



City of Doncaster Council

Agenda

Meeting: Doncaster Schools Forum

Date/Time: Thursday 19th September 2024 08:30

Venue: The Laurel Academy

Items for Discussion		Time	Lead
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1.1. Apologies1.2. Substitutes1.3. Observers1.4. To consider the extent, if any, to which the public and press are to be excluded from the meeting.1.5. Declarations of interest1.6. Minutes of last meeting & matters arising		Chair
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">2.1 Update from Leanne Hornsby, Assistant Director, Education, Skills, Culture and Heritage2.2 Early Years Entitlement, Sufficiency and Wraparound2.3 SEND High Needs Funding Update2.4 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Revenue Monitoring Quarter 1 2024/25	<p>08:40</p> <p>08:50</p> <p>09:20</p> <p>09:50</p>	<p>Leanne Hornsby</p> <p>Alison Tomes / Steve Lawson Chamberlain</p> <p>Martyn Owen</p> <p>Stephen Boldry</p>
3	Any other Business		
4	Dates and times of next meeting Thursday 14 November 2024 at 8:30am venue TBC		

Schools Forum
Membership List 2023-25

Schools Members

Maintained Members

Primary

Main Member

David Richardson	Sunnyfields Primary
Amanda Painter	Tickhill Estfeld Primary School

Substitutes

Vacant

Governor Member

Janine Reid	Copley Junior School
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Special School

Headteacher Main Member

Paul Scotting	Stone Hill School
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Governor Member

Geoff Bowley	Stone Hill School
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Pupil Referral Unit

Vacant	The Levett School
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Vacant

Academy Members

Primary

Main Member

Andy Hibbet	Exceed Learning Partnership
Matthew Ridley	Shaw Wood Academy
Nevine Towers	Diocese of Sheffield Academy Trust
Rebecca Everitt	Venn Academy Trust
Sarah Chesney	Hatfield Woodhouse Primary

Vacant

Vacant

Secondary

Main Member

Simon Swain	Hallcross Academy
Richard Brooke	Delta
Lesley Bailey	Delta
Vacant	
Vacant	

Vacant

Vacant

Special School

Karen Smith	Nexus Multi Academy Trust
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Joel Hardwick	Nexus Multi Academy Trust
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Alternative Provision Academies

Dirk Pittard	St Wilfrid's Academy
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Jo Pittard	St Wilfrid's Academy
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Non-Schools Members

Diocesan Representatives

Philip Patterson	Diocese of Hallam
Philippa Cousins	Diocese of Sheffield

Substitutes

Clare Thorpe	Diocese of Hallam
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Early Years, Private, Voluntary & Independent Sector

Lesley Clark	Little Oaks
Adie Brown	Sticky Mits Childcare Centre

16-19 Providers

Julie Kaye	Doncaster College
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Observers

Keith Hawker	Trade Union Representative NASUWT
Fiona Campbell	NEU
Sue Farmer	Elected Member (Councillor) - Equalities, Education and Skills
Leanne Hornsby	Service Director Education and Skills
Riana Nelson	Executive Director of Children Young People and Families
Stephen Boldry	Local Authority - Finance Manager

CITY OF DONCASTER COUNCIL

SCHOOLS FORUM

Minutes of the Schools Forum held at The Laurel Academy on Thursday 19 September 2024, commencing at 08:30am.

PRESENT: N Towers, D Richardson, L Bailey, R Brooke, K Smith, D Pittard, P Cousins, L Clark.

APOLOGIES: A Painter, M Ridley, S Swaine, P Scotting, G Bowley, L Cherrington, A Brown.

1 SUBSTITUTES

None

2 OBSERVERS

S Farmer, L Hornsby, S Boldry, K Hawker, F Campbell, M Owen, A Tomes, S Lawson-Chamberlain, K Featherstone-Bennett.

3 DECLARATIONS OF BUSINESS INTEREST & OTHER MATTERS

There were no declarations of specific business interest in respect of any item on the agenda or raised at the meeting.

4 MINUTES 19 April 2024

RESOLVED (1)

- a) That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 April 2024 be agreed as a true record.

