

Total Membership 25
The Forum is quorate if at least 40% (10) of the members are present



London Borough of Waltham Forest
SCHOOLS FORUM

Day/Date/Time	Venue
Wednesday 21 September 2022, 5.30 pm	VIA TEAMS
Contact:	
Clerk to Schools Forum	schoolforum@walthamforest.gov.uk
Maintained Primary Headteacher Representatives (5)	
Claire Nairn	Handsworth
Lindsey Lampard	Chingford C of E Primary
Rosie McGlynn	Our Lady and St George
Tracey Griffiths	Barn Croft Primary School
Zakia Khatun	Whitehall Primary School
Primary Academies and Primary Free Schools Representatives (4)	
Laura Hewer	Lime Trust (Larkwood, Hornbeam)
Anne Powell	Griffin Trust (Riverley, Willow Brook, Lammas)
Maureen Okoye (Chair)	Arbor Trust (Davies Lane, Selwyn, Woodford Green, Acacia Nursery)
Iram Malik	Genesis Trust (St Marys and St Saviours)
Maintained Primary Governor Representatives (1)	
Aktar Beg	Edinburgh Primary
Nursery School Representative (1)	
Helen Currie	Forest Alliance Nursery Schools (Church Hill, Low Hall)
Maintained Secondary Headteacher Representatives (2)	
Clive Rosewell	Willowfield School
Jenny Smith	Frederick Bremer School
Secondary Academies and Secondary Free Schools Representatives (4)	
Wayne Barnet	Chingford Trust (North Chingford and South Chingford)
John Hernandez (Vice Chair)	Exceptional Education Trust (Norlington School and Sixth Form)
Rob Pittard	Exceptional Education Trust (Norlington School and Sixth Form)
Tracey Penfold	Highams Park Trust
Maintained Secondary Governor Representative (1)	
Gillian Barker	Walthamstow School for Girls
Maintained Special School Representative (1)	
Bruce Roberts	Belmont Park School
Special School and Special Academies Representative (1)	
Kirstie Fulthorpe	Whitefield Trust (Joseph Clark, Whitefield)
PRU (1)	
Liz Rattue	Hawkswood Group
Non School Members (4)	
Early Years Providers	Sarah Kendrick (Redwood Pre-School)
16-19 Providers	Janet Gardner (Waltham Forest College)

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Trade Unions	Paul Phillips (NEU)
Diocesan	Carolyn Laws (Holy Family)

AGENDA

Agenda Item	Report Name	Report Authors
1	Welcome all and Apologies <i>(Welcome new members: Laura Hewer - Lime Trust Larkswood, (replacing Amanda Daoud), Carolyn Laws – Holy Family (replacing Andy Stone) and Wayne Barnet – Chingford Trust (replacing Jane Benton). Thanks to Amanda, Andy and Jane for their contributions.</i>	Chair
2	Declarations of Interest	All
3	Minutes of meeting 9 February 2022	Chair
3a	Decision Sheet from 9 February 2022	For the record
4	Schools Forum Membership and Powers	Duncan James-Pike
5	DSG Outturn 2021-22	Hiran Perera
6	Dedicated Schools Grant 2022-23 & update on School Funding Announcement for 2023-24	Hiran Perera
7	National Funding Formula Consultation 2024-25	Duncan James-Pike
	Date of Next Meetings: Wednesdays, 5:30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 October 2022 • 16 November 2022 • 14 December 2022 • 18 January 2023 • 08 February 2023 	

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MINUTES OF SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING

Wednesday 9 February 2022

Day/Date/Time	Venue
Wednesday 9 February 2022, 5.30pm	VIA TEAMS
Contact:	
Clerk to Schools Forum	schoolforum@walthamforest.gov.uk
Maintained Primary Headteacher Representatives (5)	
Claire Nairn	Handsworth
Lindsey Lampard	Chingford C of E Primary
Rosie McGlynn	Our Lady and St George
Zakia Khatun	Whitehall Primary School
Primary Academies and Primary Free Schools Representatives (4)	
Amanda Daoud	Lime Trust (Larkwood, Hornbeam)
Maureen Okoye (Chair)	Arbor Trust (Davies Lane, Selwyn, Woodford Green, Acacia Nursery)
Maintained Primary Governor Representatives (1)	
Nursery School Representative (1)	
Maintained Secondary Headteacher Representatives (2)	
Clive Rosewell	Willowfield School
Jenny Smith	Frederick Bremer School
Secondary Academies and Secondary Free Schools Representatives (4)	
Jane Benton	Chingford Trust (North Chingford and South Chingford)
John Hernandez (Vice Chair)	Exceptional Education Trust (Norlington School and Sixth Form)
Tracey Penfold	Highams Park Trust
Maintained Secondary Governor Representative (1)	
Gillian Barker	Walthamstow School for Girls
Maintained Special School Representative (1)	
Bruce Roberts	Belmont Park School
Special School and Special Academies Representative (1)	
Kirstie Fulthorpe	Whitefield Trust (Joseph Clark, Whitefield)
PRU (1)	
Non School Members (4)	
Early Years Providers	Sarah Kendrick (Redwood Pre-School)
16-19 Providers	
Trade Unions	
Diocesan	Andy Stone (Holy Family)

