerbrook Primary School	420	£1,788,942 £1,950,854	100%	419	£1,829,415 £2,000,712	£4,055 £4,775	2.20%	2.71%
Ellistown Community Primary School	200	£946,855	100%	200	£972,187	£4,861	2.68%	2.72%
Newton Burgoland Primary School	83	£497,312	100%	79	£490,633	£6,211	-1.34%	2.73%
St Denys Church of England Infant School, Ibstock	258	£1,214,095	100%	241	£1,175,694	£4,878	-3.16%	2.77%
Westfield Junior School	378	£1,798,594	100%	370	£1,812,142	£4,898	0.75%	2.77%
Holywell Primary School	414	£1,880,254	100%	419	£1,950,445	£4,655	3.73%	2.78%
Lady Jane Grey Primary School	209	£950,887	100%	210	£977,550	£4,655	2.80%	2.78%
Ravenhurst Primary School	454	£2,115,477	100%	423	£1,994,012	£4,714	-5.74%	2.80%
Saint Clare's Primary School A Catholic Voluntary Academy, Coalville, Leicestershire	201	£1,024,420	100%	195	£1,021,995	£5,241	-0.24%	2.80%
Sherrier Church of England Primary School	402	£1,827,526	100%	414	£1,927,170	£4,655	5.45%	2.82%
Sketchley Hill Primary School Burbage Parkland Primary School South Wigston	540 586	£2,483,166 £2,788,271	100% 100%	557 573	£2,629,341 £2,804,446	£4,721 £4,894	5.89% 0.58%	2.87% 2.89%
Fossebrook Primary School	207	£2,788,271 £1,007,306	100%	206	£2,804,446 £1,028,432	£4,894 £4,992	2.10%	2.89%
Ibstock Junior School	328	£1,518,304	100%	330	£1,020,432 £1,570,422	£4,992 £4,759	3.43%	2.92%
Ashby-de-la-Zouch Church of England Primary School	328	£1,406,858	100%	330	£1,506,257	£4,739 £4,737	7.07%	2.94 %
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	Baseline NFF funding [Note 1]		Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 [Note 2]					
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Mountfields Lodge School	488	£2,219,710	100%	496	£2,317,369	£4,672	4.40%	3.00%
New Swannington Primary School	193	£932,680	100%	190	£946,995	£4,984	1.53%	3.02%
The Meadow Community Primary School	400	£1,824,396	100%		£1,805,730	£4,702	-1.02%	3.02%
Rothley Church of England Primary School	460	£2,090,438	100%		£2,285,605	£4,655	9.34%	3.04%
Swithland St Leonard's Church of England Primary School	96	£506,402	100%		£487,188	£5,536	-3.79%	3.04%
Sharnford Church of England Primary School	98	£556,688	100%		£611,381	£5,661	9.82%	3.05%
Langmoor Primary School Oadby	208	£1,016,570	100%	206	£1,034,826	£5,023	1.80%	3.06%
St Charles Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy	133	£682,972	100%	129	£682,772	£5,293	-0.03%	3.06%
Fairfield Community Primary School	211	£1,054,984	100%		£1,069,903	£5,144	1.41%	3.09%
Highgate Primary School	228	£1,112,873	100%	218	£1,099,356	£5,043	-1.21%	3.14%
Donisthorpe Primary School	204	£986,652	100%	205	£998,909	£4,873	1.24%	3.15%
Oxley Primary School Shepshed	254	£1,196,571	100%	254	£1,232,173	£4,851	2.98%	3.22%
Woodcote Primary School	174	£934,380	100%	158	£890,114	£5,634	-4.74%	3.33%
Thurnby, St Luke's Church of England Primary School	221	£1,012,821	100%	215	£1,017,580	£4,733	0.47%	3.35%
Newlands Community Primary School	284	£1,402,140	100%	296	£1,498,279	£5,062	6.86%	3.37%
Hallbrook Primary School	198	£918,329	100%	187	£900,376	£4,815	-1.96%	3.45%
St Hardulph's Church of England Primary School	56	£416,044	100%	50	£400,416	£8,008	-3.76%	3.48%
Cosby Primary School	256	£1,170,170	100%	287	£1,335,985	£4,655	14.17%	3.50%
St Peter's Church of England Primary School Whetstone	201	£963,261	100%	198	£979,616	£4,948	1.70%	3.52%
Woodstone Community Primary School	211	£1,012,776	100%	209	£1,039,252	£4,972	2.61%	3.52%
Christ Church & Saint Peter's Cofe Primary School	418	£1,965,546	100%	412	£2,003,008	£4,862	1.91%	3.53%
Thythorn Field Community Primary School	200	£1,012,786	100%	197	£1,030,877	£5,233	1.79%	3.55%
Somerby Primary School	41	£371,199	100%	38	£364,054	£9,580	-1.92%	3.56%
Saint Winefride's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Shepshed, Leicestershire	167	£836,441	100%	145	£765,998	£5,283	-8.42%	3.59%
Water Leys Primary School	422	£1,978,782	100%	414	£2,012,432	£4,861	1.70%	3.60%
Farndon Fields Primary School	293	£1,333,370	100%		£1,508,220	£4,655	13.11%	3.63%
Holy Cross School A Catholic Voluntary Academy	135	£679,469			£720,576	£5,147	6.05%	3.72%
Cossington Church of England Primary School	101	£533,807	100%		£574,313	£5,367	7.59%	3.83%
Scalford Church of England Primary School	72	£479,112			£486,032	£6,846	1.44%	3.83%
Wymeswold Church of England Primary School	118	£616,364			£627,856	£5,413	1.86%	3.90%
Houghton-on-the-Hill Church of England Primary School	212	£965,073	100%		£969,037	£4,727	0.41%	3.91%
Robert Bakewell Primary School	284	£1,399,429			£1,439,649	£5,105	2.87%	3.91%
Blackfordby St Margaret's Church of England Primary School	89	£491,861	100%		£485,163	£5,776	-1.36%	3.96%
South Kilworth Church of England Primary School	73	£430,219	100%		£429,293	£6,133	-0.22%	3.96%
Saint Peter's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy	204	£931,705	100%		£930,868	£4,749	-0.09%	3.97%
Saint John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy, Wigston, Leicestershire	204	£941,792	100%		£974,230	£4,776	3.44%	4.02%
Asfordby Hill Primary School	192	£886,990	100%		£909,591	£4,787	2.55%	4.09%
All Saints Church of England Primary School	222	£1,200,882	100%		£1,164,645	£5,654	-3.02%	4.10%
Stanton Under Bardon Community Primary School	111	£595,951	100%		£593,557	£5,600	-0.40%	4.14%
Church Hill Church of England Junior School	300	£1,414,788			£1,414,951	£4,913	0.01%	4.18%
Fernvale Primary School	280	£1,275,494	100%		£1,454,556	£4,677	14.04%	4.18%
Croxton Kerrial Church of England Primary School	53	£420,847	100%		£434,499	£8,046	3.24%	4.23%
Stonebow Primary School Loughborough	233	£1,084,602			£1,035,697	£4,885	-4.51%	4.24%
St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Hinckley	274	£1,348,409	100%	272	£1,392,302	£5,119	3.26%	4.26%