5 MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising.

6 UPDATE FROM LEANNE HORNSBY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, EDUCATION & SKILLS

- 6.1 CEO for education development around education policy, meet every six weeks, looks at Innovation and Creativity, AI in education, workforce and partnerships. Nationally wanting longer term planning pushing for ten-year plan.
- 6.2 18th September was the Futures for Post 16 SEN, this was to look and see what was available, there was a mix of voluntary and mainstream settings that provide 6th form places.

- 6.3 Education Skills hub – single point, messages sent out instead of edulog.
- 6.4 Voice for Doncaster, last leadership network – action to reach out – how to reach out, host a session for bigger engagement.

7 EARLY YEARS ENTITLEMENT, SUFFICIENCY AND WRAPAROUND

Members were presented with a power point outlining the funding for Early Years prospective and the new wraparound childcare programme.

Discussion took place on the following issues: -

- 7.1 Members were informed of the new Early Years funding streams, previously funding of £22m has increase to £33m to included 15 hours for 9 months to 2-year-olds for working parents.
- 7.5 The take up for 3- & 4-year-olds is 100% but the numbers for disadvantage 2-year-olds have dipped, some of this is due to the new working parent element for 2-year-olds. Previously there was a 'Golden Ticket' for disadvantage children where they would receive a letter, now all must apply for Early years funding. Some parents of deprived 2-year-olds will choose not to send their children to nursery, and some cannot afford the consumables and lunches that some settings charge.
- 7.3 It was discussed that although the hourly rate for 2-year-olds has increased the ratio outweighed the funding and 3&4 years olds still generate more income to remain sustainable. Members agreed it was a mind field and the LA will always lobby on behalf of settings on the issues they come across. It was also mentioned by members that from the national picture Doncaster is amazing compared to other LA's.
- 7.5 It was agreed that an Early Years Subgroup should be created to discuss the funding.
- 7.6 Members were reminded of the funding that is used for central services, Doncaster has never taken the full 5% and it has only ever been possible to take this from the 3- & 4-year-old element. New guidance now states it can be taken from 9 months to 2-year-old element and with new pressures this may need to happen going forward. It was agreed that the consultation for next year's funding rates will need to include more information around this.
- 7.8 Members asked about capacity, there is capacity, but it is complex to identify the children. Family hubs know families, but some choose not to access but we need to understand why they are not taking up the places. There is a site to sign post parents, Your Life Doncaster on the Education Support hub.
- 7.9 Members were informed that the service has not expanded and a review of ways to work and process is taking place, it is in the final stages and once this is completed it will be shared with forum.
- 7.10 There was discussion around the capital funding of £600k not enough but going forward it is possible to bid on section 106 funding from housing development.

- 7.11 Members were then informed about the new wraparound programme which is to help make term time childcare places available for reception to Year 6 pupils between 8am and 6pm. The funding is for new settings and expansion of settings. The delivery programme will be pump funding to be self-sustainable by 2026. There are some briefings taking place if anyone would be interested.
- 7.12 Members were then brought to the attention of a complaint that had been received regarding an historic rule on how funding is allocated each term. Currently funding is allocated based on where a child is at census date, with the new funding streams coming in this is now highlighting disparities on how settings are funded. Following this it has been agreed that a consultation should go out to look at changing this going forward to make the system fair.

RESOLVED (2)

- a) That the report be received and noted.
- b) Early Years subgroup to be set up.
- c) It was agreed that the annual consultation for next year's funding rates will need to include more information about the element for central services.
- d) To share the review of services with members once finalised
- e) Information on wraparound briefings to be sent out to members.

8 HIGH NEEDS FUNDING UPDATE

Members were presented with a power point outlining the high needs funding update.