Officers	
David Kilgallon	Director of Learning and Systems Leadership
Dennese White	Principal Accountant Education Finance
Duncan James-Pike	Strategic Finance Advisor, Children and Young People Services
Hiran Perera	Senior Accountant Education Finance
Eve McLoughlin	Head of Early Years, Childcare and Business Development
Gerry Kemble	Assistant Director, Schools
Lindsay Jackson	Head of Education Business Effectiveness
Mohammad Akhtar	Early Years Finance & Business Manager
Omon Edgal	Senior Accountant Education Finance
Sadia Begum	Business Support Minute Taker
Sergio Dimech	Head of Education Finance
Observers	
Gurpreet Kataora	
Mike Thomas	
SB	
Shermaine Lewis	
Simon Cramer	
Apologies	
Tracey Griffiths	Barn Croft
Rob Pittard	Exceptional Education Trust (Norlington)

1. Welcome and Apologies

1.1 Apologies from Tracey Griffiths and Rob Pittard

2. Declaration of Interests

2.1 None.

2.2 No Vacancies.

3. Minutes of January Schools Forum meeting

3.1 No inaccuracies documented. Minutes were agreed.

4. Update on Annual leave underpayment

4.1 This report updates maintained schools on the project to date and the rationale behind the Council position of funding 50% of the settlement sum.

4.2 Question

What about academies?

Answer

The LA is focused on the maintained school March deadline we work to, academies should be addressing their situation as appropriate. We are

advising and sharing our model with academies where they ask us. Academies may take the same approach as the LA if they wish and make any compensation under the same principals

4.3 Comment

The LA is in the middle compared to what other LAS are contributing

4.4 Question

How are we to budget for this? We've been told not to include in budget setting process. What support and guidance are we getting from the LA?

Answer

Don't recall any statements on not budgeting. Officers will discuss on timelines and provide more clarity

4.5 Comment

Clearer guidance please, the helpline is not as helpful as it could be

Response

Will make this clearer

4.6 Question

Will schools that are in financial straits still have to pay the 50%?

Answer

Yes, that the decision of management board and Cabinet

4.7 Comment

No doubt this will have a huge impact especially on small schools. We need more clarification, it's a complex issue

Response

Please refer direct to Gerry Kemble, Assistant Director, Schools, for advice and please tell colleagues to do so too

5. School Supplementary Grant

5.1 This report sets out indicative allocations for the new Schools Supplementary grant to assist with budget planning. Actual school-level allocations will be announced by the DFE in Spring.

5.2 Question

For budget reasons, do schools go with what is presented?

Response

Recommend that this is factored in, actual allocations are likely to be a bit higher

5.3 Question

Wanted to check understanding for special schools and APs, in terms of schools will it be passported and transparent with its arrival and source?

Response

High needs block has a supplementary grant of £1.8 million, some will have to be passported through, but will also be used for the resource ladder. Officers looking at model and will see which method to use to passport through.

5.4 Question

Will special schools get the same level as mainstreams schools?

Answer

We will have to see in the next few weeks

6. Schools Block indicative allocations 2022-23

6.1 This report and its appendices show the indicative school budget shares for 2022-23. It details the funding factors used, the basic pupil count and pupil characteristics and the changes in these compared to 2021-22. Subject to validation by the ESFA, officers expect the figures in this report to be the budget shares for 2022-23.

7.7 High Needs indicative allocations 2022-23

7.1 This report provides an overview of High Needs Block (HNB) for 2022-23 and sets out the indicative 2022-23 allocations from the HNB for place-led and top-up funding.

7.2 Question

Place numbers at Hawkswood have changed, it is normally 28.

Response

Officers will check and get back.

8. Early Years Block Indicative allocations 2022-23

8.1 This report sets out the following financial information in relation to the provision of free education for 2, 3 & 4 year olds:

- Total funding available for allocation to providers in 2022-23 via the Early Years Funding Formula (EYFF);
- Final per pupil hourly rates for 2022-23;
- Indicative budget shares for providers in 2022-23; and

- Proposed method for collecting pupil data and making payments to providers in 2022-23

9. Update on PRU and AP Funding Arrangements 2021-22 to 2023-24

9.1 This report provides an update on the three-year funding arrangement agreed by Schools Forum in February 2021 for Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) and Alternative Provision (AP) assessment places.

9.2 Question

£10,000 per place for Holy Family and Heathcote, will that be increased by inflation too? What's in the rationale as inflation is going up?

Answer

Stays the same flat rate of £10,000 for each place. If any setting is struggling, then will look at addressing that.

9.3 Comment

There does need to be a review of this funding agreement and that can be taken back to DFE.

10. Scheme for Financing Maintained Schools

10.1 This report concerns the Scheme for Financing Schools for maintained schools (revised)

11. AOB

11.1 Schools Forum thanked the outgoing Director David Kilgallon for his contribution.

Next meeting

Wednesday 21 September 2022 @ 17:30 Via Microsoft Teams Link

Schools Forum 9 February 2022

Summary of Decisions

Item 4 Update on Annual leave underpayment

Schools Forum noted:

2.1.1 Progress to date and anticipated next steps.

Item 5 School Supplementary Grant

Schools Forum noted:

2.1.1 The contents of this report.

Item 6 Schools Block indicative allocations 2022-23

Schools Forum noted:

2.1.1 The contents of this report.

Item 7 High Needs indicative allocations 2022-23

Schools Forum noted:

- 2.1 The gross HNB allocation to Waltham Forest for 2022-23 is £49.942 million, an increase of £3.334 million (7%) on the funding of £46.607 million in for 2021-22.
- 2.2 The second draft of the HNB budget for 2022-23 which sets out the high-level allocations of that £49.942 million in Appendix A.
- 2.3 The indicative allocation of £9.6 million of top-up funding to Waltham Forest mainstream schools in Appendix B.
- 2.4 The indicative allocation to special schools and academies of £8.15 million for place funding and £10 million top-up funding in Appendix C.
- 2.5 The indicative allocation to special resource provisions of £1.17 million for place funding and £2.5 million top-up funding in Appendix D.
- 2.6 The indicative allocation to Alternative Provision including the PRUs of £3.153 million for place funding and £160,000 top-up funding in

Appendix E.