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Sir John Moore Church of England Primary School	151	£730,272	100%	153	£757,509	£4,951	3.73%	4.27%
Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy	196	£919,765		193	£941,040	£4,876		4.31%
St Botolph's Church of England Primary School	295	£1,394,673	100%	306	£1,499,553	£4,900	7.52%	4.31%
Waltham on the Wolds Church of England Primary School	95	£564,898		92	£569,079	£6,186		4.38%
Blaby Thistly Meadow Primary School	232	£1,132,595		250	£1,231,146	£4,925		4.39%
Cobden Primary School & Community Centre	361	£1,931,888		374	£2,079,310	£5,560	7.63%	4.45%
Arnesby Church of England Primary School	63	£441,738		55	£420,087	£7,638		4.56%
Broomfield Community Primary School Huncote Primary School	193 192	£890,890 £897,451	100% 100%	184	£888,582 £907,721	£4,829 £4,880	-0.26% 1.14%	4.57% 4.62%
Moira Primary School	192	£974,515		192	£1,047,702	£4,880 £5,457	7.51%	4.62%
Ullesthorpe Church of England Primary School	106	£560,878		111	£601,879	£5,422	7.31%	4.70%
Seagrave Village Primary School	98	£560,723		97	£574,956	£5,927	2.54%	4.72%
St Mary's Church of England Primary School, Bitteswell	105	£545,789	100%	99	£540,589	£5,460	-0.95%	4.72%
Thringstone Primary School	151	£803,409	100%	156	£858,176	£5,501	6.82%	4.73%
St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy	203	£945,487	100%	202	£979,689	£4,850	3.62%	4.74%
All Saints Church of England Primary School, Sapcote	305	£1,415,749		295	£1,432,762	£4,857	1.20%	4.76%
Kegworth Primary School	215	£1,000,504		224	£1,080,482	£4,824	7.99%	4.76%
Frisby Church of England Primary School	106	£575,653	100% 100%	106	£595,092	£5,614	3.38% 4.16%	4.79% 4.81%
Husbands Bosworth Church of England Primary School Newbold Verdon Primary School	233	£548,674 £1,164,694		229	£571,519 £1,198,683	£6,724 £5,234	2.92%	4.81%
Church Langton Church of England Primary School	233	£1,164,694 £929,514	100%	229 206	£977,680	£5,234 £4,746	5.18%	4.90%
Stathern Primary School	94	£527,324	100%	93	£541,492	£5,822	2.69%	5.07%
Heather Primary School	111	£583,581	100%	118	£635,127	£5,382		5.14%
Great Dalby School	142	£680,043	100%	139	£695,761	£5,005	2.31%	5.15%
Redmile Church of England Primary School	73	£474,829		71	£481,847	£6,787	1.48%	5.38%
Kingsway Primary School	311	£1,445,863		304	£1,490,612	£4,903	3.10%	5.80%
The Grove Primary School	141	£826,864		156	£945,115	£6,058		5.85%
Captains Close Primary School Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School, Loughborough	176 198	£862,434 £980,533	100% 100%	173 198	£892,140 £1,031,369	£5,157 £5,209	3.44% 5.18%	5.89% 6.02%
Oakthorpe Primary School	198	£960,533 £579,014		97	£578,350	£5,209 £5,962		6.03%
St Michael & All Angels Church of England Primary School	86	£379,014 £470,043	100%	79	£461,419	£5,902	-1.83%	6.05%
Harby Church of England Primary School	81	£479,479		74	£470,263	£6,355	-1.92%	6.08%
Belton Church of England Primary School	107	£593,468		98	£583,045	£5,949		6.14%
Barwell Infant School	166	£851,075		163	£882,024	£5,411	3.64%	6.25%
Newtown Linford Primary School	112	£592,715		105	£591,412	£5,632		6.34%
Church Hill Infant School	193	£944,957	100%	166	£876,481	£5,280	-7.25%	6.43%
Buckminster Primary School	80	£515,174		79	£532,320	£6,738	3.33%	6.57%
Packington Church of England Primary School Dove Bank Primary School	101 146	£528,466 £784,257	100% 100%	99 141	£547,170 £778,335	£5,527 £5,520	3.54% -0.76%	6.71% 6.78%
Belvoirdale Community Primary School	283	£1,393,685		305	£1,582,599	£5,520 £5,189		6.79%
Kilby St Mary's Church of England Primary School	76	£495,244		72	£509,373	£7,075		6.84%
Croft Church of England Primary School	128	£662,284		136	£732,678	£5,387	10.63%	6.96%
Hallaton Church of England Primary School	90	£543,353		90	£568,553	£6,317		7.10%
Orchard Church of England Primary School, Broughton Astley	190	£894,885			£976,366			7.22%