Discussion took place on the following issues: -

- 8.1 Members received feedback from HN subgroup. It was discussed what central government are doing about funding, Doncaster is working close with the DfE. Looking at element 2 & 3 following consultation, it was mentioned Notional funding set locally (element 2) does not include deprivation. This was discussed at the April 2024 School Forum meeting where it was suggested to increase the Notional funding to 13%, this will be included at the School Forum meeting for the 2025/26 funding report. Element 3 top up - the LA's new funding system will be fairer and equity in distribution.
- 8.2 Outside of mainstream schools a new system based on actual need and development needs parent support, this will also need to use the same language across this process. This will be discussed at a conference on October 4th.
- 8.3 The new process will show good practice in pyramids with EHCPs continuing to be reviewed annually and any new, emerging or changes needing to be brought back to the pyramid panels.

- 8.4 Overarching independent special school places are double national average. The need is to develop the number of spaces and for the right pupils at the right time. The High Needs subgroup will oversee and evaluate these developments.
- 8.5 Schools will receive Info in packs. A clear plan and evidence will be required to prepare funding request either for individual or a group. Each deadline will fall at half term for the panel to consider. Generally, 90% get passed for funding and the funding should be in the school's accounts from January. Any changes to plans will be update at next panel. Impact of new arrangements will be brought to forum and will be routinely requesting this information.
- 8.6 Members were informed that there are no vacancies in the Education psychology team, and they are in a good place with EPs. Members asked if a Trust could employ their own Education psychologist or would they need to use Doncaster's. They need to be able to talk about needs and the information provided by EP, there could be a potential conflict and how this would link with independent's and will they use the same system etc.
- 8.7 Discussion took place around other items that need to come back to forum for discussion:
- What are independent settings offering?
 - Update on 4 SEMH hubs
 - Expanding big picture learning provision to KS2
 - Bader trust evaluation
- 8.9 Members received a plea for action from St Wilfrids Alternative Provision. The school has 125 places at KS2-4 for interventions, places are centrally funded – not from the High Needs Block, they are Direct commission. In June 21 a pilot 2-year multiagency programme started to provide support in schools, the team have seen 401 students from Nov 2021 from 42 schools in Doncaster with 84% reintegrated. The DfE extension ends March 2025. 40% of the task force (3 members staff) are currently seconded from CDC which cannot be funded from April 2025. The ask is for this aspect to be funded through HNB from April 2025 otherwise they will lose key staff, costs of £44k- £105k a year which will target 150 students across 40 schools. The Government is committed but will need to wait until central government budgeting meeting. It was agreed that this would be considered by CDC and may need to be discussed at and Extra ordinary meeting once the central government budgeting information is available.

RESOLVED (3)

- f) That the report be received and noted.
- g) Impact of the new HNs funding system to be brought to a future Forum meeting
- h) Request from St Wilfrids for funding 3 members of staff to be brought to forum once central government budgeting information is available.

9 DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT (DSG) Revenue Monitoring Quarter 1 2024/25

Members were presented with a report outlining the forecast outturn for the DSG in 2024/25 as at Q1.

Discussion took place on the following issues: -

- 9.1 Members were informed that the forecast in-year overspend for DSG at quarter 1 is £9.67m for 2024/25 this is mainly due to the High Needs Block, this is shown in appendix A.
- 9.2 The schools block is forecast to underspend by £0.02m mainly due to underspends on the provisional Growth Fund payments (appendix C) offset by overspends against school maternity pay.
- 9.3 Members were informed that a report for the 2025/26 schools block budget will be presented at the November meeting.
- 9.4 The central schools services block is showing a projected underspend of £0.01m this is due to underspends within the school's forum budget.
- 9.5 The High Needs Block overall is showing a projected £9.7m overspend. The budgets have increased to estimated expenditure of £8m based on 2023/24 outturn levels and known changes. Further reasons for the overspend include £0.6m on element 3 to mainstream schools, £0.3m SEN additional payments for SEND AP, tuition and other payments to mainstream schools and additional payments to Special Schools, PRU's and NBEC of £1.8M. This is slightly offset by an underspend on OOA placements for social care children of -£0.9m.
- 9.6 The Early Years block is showing as breakeven for the year.
- 9.7 Members attention was then brought to the medium-term financial plan, this is a tool used for the school forum. Assumptions have been updated to show the expected 2025/26 High Needs income this also includes an assumption on the continuation of the transfer of 5% of the school's block. The current overspend position is expected to be £47.0m by the end of 2027/28.
- 9.8 Members agreed these issues need to be discussed at the High Needs Subgroup in more detail. There is also a request for a Funding Formula Subgroup to also be set up.