- 2.7 The indicative allocation to Post 16 colleges of £1.25 million for place funding

Item 8 Early Years Block Indicative allocations 2022-23

Schools Forum noted:

- 2.1.1 The DfE/ESFA Early Years Block budget control total for 2022-23 as set out in Appendix A
- 2.1.2 The hourly funding rates for 2, 3 & 4 year olds as set out in Appendix B and C (with a comparison with the previous year)
- 2.1.3 The breakdown of the Deprivation supplement for 2022-23 in Appendix D
- 2.1.4 The indicative budget shares as set out in Appendices E, F and G that will form the basis of monthly allocations to all Early Years providers in 2022-23.
- 2.1.5 That the Local Authority (LA) is compliant with the DfE 95% pass through rate as outlined in the compliance tool as set out in Appendix H.
- 2.1.6 The Early Years System Support budget of £60,000 as set out in 9.6 from the Early Years Reserve.
- 2.1.7 The SEND Inclusion Fund budget of £778,698 as set out in 9.8.
- 2.1.8 The feedback from the final consultation as set out in Appendix I.
- 2.1.9 That final outturn expenditure figures for the 2021-22 Early Years Block (EYB) funding are not yet available currently. Final DfE/ESFA EYB 2021-22 allocations are also not available and are due to be published by the DfE/ESFA in July 2022.

Item 9 Update on PRU and AP Funding Arrangements 2021-22 to 2023-24

Schools Forum noted:

- 2.1.1 Individual school top-up funding contributions for PRU and AP Assessment places for 2022-23 are based on per pupil calculations with the 2021-22 top-up level increasing by 3% for inflation from £13,000 to £13,390.
- 2.1.2 The agreed use of recoupment to subsidise of secondary contributions will reduce to £300,000 in 2022-23.

Item 10 **Scheme for Financing Maintained Schools**

Maintained School representatives on Schools Forum noted:

2.1.1 The consultation process and responses.

Maintained School representatives on Schools Forum approved:

2.2.1 The Scheme for Financing Schools, revised January 2022.

Meeting / Date	SCHOOLS FORUM 29 September 2022	Agenda Item	4
Report Title	Schools Forum membership and powers		
Decision/Discussion/ Information	For Discussion and Decision		
Report Author/ Contact details	Duncan James-Pike, Strategic Finance Advisor duncan.james-pike@walthamforest.gov.uk		
Appendix A	Schools Forum powers and responsibilities		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report reviews the representation of maintained schools and academies / free schools at Schools Forum following the October 2021 census.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Schools Forum to agree:

- 2.1.1 That the current balance of school representation is appropriate to continue for the 2022-23 session.

3. REASON

- 3.1 The balance of representation at Schools Forum should be broadly proportionate to the number of pupils in each group of schools.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Schools Forum guidance

- 4.1.1 The Schools Forums Regulations provide a framework for the appointment of members but allow a considerable degree of discretion to accommodate local priorities and practice.

- 4.1.2 Schools Forum powers and responsibilities are included as Appendix A to this report and can be found with the Schools Forum Operational and good practice guide, March 2021:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/971711/2021_Schools_forums_powers_and_responsibilities.pdf

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/971710/Schools_forum_operational_and_good_practice_guide_amended_March_2021.pdf

4.2 Represented Groups

- 4.2.1 Schools members and academies members must comprise at least 2/3rds of the Schools Forum membership.
- 4.2.2 Maintained primary schools; maintained secondary schools; and academies and free schools must be broadly proportionately represented on Schools Forum, based on the total number of pupils registered at them.

4.3 Maintained Schools members

- 4.3.1 Where the LA maintains the following types of school, they must be represented on the Schools Forum: Primary Schools; Secondary Schools; Special Schools; Nursery Schools; and PRUs.
- 4.3.2 Within each of the five groups above there could be the following types of member: Headteachers (or their representative); and Governors.
- 4.3.3 In overall terms there must be at least one headteacher (or their representative) and one governor.
- 4.3.4 The relevant sub-group of the relevant type of school elects their representatives e.g., primary school governor representatives are elected by the governors of primary schools, secondary school headteacher representatives are elected by the headteachers of secondary schools.
- 4.3.5 LA appointment of members may occur only if no election takes place by the agreed date or in the event of a tie.

4.4 Academy and free school members

- 4.4.1 At least one academies member must be a representative of mainstream academies, which includes free schools, UTCs and Studio Schools.
- 4.4.2 In addition, there must be one member for each of the following groups (if such exist in the LA area): Special academies, including free schools; and Alternative Provision academies, including free schools.
- 4.4.3 The relevant proprietors of academies elect for their group, e.g. mainstream academies, special academies, and alternative provision academies.
- 4.4.4 LA appointment of members may occur only if no election takes place by the agreed date or in the event of a tie.

4.5 Non-school members

4.5.1 There are four non-school members: Early Years Private, Voluntary, and Independent (PVI) providers; 16-19 providers; Trade Unions; and a diocesan representative.