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Claybrooke Primary School Hathern Church of England Primary School Foxton Primary School Dunton Bassett Primary School Burbage Church of England Infant School St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, North Kilworth Hemington Primary School Westfield Infant School Hollycroft Primary School	74 189 90 77 260 72 50 283 20	£433,162 £941,731 £571,170 £494,243 £1,200,025 £418,031 £356,039 £1,341,717 £148,868	100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 68%	62 189 81 79 263 83 59 285 20	£403,098 £1,001,278 £560,242 £517,964 £1,310,746 £492,220 £420,059 £1,472,645 £154,292	£6,502 £5,298 £6,917 £6,557 £4,984 £5,930 £7,120 £5,167 £11,363	17.75% 17.98% 9.76%	7.25% 7.27% 7.42% 7.90% 9.08% 9.61% 9.77% 10.00% [ii]
Total Primary 2024-25 Provisional NFF Impact £ 2024-25 Provisional NFF Impact %	55,055	£265,520,987		54,768 -0.52%	£271,259,662 £5,738,675 2.16%			
Stephenson Studio School Ashby School Gartree High School Wigston Academy Castle Donington College Iveshead School	83 1,071 836 1,338 625 797	£956,051 £6,697,072 £5,032,111 £8,591,878 £3,837,619 £5,077,655	100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100%	81 1,078 857 1,314 639 853	£940,287 £6,777,413 £5,214,914 £8,551,487 £3,973,647 £5,350,256	£11,608 £6,287 £6,085 £6,508 £6,219 £6,272	-1.65% 1.20% 3.63% -0.47% 3.54% 5.37%	0.50% 0.57% 1.19% 1.34% 1.34% 1.40%
The Newbridge School Charnwood College Limehurst Academy Wreake Valley Academy Heath Lane Academy The Winstanley School Brookvale Groby Learning Campus Bosworth Academy	791 429 618 705 608 615 1,219 1,243	£5,054,163 £2,969,021 £4,196,540 £4,287,936 £4,049,275 £4,383,547 £7,216,734 £7,379,765	100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100%	797 486 634 798 641 620 1,204 1,256	£5,168,583 £3,404,189 £4,382,070 £4,933,324 £4,350,531 £4,510,653 £7,284,200 £7,620,605	£6,485 £7,005 £6,912 £6,182 £6,787 £7,275 £6,050 £6,067	2.26% 14.66% 4.42% 15.05% 7.44% 2.90% 0.93% 3.26%	1.56% 1.83% 2.08% 2.15% 2.16% 2.21% 2.21%
The Martin High School Anstey Lutterworth High School South Charnwood High School The Roundhill Academy Saint Martin's Catholic Voluntary Academy Manor High School The Market Bosworth School	818 851 843 780 925 827	£4,972,528 £5,075,771 £5,072,828 £5,174,266 £4,614,867 £5,575,035 £4,888,627	100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100%	862 840 868 826 777 932 822	£5,347,982 £5,123,839 £5,251,400 £5,186,345 £4,700,850 £5,745,452 £4,973,100	£6,204 £6,100 £6,050 £6,050 £6,050 £6,165 £6,050	7.55% 0.95% 3.52% 0.23% 1.86% 3.06% 1.73%	2.26% 2.30% 2.30% 2.30% 2.31% 2.36% 2.36%
Welland Park Academy Lutterworth College The Cedars Academy Brockington College Beauchamp College John Ferneley College	954 1,204 913 1,196 1,424 1,197	£5,678,290 £7,115,486 £5,708,826 £7,083,156 £8,416,296 £7,211,003	100% 100% 100%	976 1,208 936 1,202 1,480 1,175	£5,942,118 £7,308,400 £5,987,249 £7,288,054 £8,954,000 £7,253,207	£6,088 £6,050 £6,397 £6,063 £6,050 £6,173		2.40% 2.42% 2.42% 2.44% 2.46% 2.48%