RESOLVED (4)

- a) That the reports be received and noted.
- b) Details of the MTFP be discussed in more depth via the High Needs Sub-Group.
- c) A new subgroup needs to be set up for Funding Formulas

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next full meeting of the School Forum will be held on Thursday 14 November 2024 at The Laurel Academy at 08:30am.

Early Years Block Funding

Entitlement, Sufficiency
and Wraparound in
Doncaster

DSG Early Years 2024-25

Doncaster Council has been provided with an indicative DSG Early Years Allocation of £33.3m for 2024-25 broken down as follows.

Area	2024-25 Allocation (£)
Universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds	13,358,986
15 hours entitlement for eligible working parents of 3 and 4 year olds	5,660,766
2 year old disadvantaged entitlement	3,761,902
2 year old working parent entitlement	5,346,211
Under 2s entitlement	4,365,612
Early Years Disability Access Fund	264,810
Early Years Pupil Premium	508,645
TOTAL	33,266,932

Early Years Funding Rates

Funding Rates – 3 and 4-year-olds (universal and additional hours)only

Year	Budget (£)	Percentage
2022-2023	715,570	4.29%
2023-2024	792,470	4.65%
2024-2025	838,010	4.55%

Current situation
4.41%

Remaining 5% expenditure

The remaining 5% expenditure could include the following:

- centrally retained funding (for central services or services in-kind, including special educational needs and disability (SEND) services)
- transfer of funding to any of the other early years entitlements
- any extra hours that local authorities choose to fund in addition to the government's entitlement hours
- any funding movement out of the early years block

The Statutory Duties on LA's

- **The Childcare Act 2006**

- Section 6, which places a duty on English local authorities, so far as reasonably practicable to secure sufficient childcare in their area for working parents
- Section 7, which places a duty on English local authorities to secure early years provision free of charge. Regulations made under section 7 set out the type and amount of free provision and the children who benefit from free provision
- Section 12, which places a duty on English local authorities to provide information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents. Section 12 was amended by section 5 of the Childcare Act 2016 to enable the Secretary of State to make regulations placing a duty on English local authorities to publish certain information at prescribed intervals

Retained Services



Retained – Central Services

The Childcare Act 2006 & The Childcare Act 2016

- This guidance applies to:
 - the duty on local authorities to secure early years provision free of charge
 - the duty to secure sufficient childcare for working parents, including wraparound childcare
 - the duty to secure childcare free of charge for eligible working parents of 3- and 4-year-olds
 - the provision of information, advice and assistance to parents, and
 - the provision of information, advice and training to childcare providers

Learning Provision

- To ensure a sufficiency of supply and adequate planning and monitoring processes are in place, it is necessary to allocate funding to continue to support 2.53 FTE posts at a cost of £103,280 in 2024/25.
- Structure
 - Place Planning and Sufficiency Manager (Early Years, Schools, Post 16, SEND/AP)
 - Senior Sufficiency and Sustainability Officer (Early Years)
 - Financial Planning and Sustainability Officer (Early Years)
 - Early Education Funding Officer x 2 (Early Years)
 - Place Planning Officer (Early Years)



Early Years Entitlement

- Work alongside Schools Finance on the Funding rate consultation
- Administer and oversee 300 funding agreements on the Directory of Funded Providers
- Process over 600 funding tasks per term, over 1800 Per year
- Verification and reconciliation of all claims (4304 Children presently on roll)
- Oversee the total Early Years budget of c£33.6m
- Financial monitoring
- Targeted and Random Audits
- Early Engagement Work with Family Hubs
- Marketing and Communications