4.5.2 Before considering other groups, the LA must consider diocesan representation.

4.6 Practice in Waltham Forest

4.6.1 Membership has been uncontested recently and it has been the practice for groups to co-opt new members or for the LA to appoint members rather than hold elections.

4.7 October 2021

4.7.1 Following the October 2021 school census, it appears that the balance of representation at Schools Forum remains broadly proportionate to the number of pupils in each group of schools, see Table below.

	Maintained Primary	Maintained Secondary	Academy and Free
Number on Roll October 2020	12,045	7,135	18,430
Members*	6	3	8
Members per pupil	2,200	2,300	2,300

*Maintained Primary and Secondary Members include 1 Governor in each group

4.7.2 The full Membership will comprise:

FULL MEMBERSHIP		
Academies and Free Schools	8	
Maintained Primary Schools	6	*
Maintained Secondary Schools	3	*
Maintained Nursery Schools	1	
Maintained PRU	1	
Maintained Special School	1	
Special Academies	1	
SCHOOL MEMBERS	21	
Early Years Private, Voluntary & Independent providers	1	
Post 16 providers	1	
Diocesan representative	1	
Trade Unions representative	1	
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	25	
*Must include 1 Governor		



Schools forum powers and responsibilities

A summary of the powers and responsibilities of schools forums.

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
Formula change (including redistributions)	Proposes and decides	Must be consulted [voting restrictions apply - see schools forum structure document] and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	Checks for compliance with regulations
Movement of up to 0.5% from the schools block to other blocks	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
Contracts (where the LA is entering a contract to be funded from the schools budget)	Proposes at least one month prior to invitation to tender, the terms of any proposed contract	Gives a view and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	None

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
Financial issues relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arrangements for pupils with special educational needs, in particular the places to be commissioned by the LA and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding • arrangements for use of pupil referral units and the education of children otherwise than at school, in particular the places to be commissioned by the LA and schools and the arrangements for paying top-up funding • arrangements for early years provision • administration arrangements for the allocation of central government grants 	Consults annually	Gives a view and informs the governing bodies of all consultations	None
Minimum funding guarantee (MFG)	Proposes any exclusions from MFG for application to DfE	Gives a view	Approval to application for exclusions

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
De-delegation for mainstream maintained schools for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> contingencies administration of free school meals insurance licences/subscriptions staff costs – supply cover support for minority ethnic pupils/underachieving groups behaviour support services library and museum services School improvement 	Proposes	Maintained primary and secondary school member representatives will decide for their phase. Middle schools are treated according to their deemed status	Will adjudicate where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
General Duties for maintained schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for maintained schools (please see operational guide for more information) 	Proposes	Would be decided by the relevant maintained school members (primary, secondary, special and PRU).	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
Central spend on and the criteria for allocating funding from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> funding for significant pre-16 pupil growth, including new schools set up to meet basic need, whether maintained or academy 	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funding for good or outstanding schools with falling rolls where growth in pupil numbers is expected within three years 			
<p>Central spend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • early years block provision • funding to enable all schools to meet the infant class size requirement • back-pay for equal pay claims • remission of boarding fees at maintained schools and academies • places in independent schools for non-SEN pupils • admissions • servicing of schools forum • Contribution to responsibilities that local authorities hold for all schools 	Proposes	Decides	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal
<p>Central spend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • capital expenditure funded from revenue – projects must have been planned and decided on prior to April 2013 so no new projects can be charged • contribution to combined budgets – this is where the schools forum agreed prior to April 2013 a 	Proposes up to the value committed in the previous financial year and where expenditure has already been committed.	Decides for each line	Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
<p>contribution from the schools budget to services which would otherwise be funded from other sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> existing termination of employment costs (costs for specific individuals must have been approved prior to April 2013 so no new redundancy costs can be charged) prudential borrowing costs – the commitment must have been approved prior to April 2013 	<p>Read establishing local authority DSG baselines for more information.</p>		
<p>Central spend on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> high needs block provision central licences negotiated by the Secretary of State 	<p>Decides</p>	<p>None, but good practice to inform forum</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Scheme of financial management changes</p>	<p>Proposes and consults the governing body and Head of every school</p>	<p>Approves (schools members only)</p>	<p>Adjudicates where schools forum does not agree LA proposal</p>
<p>Membership: length of office of members</p>	<p>Decides</p>	<p>None (but good practice would suggest that they gave a view)</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Voting procedures</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Determine voting procedures</p>	<p>None</p>

Function	Local authority	Schools forum	DfE role
Chair of schools forum	Facilitates	Elects (may not be an elected member of the Council or officer)	None

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

Meeting / Date	SCHOOLS FORUM 21 September 2022	Agenda Item	5
Report Title	Dedicated Schools Grant Outturn 2021-22		
Decision/ Discussion/ Information	For Information		
Report Author/ Contact details	Hiran Perera, Principal Accountant hiran.perera@walthamforest.gov.uk		
Appendices	Appendix A: Use of DSG Balances 2021-22 & proposed Use of Reserves in 2022-23 Appendix B: 2021-22 High Needs Expenditure		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates School Forum on the 2021-22 final outturn for the Dedicated School Grant; the balances held for each block at the end of March 2022; and the forecast balances for March 2023.