	Baseline NFF funding [Note 1]		Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 [Note 2]					
School Name	2022-23 pupil count	Baseline funding (2023-24) (total cash)	Proportion of the year for which the school was funded (either 2023-24 or 2023/24)	2023-24 pupil count	Notional NFF funding in 2024-25 (total cash)	in 2024-25	Percentage change in total NFF funding compared to baseline (total)	Percentage chang in pupil-led NFF funding (per pupil)
	[a]	[b]	[c]	[d]	[e]	[f] = ([e] / [d]) / [c]	[g] = ([e] - [b]) / [b]	[h]
The Hinckley School	840	£5,282,880		907	£5,833,629	£6,432		
The Robert Smyth Academy	806	£4,762,986		851	£5,148,550	£6,050		2.60
Humphrey Perkins School	771	£4,649,165			£5,003,289	£6,177		2.65
Countesthorpe Academy	1,091	£6,782,531			£6,523,024	£6,389		2.6
Rawlins Academy	1,229	£7,460,559			£7,786,658	£6,229		2.7
Redmoor Academy	914	£5,641,565			£5,822,590	£6,336		2.7
De Lisle College Loughborough Leicestershire	1,070	£6,555,753			£6,869,968	£6,291	4.79%	2.7
Hastings High School	829	£4,941,534			£5,190,227	£6,121	5.03%	2.8
South Wigston High School	842	£5,564,032			£5,734,150	£6,794		2.8
Woodbrook Vale School	834	£5,151,975			£5,301,052	£6,356		2.9
Kibworth Mead Academy	860	£5,093,206		820	£5,004,793	£6,103		3.0
Thomas Estley Community College	903	£5,445,630		882	£5,487,242	£6,221	0.76%	3.1
The Castle Rock School	1,074	£6,807,959			£7,049,059	£6,551	3.54%	3.4
Long Field Spencer Academy	828	£5,036,243			£5,722,019	£6,288		3.7
The Priory Belvoir Academy	676	£4,126,040			£4,350,564	£6,333		3.9
Ibstock Community College	713	£4,257,510			£5,216,890	£6,240		
Ivanhoe School	928	£5,415,295	100%	756	£4,741,719	£6,272	-12.44%	7.0
Total Secondary 2024-25 Provisional NFF Impact £	38,975	£239,291,210		39,505	£9,018,367			
2024-25 Provisional NFF Impact %				1.36%	3.77%			