Early Years Sufficiency

- Undertake and oversee sufficiency mapping and market management exercises and projects to ensure we retain sufficient sustainable provision to meet the needs of Doncaster families.
- Termly Occupancy Data Collections
- Annual Parent Demand Survey
- Data analysis of birth and demographic data
- Production of high-level forecast data Programme delivery for new entitlements
- Production of the statutory Childcare Sufficiency Assessment
- Close engagement with School Place Planning to ensure consistency
- Business Planning and Sustainability Support for new and existing providers
- Capital funding

Current Position

Funding

- New entitlement for 9 month-old children now live and to date 983 claims processed
- Forecast payment of £1.7million released to providers and schools
- 15 financial audits being scheduled for this term

Sufficiency

- 2024 Parent Demand Survey about to close, 1100 responses so far
- The Autumn term occupancy data collection is scheduled to go out October half term
- Forecasting work underway for the next three years of place needs
- Working to support the development of provision in places where unmet demand is forecast

Early Years Inclusion Team

- The cost to be funded for 2024/25 is £628,000, which contributes to cover 11.63 FTE within the Early Years Inclusion Team/Family Hubs.
- Structure
 - 1 x Head of Service
 - 5 x Early Years Inclusion Officers
 - 4 x SENDCO, 4 x SENDOs
 - 1 x childminding Officer
 - 2 x Safeguarding Officers
 - 4 x Portage Home Visiting
 - 0.6 x Training Officer
 - 4 x Early Years Coordinators in Family Hubs



Early Years Inclusion Team

Leadership

- Ofsted and DfE links
- DfE Early Years Working Group
- EYFSP analysis, merging needs, next steps
- LA Representative for SEND/Inclusion (advocating/championing)
- Early Years Financial Scheme, PDP programmes etc
- Coaching & mentoring/ Business modelling

Quality

- Intense support and advice
- The 'Getting to good' support package currently works with 30 childminders and 13 group providers
- Inspection support
- 66 (57 Inspected) Day Nursery and Sessional Care Early Years
 - 100% good or outstanding
- 198 (143 Inspected) Childminders Early Years Register
 - 98% good or outstanding

Inclusion/SEND

- Inclusion meetings
- Early Years – EIA Panel and funding
- Observations – APDR

Training

- Comprehensive training programme -EYFS quality provision, Safeguarding and SEND
- Baby project

Safeguarding

- Audits
- LADO

Home Learning Environment

- Universal sessions – preparing for
- Portage Home Visitors

Transitions

- Meetings with settings and schools

Locality Meetings

- Network meetings
- Childminder support

Forecast Pressures



Forecast Pressures

- Assessment of supply and demand has identified pressure points in the following localities, and we are working with providers in these areas to look at options.
 - Total places still to find 235 for Sept 2024.
 - New places in progress – Mexborough, Balby, High Melton, Wheatley
 - Known and emerging red areas – Adwick/Highfields, Armthorpe, Don Valley, Hatfield, Stainforth, Balby, Conisbrough, Danum, Edlington
- Increased number in PVI's, increased number of children accessing funded places – increased demand on central services.
- Funding rates 2025/2026
 - For 2024 to 2025, the 95% pass-through requirement will apply separately to the entitlements for:
 - 9-months-old children up to 2-year-olds of working parents
 - 2-year-old children of working parents
 - 2-year-old children from disadvantaged families
 - 3 and 4-year-olds (universal and additional hours)
- Local authorities must plan to pass through at least 95% of their funding from the government to early years providers for each of the above entitlements, separately.

Wraparound

Where did it all start?

The national wraparound childcare programme is part of the childcare reforms announced at the 2023 Spring Budget. The government's ambition is that by 2026, all parents and carers of primary school-aged children (reception to year 6) who need it will be able to access term time childcare in their local area from 8am - 6pm, so that parents can access employment and improve labour market participation

The programme is not an affordability programme but an availability programme

The aims of the original Programme set by DfE:

- The main aim for the programme is for the substantial majority of new/expanded provision to be self-sustaining from the end of the planned programme (i.e. 2026 onwards). This means that local authorities should aim to have most of the new places available to parents by the beginning of the funding period, to allow for demand to grow and to give settings the best chance of becoming financially sustainable.
- A secondary aim is to test flexible ways of providing childcare and gather evidence of what works. This inevitably involves some financial risk. We accept that it will not be possible for 100% of new or expanded provision to prove sustainable: the programme is designed to test new models of provision
- The programme is to be delivered through the Local Authority under its existing Sufficiency Duty. Additional funding through the LA Additional Capacity allocation to support 2 x new posts. DfE recognise value for money on the Delivery Plan.