2. DSG Outturn 2021-22 and Projection for 2022-23

Schools Forum to note:

- 2.1 The cumulative brought forward DSG balance from 2020-21 of a **£0.94 million deficit** became a **£2.76 million deficit** at the end of **2021-22** due to planned use of Early years and Schools block surplus balances in 2021-22. DSG **Deficit** Balance for 2022-23 is expected to become **£3.67 million** due to planned use of remaining Early Years and Schools block surplus balances.
- 2.2 The final settlement of DSG allocation to the Local Authority (LA) for 2021-22, after academy recoupment was **£172.75 million**.
- 2.3 There is a new accounting practice to record DSG deficits in the Local Authority accounts. The deficit did not need to be offset by balances in the LAs revenue accounts from 2020-21 to 2022-23 but have been recorded as **Un-useable Reserves**.
- 2.4 The High Needs (HN) underspend in 2021-22 was **£0.31 million** leading to a cumulative carry forward deficit on the HN block of **£4.69**

million. This cumulative HN deficit was offset by surplus balances in the Early Years, Growth Fund and Schools Blocks.

- 2.5 For 2022-21 the DSG surplus balances on Early Years, Growth Fund and Schools Block will reduce as planned. The DSG deficit position is forecast to increase by **£0.90 million to £3.67 million.**

3. REASON

- 3.1 The LA provides Schools Forum with updates on the DSG final settlement allocation and Outturn position for the previous financial year as submitted to the Department for Education.
- 3.2 As part of the 2022-23 DSG budget cycle, discussions are required on the current trajectory of the DSG balances and the management of the HN deficit.

4. DSG OUTTURN 2021-22 EFSA ALLOCATION & BALANCES

- 4.1 The DSG comprises four funding blocks: The Schools, Early Years, High Needs and Central School Services blocks. **Table 1** sets out the DSG allocations received for 2021-22.

Table 1 DSG Gross to Net Allocations 2021-22

2021-22	ESFA Gross Allocation	Less Academy Recoupment	DSG Net Academy Recoupment	EY Adjustment	Net DSG paid to LA
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Dedicated Schools Grant					
Schools Block	215.02	104.25	110.77		110.77
Growth Fund	1.01		1.01		1.01
Total Schools Block	216.04	104.25	111.78		111.78
High Needs	46.59	8.95	37.64		37.64
Central Services	1.59		1.59		1.59
Early years	21.86		21.86	0.40	21.46
Dedicated Schools Grant	286.07	113.20	172.87	0.40	172.47

- 4.2 The final 2021-22 DSG allocated to the Local Authority (LA) after adjusting for academy recoupment and the EY adjustment was **£172.47 million.**
- 4.3 The historic DSG balances reported over each block are summarised in **Table 2.** The opening 2021-22 deficit balance of **£0.94 million was increased by £1.82 million, closing with a deficit balance of £2.76**

million. The deficit increase was mainly due to use of reserves by Early Years and the Growth fund as planned.

Table 2 sets out the DSG balances for the period 2017-18 to 2021-22

	31 March 2018	31 March 2019	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2022
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Schools Block	0.92	0.46	0.54	0.47	0.54
Growth Fund	0.00	0.41	1.14	0.93	0.34
Total Schools Block	0.92	0.88	1.68	1.39	0.88
High Needs	0.94	(1.74)	(4.53)	(5.01)	(4.69)
Early years	2.53	2.87	3.43	2.67	1.00
Central Services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
Total DSG	4.39	2.01	0.57	(0.94)	(2.76)

- 4.4 The Finance Regulations 2020 amended the treatment of DSG deficits. This amendment is valid for 3 years and will end in March 2023, it meant that deficits did not need to be offset by balances in the LAs revenue accounts and had to be recorded as Un-useable Reserves. The ESFA is reviewing the impact of this amendment ceasing in 2023.
- 4.5 The detailed use of DSG balances for 2021-22 and planned uses for 2022-23 are set out in **Appendix A**. The overall cumulative DSG balance moves into a larger deficit of **£3.67 million** by March 2023.
- 4.6 The DSG balances held for Growth Fund address the reducing annual allocations from the ESFA. **£0.58 million** was used in 2021-22 and in 2022-23 the LA forecast to use **£0.24 million** sum of **£98,788** to be carried into 2023-24.
- 4.7 In 2021-22 the HN block underspend by **£0.31 million**. Underspend includes a reversal of 2020-21 residential placement cost of **£0.30 million**. This reduces the actual in year underspend to **£13,680**. The cumulative HN Block deficit as of 31 March 2022 stands at **£4.69 million**. Appendix B sets out the 2021-22 summary of HN income and expenditure.
- 4.8 The Early Years Block has a surplus of **£0.98 million** for 2022-23 which is forecast to reduce to **£0.27 million** by **March 2023**.

5. DSG DEFICIT BALANCES ESFA GUIDANCE & EXPECTATIONS

- 5.1 The Schools Revenue Funding 2022 to 2023 operational guidance requires the DSG deficit management plans to be discussed with Schools Forum setting out the local authority's plans for bringing the DSG spend back into balance in a timely manner.
- 5.2 As part of this process the LA will update School's Forum on HN funding, in year pressures and outcomes of new strategies as part of the School Budget Planning cycle.