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SCHOOLS FORUM

The High Needs Funding System

12 September 2023

Content Applicable to;		School Phase;		
Maintained Primary and	Х	Pre School	Х	
Secondary Schools				
Academies	Х	Foundation Stage	Х	
PVI Settings	Х	Primary	Х	
Special Schools /	Х	Secondary	Х	
Academies				
Local Authority	Х	Post 16	Х	
		High Needs	Х	

Purpose of Report

Content Requires;		By;	
Noting	X	Maintained Primary School	
		Members	
Decision		Maintained Secondary	
		School Members	
		Maintained Special School	
		Members	
		Academy Members	
		All Schools Forum	Х

Recommendations

1. That Schools Forum note the contents of this report.

Introduction

2. This report responds to queries and comments made at the Schools Forum meeting of 13 June 2023 on the High needs Funding Framework. The report provides hyperlinks to legislation and guidance issues by the Department for Education (DfE) and relevant extracts which are set out in italics.

Background

3. The framework for high needs funding was established and embedded by 2013 school funding reform and predates and is unaffected by the Children and Families Act 2014:

Funding for mainstream settings

91. We described in March that funding for placements of high needs pupils in mainstream schools and Academies will be very similar to current arrangements. At present, pre-16 mainstream settings receive a clearly-identified notional SEN budget. Using this, schools and Academies are expected to meet the needs of pupils with high-incidence SEN and to contribute up to a certain level to the needs of high needs pupils.

92. Under place-plus, mainstream schools and Academies will receive formula funding which will include a notional SEN budget. From this, they will provide a standard offer of teaching and learning for all pupils, including those with high needs. In the March document, we called this core education funding. From their notional SEN budget, they will contribute the first \pounds 6,000 of the additional support costs of high needs pupils. By additional support, we mean the additional education provision that a pupil needs in order to access the school's or Academy's offer of teaching and learning. Funding above this level will be agreed with the commissioning local authority and paid in the form of a top-up from its High Needs Block.

93. As we announced in March, local authorities will also be able to target additional funding from their High Needs Block at schools and Academies whose formula funding does not adequately reflect the number and/or needs of pupils with SEN in the school.

94. Funding for mainstream post-16 settings will operate in a similar manner. Providers will receive per-student funding through the national 16-19 funding formula. They will also receive an allocation of £6,000 per high needs student on roll. The allocation of these two elements will be based on student data from the last full academic year. Above this level, top-up funding will be provided by the commissioning authority from its High Needs Block. This will mean that FE colleges will now discuss funding directly with commissioners.

School Funding Reform: Arrangements for 2013-14

4. This financial framework is summarised within the illustration below:



5. To provide the framework for the 2013 school funding reform the DfE issues Primary Legislation to confer the requirements on local authorities through the School and Early Year Finance (England) Regulations which are laid annually. Currently the 2022

regulations are in force. Regulation 11 (3) sets out the requirement to have a subset of the school funding formula i.e., the Notional SEN Budget.

The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2022

Determination of allocation of budget shares etc. for the funding period

11.—(1) Except as provided for in paragraphs (2), (4) and (9), not later than 28th February 2022, a local authority must determine the budget share for each school which it maintains, using the formula referred to in regulation 10(1) in accordance with Part 3 of these Regulations.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to any determination of amounts to be included in budget shares under regulation 26 (sixth form funding) and in relation to such determination the local authority must make the determination and notify the school to which the determination relates within a reasonable period after the notification given by the Secretary of State under regulation 26(1).