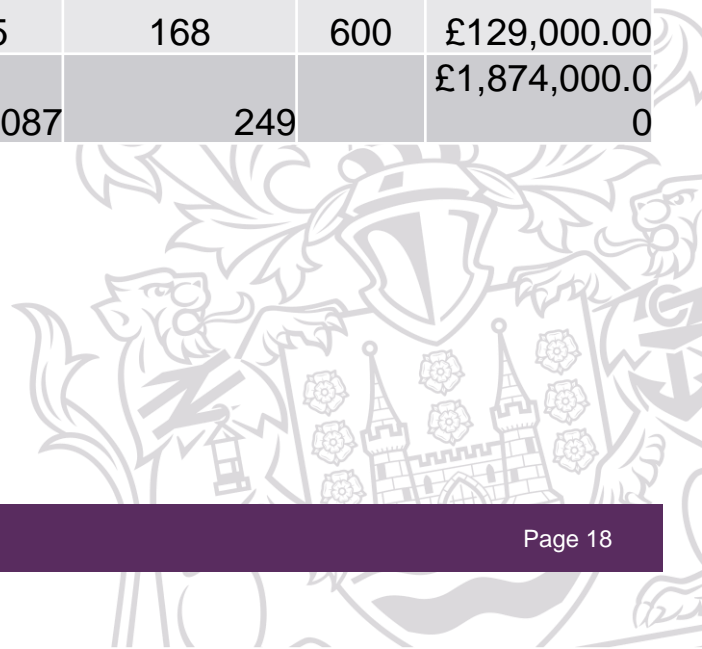
What has happened so far?

- With the LA Additional Capacity Fund - A lead officer has been appointed to support with the roll out across Doncaster (this is a DfE requirement). The new officer for this role starts September 2nd. Alongside an additional Place Planner.
- DfE published the programme handbook for Local Authorities in October and a Handbook for Schools in January 2024 (this was emailed to all schools/providers)
- Consultation was undertaken by the Local Authority in January 2024 with schools / providers on wraparound a total of 140 responses were received (out of these responses 73 stated they wanted to work with us on the wraparound programme)
- Childcare Expansion Capital Grant funding has been allocated to the Local Authority (£600,417 of which approx. 20% **£120,083** can be used for wraparound projects)
- Indicative revenue funding has been allocated into the Local Authority for the National Wraparound Programme (approx. 2 million pounds). Full delivery plans have been approved by DFE
- The application process for the initial round of funding applications deadline has taken place and agreements are in the process of being sent out.
- The roll out of the recently approved Doncaster Development plan is now taking

Wraparound Funding

Doncaster Type	Type	Places	Provider	Max pp	Total
New settings creating 40+ both new breakfast and new afterschool.	New Provision	740	23	1250	£925,000.00
Expanding settings creating 20 additional places either new breakfast or new afterschool	Expanded 3 Provision (20+)	476	19	900	£428,400.00
Expanding settings increase in numbers	Expanded 2 place capacity	80	3	700	£56,000.00
Expanding less than 10 places and need resources	Expanded 1 Provision (less than 10)	100	10	500	£50,000.00
	Expanded hours (schools)	476	26	600	£285,600.00
Expanding existing provision to 40+ (increased No. &/or longer hours)	Expanded hours (Childminders)	215	168	600	£129,000.00
	Total	2087	249		£1,874,000.00

Number	1st year	Cost	2nd	Cost	Total
740	800	592,000	450	333,000	925,000
476	600	285,600	300	142,800	428,400
80	700	56,000	0	0	56,000
100	500	50,000	0	0	50,000
476	450	214,200	150	71,400	285,600
215	600	129,000	0	0	129,000
					1,874,000
	Total	1,326,800		547,200	0