September School Forum 2022 DSG Outturn Report Appendix A Details use of DSG reserves 2021-22 to 2022-23

	Schools Block Contingency	School Improvement	Schools Facing Financial Challenges	Universal Offer	Growth Fund	Other Grant	Schools Block Total	Central Services	Early Years	SENIF	Early Years Block Total	High Needs Block Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£	£
Balances at 31 March 2021	199,874	80,000	100,000	65,827	927,137	20,191	1,393,029	0	2,666,413	6,563	2,672,976	(5,007,516)	(941,511)

2021-22 Actuals													
Growth Fund					(582,358)		(582,358)						(582,358)
School Improvement etc													0
Return of Carbon Reduction Reserve													0
Balance Sheet adjustments													0
Children and Families Centres contract									(200,000)		(200,000)		(200,000)
Speech & Language Therapy contract									(172,600)		(172,600)		(172,600)
2 YO Payments									(191,720)		(191,720)		(191,720)
3&4 YO Payments									(285,205)		(285,205)		(285,205)
All Talk Contract									(99,999)		(99,999)		(99,999)
Place Creation											0		0
Moderation											0		0
Two year Old Top-Up (Revised Estimate)											0		0
Use of SENIF									(325,923)		(325,923)		(325,923)
ESFA 2020-21 July 2021 adjustment									(393,220)	(6,563)	(399,783)		(399,783)
In year (Surplus) / Deficit	74,296						74,296	42,944				318,374	435,614
Balances at 31 March 2022	274,170	80,000	100,000	65,827	344,779	20,191	884,967	42,944	997,746	0	997,746	(4,689,142)	(2,763,485)

2022-23 Quarter 1 Projection													
Needed for Growth Fund					(245,991)		(245,991)						(245,991)
Previously Unidentified (Covid)													0
Assume Drawn Down													0
Children and Families Centres contract									(50,000)		(50,000)		(50,000)
Outstanding payments from previous financial year									(296,522)		(296,522)		(296,522)
Speech & Language Therapy contract									(101,083)		(101,083)		(101,083)
Workforce Development									(41,667)		(41,667)		(41,667)
Premises & Place Development									(75,000)		(75,000)		(75,000)
Top Up of 2 year old hourly rate									(153,900)		(153,900)		(153,900)
SENIF									(72,000)		(72,000)		(72,000)
Centrally / Retained									(70,000)		(70,000)		(70,000)
System Leadership									(60,000)		(60,000)		(60,000)
Potential clawback from census returns									281,838		281,838		281,838
Potential (underspend) / Overspend	73,064						73,064	(12,489)	(84,883)		(84,883)		(24,308)
Forecast Balance at 31 March 2023	347,234	80,000	100,000	65,827	98,788	20,191	712,040	30,455	274,529	0	274,529	(4,689,142)	(3,672,118)

ACTUAL MOVEMENT IN DSG RESERVES 2021-22							(508,062)	42,944			(1,675,230)	318,374	(1,821,974)
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FORECAST MOVEMENT IN DSG RESERVES 2022-23							(172,927)	(12,489)			(723,217)	0	(908,633)
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SUMMARY OF HIGH NEEDS BLOCK 2021-22 OUTTURN

Description	Outturn 2021-22
	£
INCOME	
High Needs Gross allocation	46,589,786
Academy Special School Recoupment - Places	- 7,354,167
Academy Special Resource provision Recoupment - Places	- 549,667
Post 16 College Recoupment	- 1,043,834
	37,642,118
EXPENDITURE	
Place Funding - Belmont Park	570,000
Special Schools Top-up	9,796,664
Spot Purchases	97,000
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	10,463,664
Place Funding - Maintained Schools	678,000
Special Resource Provisions Top-up	2,471,860
Spot Purchases	68,500
SPECIAL RESOURCE PROVISIONS	3,218,360
MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS TOP UP	9,917,267
POST 16 PROVISION TOP UP, SPOT PURCHASES AND OTHER COSTS	2,432,648
Hawkswood PRUs Place led funding	1,004,167
Additional funding for PRU places	333,685
Hawkswood PRUs Top up	145,663
PRUs	1,483,514
AP College placements	1,424,229
Family Resilience	346,323
Heathcote and Holy Family Provision	207,500
Assessment Places (Belmont Park) & Other	375,490
ALTERNATIVE PROVISION	2,353,542
Independent School Fees & Non Maintained Special Schools	1,688,321
Other LA Schools Top Up	1,638,723
Alternative and Education Contributions (Tuition, Transition/LAC)	848,218
INDEPENDENT & NON MAINTAINED SPECIAL SCHOOLS	4,175,262
Speech and Language Therapy Service	143,500
Home Hospital contract	249,864
Outreach Support Services	652,584
Early Years Home Visitors/EY SEND Success	191,000
Contribution to Disability Enablement Service Team with 61K reduction from previous years	612,836
Contribution to BACME (Social Inclusion)	324,100
FAP payment to Schools for admitting excluded pupils	68,966
Preventive work (EP) / Virtual School	224,864
Pay and Pension funding to Special Settings	752,488
Contribution to High Needs Finance Team	60,000
SUPPORT SERVICES	3,280,202
HIGH NEEDS TOTAL SPEND	37,324,459
2021-22 Net Underspend on High Needs	317,659
Deficit brought forward to 2021-22	-5,007,516
Deficit carried forward to 2022-23	-4,689,857

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

Meeting / Date	SCHOOLS FORUM 21 September 2022	Agenda Item	6
Report Title	Dedicated Schools Grant 2022-23 & update on School Funding Announcement for 2023-24		
Decision/ Discussion/ Information	For Information		
Report Author/ Contact details	Hiran Perera, Senior Accountant Education Finance hiran.perera@walthamforest.gov.uk 0208 496 3442 Duncan James-Pike, Strategic Finance Advisor duncan.james-pike@walthamforest.gov.uk 0208 496 3502		

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates School Forum on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) ESFA allocations for 2022-23 and the July 2022 announcement by the Department for Education (DfE) on the provisional allocations for Schools, High Needs and Central Services blocks for 2023-24.