(3) When making the determination under paragraph (1) the local authority must identify within each budget share an amount calculated by reference to the requirements, factors and criteria specified in Part 3 which are relevant to pupils with special educational needs; such amount must be calculated using a threshold sum of £6,000 per pupil below which the school will be expected to meet the additional costs of pupils with special educational needs from its budget share.

- 6. Guidance on the application of the financial framework and the construction of the Notional SEN Budget is through separately issued documents which are updated annually by the DfE. The current 2023/24 guidance is within the
 - High Needs Operational Guidance
 - <u>Schools Operational Guidance</u>
 - <u>The Notional SEN Budget for Mainstream Schools: Operational Guidance</u>

All documents consistently state the threshold of £6,000 and the purpose of the SEN Notional Budget being not a separate budget but a notional budget for mainstream schools to help them comply with their duty to use their 'best endeavours' to meet the special educational needs of their pupils. The Schools Operational Guidance specifically states:

The Notional SEN Budget

- 4. Mainstream maintained schools and academies ("schools") are notified each year of a clearly identified but notional budget, within their overall budget allocation, towards the costs of fulfilling their duty to use their 'best endeavours' to secure that special educational provision for their pupils with SEN. Using funds from the schools block of the dedicated schools grant (DSG), local authorities are responsible for calculating the amount of this notional budget using their local mainstream schools funding formula factors.
- 5. The requirement to identify this budget for their schools is set out in regulation 11(3) of the <u>School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2022</u> (which is similar to the equivalent regulation for previous years and which we intend will be included in the regulations for 2023 to 2024). That regulation says that "the local authority must identify within each budget share an amount calculated by reference to the requirements, factors and criteria specified in Part 3 [that is, the various elements of the local schools funding formula] which are relevant to pupils with special educational needs; such amount must be calculated using a threshold sum of £6,000 per pupil below which the school will be expected to meet the additional costs of pupils with special educational needs from its [annual] budget share".

- 6. The notional SEN budget is not a budget that is separate from a school's overall budget. It is an identified amount within a maintained school's delegated budget share or an academy's general annual grant. It is intended as a guide for a school's spending decisions, and is neither a target nor a constraint on a school's duty to use its 'best endeavours' to secure special provision for its pupils with SEN.
- 7. In discharging that responsibility, amongst other expectations set out in the SEND Code of Practice, mainstream schools are expected to:
 - meet the costs of special educational provision for pupils identified as on SEN Support in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice; and
 - contribute towards the costs of special educational provision for pupils with high needs (most of whom have education, health and care (EHC) plans), up to the high needs cost threshold set by the regulations (currently £6,000 per pupil per annum). This cost threshold is calculated by reference to the additional costs of provision, above the costs of the basic provision for all pupils in the school. High needs top-up funding is provided above this threshold on a per-pupil basis by the local authority that commissions or agrees the placement.
- 8. It is important to note that the notional SEN budget is not intended to provide £6,000 for every pupil with SEN, as most such pupils' support will cost less than that. Nor is the notional SEN budget intended to provide a specific amount per pupil for those with lower additional support costs, even though the local authority may make reasonable assumptions about what those costs might be for the purpose of ensuring that their schools' notional SEN budget calculation is realistic.
- 7. A review of the 2023/24 Notional SEN budget and how that compares as a percentage of total funding and the proportion of pupils with EHCP and SEN Support in currently being undertaken. However, it should be noted that the proportion of pupils with SEN Support of EHCP's is totally related to how schools identify and meet need which wen compared to a formulaic budget calculation could result in perverse incentives to attract additional funding.

Conclusions

- 8. Leicestershire County Council fully follow the requirements of Primary Legislation and the guidance issued by the DfE in its application.
- 9. The Primary Legislation and additional guidance require mainstream schools to meet the first £6,000 of addition SEN needs before top-up funding is allocated in accordance with the provision set out within the EHCP.

Resource Implications

10. There are no resource implications directly arising from this report

Equal Opportunity Issues

11. All schools are expected to make reasonable adjustments for pupils with disabilities, in accordance with their duties under the Equality Act 2010, whether or not they have SEN. Where a reasonable adjustment is special educational provision, the revenue cost of that adjustment may be met from the school's SEN budget.

Officers to Contact

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