Doncaster School Forum High Needs Funding Update

Content

- ▶ HNB current Context and Structure
- ▶ High needs consultation
- ▶ AP Task force
- ▶ Element 3 evaluation group

DSG / HNB

- ▶ All schools funding and SEND funding is summarised within the Dedicated Schools Grant. The majority of SEND funding is allocated directly to schools, within the 'notional' element of school budgets.
- ▶ Local councils have the responsibility of 'topping up' funding where there are significant needs or providing appropriate specialist provision where this is required.
- ▶ Funding should be overseen in partnership with schools via Schools Forum.
- ▶ The formula for defining how much of a school/ academy budget should be tagged as being for SEND is set locally. However, schools make their own decisions about how much is dedicated to SEND.



2.High Needs context

National Picture

- ▶ There has been 115% increase in EHCPs following the introduction of the Children & Families Act 2014. Tribunals have increased by 400% since 2014 and 98% find in favour of parents
- ▶ The maintained special school population (Ave £22k pp) has increased by 53% since 2014 & independent special school places (Ave £68k pp) increased by 81%, with independent places being subject to market forces
- ▶ The majority of councils now have a cumulative deficit, amounting to a national gap of £1.6 billion. The LGA estimates that this likely to rise to £3.6 billion by March 2025.
- ▶ The statutory override had been due to expire in March 2023. In December 2022, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities announced that the statutory override would be extended for a further three years to the end of March 2026.

National Policy Landscape

- ▶ The National Audit office report (2019) into 'support for pupils with SEND in England' sets out the policy flaws that have created increases in high needs spend, referencing strengthened parental influence over high needs decisions, pressures on school funding and minimal drivers for schools to be inclusive, including a lack of oversight from OFSTED.
- ▶ The F40 group, estimated that an additional £4.6 billion a year is needed to meet the increased demand for SEND. It notes how 'the right of parental 'choice' is often interpreted by tribunals as a parent's 'right to choose', without considering equity or efficiency.
- ▶ Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Select Committee report on Local authorities (March 24): *'We appreciate that some efficiencies may be achievable, but it is not realistic to expect local authorities to manage down deficits of the scale of many billions of pounds over a period of two or three years'*.
- ▶ The DfE has, introduced two programmes for supporting individual councils with their high needs spending- the Safety Valve (37 councils), where finance is provided to reward efficiencies and the 'Delivering Better Value' scheme (55 councils), aimed at improving local system capacity.
- ▶ *The new Labour government has set out a commitment to addressing these issues within it's manifesto. This includes a commitment to optimising inclusion within schools, directing more funding towards 'early intervention' and ensuring that special schools are for 'more complex needs'*

Doncaster Demand over time

- ▶ Since 2014, the proportion of children and young people with EHCPs has risen from 2.5% in 2015/16 to 3.3% in 2022/2023 and stands at 3.8% as at January 2024.
- ▶ The proportion at 'SEND Support' has risen by 4% in period to 2022/2023 when it was 13.1%. As at January 2024 this stands at 13.8%
- ▶ Since 2019 the actual number of plans overseen by the Local Authority has increased steeply, from 1898 to 2758 in 2024, a 45% increase.
- ▶ The rise in plans over the last year includes 31 students with EHCPs who have moved into Doncaster over the last year, 19 of whom have required, by law, specialist placements.
- ▶ Requests for assessment for an EHCP continue to grow in number, with 238 requests in 2017, 620 in 2022 and 786 requests over the last calendar year, with 63% of requests proceeding to assessment.
- ▶ Since 2018-2019, we have seen a 411% increase in the total cost of SEN students educated out of area, which has contributed heavily towards a cumulative high needs deficit of £25m at the end of the 2023-2024 financial year.