2. DSG Projection for 2022-23

Schools Forum to note:

- 2.1 The total 2022-23 Gross DSG allocation before academy recoupment is **£294.40 million**. The Early years Block increased by **£1.17 million** and the High Needs block decreased by a sum of **£0.31 million** from that reported to February 2022 Schools Forum.
- 2.2 The total 2022-23 Net DSG for the LA after academy recoupment and deductions of £117.84 million is **£176.56 million**.
- 2.3 Schools block net allocation is **£109.93 million**.
- 2.4 The Central School services block remains unchanged from that reported in February 2022.
- 2.5 The High Needs block Net allocation decreased to **£42.16 million** after Academy recoupment. The High Needs block decrease is due to the decrease in the Import and Export adjustment figure for 2022-23. High Needs block net allocation of **£42.12 million** includes the High needs supplementary grant **£1.83 million**

- 2.6 The Early Years block net allocation increased by **£1.17 million** to **£22.98 million** and the increase is due to ESFA using Jan 2022 census data in place of Jan 2021 data.

Table 1 2022-23 DSG updated DfE Allocations

DSG Funding Blocks	Net Amount Feb 2022	Updated Net Amount	Net Increase / (Decrease)
	£m	£m	£m
Schools	109.93	109.93	0
High Needs	42.43	42.12	(0.31)
Early Years	21.81	22.98	1.17
Central Services	1.53	1.53	0
Dedicated Schools Grant	175.7	176.56	0.86

2.7 ESFA Funding proposal for 2023-24

- Schools Block funding is expected to increase by 3.58%
- High Needs block funding is expected to increase by 5.35%.
- The Central Services block is expected to increase by 1.96%

2.8 Changes to funding formula factors for 2023-24

- Schools supplementary Grant has been rolled into Schools block funding by increasing Basic per pupil funding, FSM6, Lump sum funding and minimum per pupil funding.
- Funding factors remain unchanged from 2022-23 with technical change to:
 - **Low prior attainment** uses 2019 EY foundation stage profile and KS2 tests data as proxy for 2021 tests due to cancellation of 2021 assessments.

3. REASON

- 3.1 The LA provides Schools Forum with updates on school funding settlements advised during the year. This assists with the Budget Setting cycle for the next financial year.
- 3.2 The Department for Education (DfE) recently published the 2023-24 National Funding Formulae (NFF) for the schools, high needs and central school services blocks of the DSG. The technical guidance sets out the detail on the funding formulae as well as any changes since last year's funding formulae, and the data tables provide notional allocations to local authorities and schools.

3.3 This report summaries the impact of the indicative 2023-24 allocations to the DSG. Further reports on the impact at individual school level will be brought to Schools Forum as the budget setting progresses.

4. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION JULY ANNOUNCEMENT ON 2023-24 FUNDING

4.1 In July the DfE published notional allocations for the School, High Needs and Central School Services blocks for 2023-24. Details of the 2023-24 National Funding Formulae were also published.

4.2 Final allocations for 2023-24 will change based on the October 2022 census for the Schools Block.

4.3 Table 2 report the headline changes to Waltham Forest

Table 2 2023-24 Provisional DfE Allocations

DSG Funding Blocks	Allocation Excluding Growth £m	Changes from 2022-23 £m	% Increase or (Decrease)
Schools	226.23	218.42	3.58%
High Needs	54.55	51.78	5.35%
CSSB	1.56	1.53	1.96%
Early years*			
Dedicated Schools Grant	282.34	271.73	3.90%

* to be published

4.5 The Gross School Block excluding growth fund is expected to increase by 3.58% from the 2022-23 allocation: **£7.81 million**.

4.6 Mainstream Schools minimum funding guarantee will be 0% to 0.5%. LA used +2% as MFG for 2022-23 (and earlier years)

4.6 High needs supplementary grant has been rolled into High Needs block allocation.

4.7 Special schools 2023-24 Minimum funding guarantee will be 3% over 2 years, based on like-for-like comparison with a special school's overall budget in 2021-22.

4.8 The growth in the HNB Gross allocation is expected to be 5.35% from the 2022-23 allocation: **£2.77 million**. This includes pay and pension element estimated at **£0.75 million** for Special Schools and PRU.

4.9 Increase in funding will need to address growth in demand and cumulative deficit position of **£4.7 million**.

Meeting / Date	SCHOOLS FORUM 29 September 2022	Agenda Item	7
Report Title	Issues arising from NFF consultation results for impact 2024-25		
Decision/Discussion/ Information	For Discussion		
Report Author/ Contact details	Duncan James-Pike, Strategic Finance Advisor duncan.james-pike@walthamforest.gov.uk		
Appendices	A: Primary Split-sites funding B: Secondary Split-sites funding		

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report sets out some key concerns with the recent consultation on the national funding formula for 2024-25.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Schools Forum to note:

2.1.1 The contents of this report.

3. REASON

3.1 To inform Schools Forum of some key concerns arising from the recent consultation on the national funding formula (NFF) for 2024-25.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 Over the summer, the DFE consulted on further steps to be undertaken in 2024-25 to continue the moves to a national funding formula for schools. The consultation covered several areas:

- Authorisation procedures for transfers from the Schools Block to other blocks;
- Setting an indicative / notional SEND budget nationally within the NFF;
- The operation and scope of growth funds and falling roll funds;
- The use of the “exceptional circumstances” factors in the NFF;
- The funding cycle and provision of information for budget planning;

- The timing and nature of data capture from LAs; and
 - Bringing the split-site factor into the NFF with nationally-determined criteria and allocations.
- 4.2 The key concern arising from the consultation is on this last bullet point: split-sites where the proposal is to introduce:
- A qualifying criterion (sites separated by a main road): funded as 20% of lump sum
 - A distance criterion (500 metres between sites): funded at 40% of lump sum
- 4.3 Officers have assessed each school where the qualifying criterion is relevant and checked the distance using the methodology proposed by the DFE. Officers discovered some technical issues with that methodology and these have been detailed in the LA's response to the consultation.
- 4.4 Appendix A shows an indicative impact for primary schools in 2024-25 (using 2022-23 values)
- 4.5 The primary factor in the local funding formula (LFF) is for £36,000 for each primary. This is a flat sum payment for schools that have split school sites requiring two receptions / offices.
- 4.5 The proposals, if implemented, would mean that all ten primaries that have split-site funding currently would receive £26,000: 20% of the lump sum on the qualifying criterion; and seven primaries would receive £52,610: 40% of the lump sum on the distance criterion. A loss of £10,000 each for three primaries and a gain of £42,610 each for seven primaries
- 4.6 Appendix B shows an indicative impact for secondary schools in 2024-25 (using 2022-23 values)
- 4.7 The secondary factor in the local funding formula (LFF) has four components:
- £140,00 where the second site building footprint is more than 50% of that of the main site (Holy Family only)
 - £70,000 where the second site building footprint is less than 50% of that of the main site (Connaught only)
 - £75,500 where the school does not have a sports hall (Kelmscott only)
 - £9,000 where the school does not have its own playing field
- 4.8 The proposals, if implemented, would mean that all eleven secondaries that receive £9,000 funding for not having a playing field would lose that funding.

- 4.9 Holy Family and Connaught would qualify under both proposed criteria, but while this would only produce a minor loss for Connaught, Holy Family could lose £70,000.
- 4.10 Officers have responded to the consultation with their concerns over the potential impact on Holy Family: firstly, as a secondary school receiving the same mitigation for split-site costs as primary schools; and secondly, that other secondary schools gave a clear steer in the last internal consultation that substantial additional support should be provided to Holy Family due to the extra burdens of its split sites.
- 4.11 Kelmscott would not qualify under the proposals but given its unique position of having no sports or exam-hall facilities, officers are working with the school to apply to the DFE for Kelmscott to receive alternative funding through an exceptional circumstances factor in 2023-24, a year in advance of these proposals.

APPENDIX A

CURRENT LOCAL FUNDING FORMULA

		£
<p>SPLIT SITE - OPERATIONAL THIS IS A FLAT SUM PAYMENT FOR SCHOOLS THAT HAVE SPLIT SCHOOL SITES REQUIRING TWO RECEPTIONS/OFFICES</p>	<p>PRIMARY</p>	Barclay Primary School
		Chapel End Infants
		Chingford CofE Primary School
		Davies Lane
		Henry Maynard Primary School
		Hillyfield Primary Academy
		Mission Grove Primary School
		Our Lady and St George's Catholic Primary School
		Stoneydown Park School
		The Woodside Primary Academy
		360,000

PROPOSED

2022-23 Lump sum	131,501
Basic Eligibility: 20% of Lump sum	26,300
Distance Eligibility: 40% of Lump Sum	52,601

PROPOSED NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA

BASIC	DISTANCE	TOTAL	DIFFERENCE
£	£	£	£
26,300	52,601	78,901	42,901
26,300	52,601	78,901	42,901
26,300	0	26,300	-9,700
26,300	0	26,300	-9,700
26,300	52,601	78,901	42,901
26,300	52,601	78,901	42,901
26,300	52,601	78,901	42,901
26,300	52,601	78,901	42,901
26,300	0	26,300	-9,700
26,300	52,601	78,901	42,901
263,003	368,204	631,206	271,206

APPENDIX B

CURRENT LOCAL FUNDING FORMULA

	FOOT PRINT >50%	FOOT PRINT <50%	NO SPORTS HALL	NO PLAYING FIELD	TOTAL
	£	£	£	£	£
Holy Family	140,000			9,000	149,000
Connaught School for Girls		70,000		9,000	79,000
Kelmscott School			75,500	9,000	84,500
Buxton School				9,000	9,000
Eden Girls' School Waltham Forest				9,000	9,000
Frederick Bremer				9,000	9,000
George Mitchell School				9,000	9,000
Leytonstone School				9,000	9,000
Norlington School and 6th Form				9,000	9,000
Walthamstow School for Girls				9,000	9,000
Willowfield School				9,000	9,000
TOTAL	140,000	70,000	75,500	99,000	384,500

PROPOSED NATIONAL FUNDING FORMULA

BASIC	DISTANCE	TOTAL	DIFFERENCE
£	£	£	£
26,300	52,601	78,901	-70,099
26,300	52,601	78,901	-99
			-84,500
			-9,000
			-9,000
			-9,000
			-9,000
			-9,000
			-9,000
			-9,000
52,601	105,201	157,802	-226,698

PROPOSED

2022-23 Lump sum	131,501
Basic Eligibility: 20% of Lump sum	26,300
Distance Eligibility: 40% of Lump Sum	52,601