Breakdown of OOA placements

▶ Secondary:

- ▶ 51 students, currently in years 7-11, were placed in Out of Authority schools in the 12 months from May 2022 to April 2023.
- ▶ In the 12 Months since May 2023, 47 students of secondary age in total were placed in Out of Authority Schools:
 - ▶ 31 are currently in KS3 (10 of these started in Yr 7 in September 2023 with an additional 5 joining schools in Yr 7 between October 2023 and January 2024)
 - ▶ 16 are currently in KS4
 - ▶ 23 from a range of non-mainstream settings including; Alternative Provision, Pupil Referral Units, Other Special Schools, Tuition or not in Education, including 'moved in'
- ▶ The majority of these students have ASD as their primary need (23). A further 16 are recorded as having SEMH as their primary need

Primary:

- ▶ 7 students, currently in years 5-6, were placed in the 12 months to April 2023
- ▶ In the 12 Months since May 2023, 10 students, of primary age were placed in Out of Authority Schools. 4 were in Year 5 and 6 in Year 6H
- ▶ Primary need was split between ASD (5) and SEMH (5)

Breakdown of recent OOA places by source- pyramid and locality

Pyramid	Number	Percentage
Don Valley	5	15.2%
Ridgewood	6	18.2%
Adwick	4	12.1%
Thorne	4	12.1%
Hatfield	2	6.1%
Armthorpe	1	3%
Hungerhill	1	3%
Edlington	2	6.1%
Hayfield	2	6.1%%
Rossington	1	3%
Mexborough	1	3%
Danum	2	6.1%%
Balby	1	3%
Hall Cross	1	3%
TOTAL	33	99.9%

Locality	Number	Percentage
North	15	26%
East	8	14%
South	6	11%
Central	4	7%
Other	24	42%
Total	57	100%

Doncaster High Needs block- Structure and approximate costs

Total Allocation	55,241,454		
Expenditure	61,183,369		
2023-24 Overspend	5,941,915		
Breakdown of Expenditure	£	Children Supported	Average Cost Per Place
Element 3 Funding	9,707,496	878	11,056
Special Schools	16,974,713	731	23,221
PRUs / AP	6,537,489	273	23,947
Post 16	6,185,823	219	28,246
Out of Authority Placements	15,579,743	240	64,916
SEMH / Recoupment	1,032,665	110	9,388
Outreach	5,165,439	N/K	N/K
Total Expenditure	61,183,369		

Preventative work over the last year

We have:

- ▶ Created an additional 42 specialist places through our new SEMH hubs (around £18k per place) as opposed to an independent placement of on average £68k per place. This has been partially funded through the SF 0.5% top slice of the schools block.
- ▶ Invested in the Post 16 specialist offer at Stonehill, creating 36 places over 3 years at a likely saving by 26/27 of £0.55m per year.
- ▶ Created new provision for children and young people with more severe needs at Coppice School, with cost prevention from 2024/25 of up to £1.1m per year.
- ▶ We have supported 22 children to return from independent placements, with savings of over £0.5m.
- ▶ Invested in 'early intervention' approaches within many of our primary schools to prevent further escalation. Our new primary base within the East, which cost £0.39m, mitigate further higher costs placements being made, whilst also keeping children within their community in mainstream setting.

Preventative work over the last year

- ▶ We are tightly monitoring and scrutinising all high needs decisions to ensure that they are appropriate and cost effective. Wherever possible are ensuring the we offer mainstream support in local schools. We have confidently offered challenge at tribunals which has yielded a number of cases where children have remained in mainstream rather than independent schools.
- ▶ We have developed a range of resources to support local schools to ensure capability and consistency. These include:
 - ▶ Developing needs indicators
 - ▶ Launching our online EHCP hub
 - ▶ Defining the local graduated approach and our 'ordinarily available' offer.
 - ▶ Publishing our handbook and toolkit
 - ▶ Developing a CPD and SEND School Improvement team.

The background features several overlapping geometric shapes in various colors: a blue triangle at the top left, a maroon triangle below it, a yellow triangle to the right of the maroon one, a purple triangle below the yellow one, an orange triangle at the bottom left, a pink triangle at the top right, an orange triangle below it, and a green triangle at the bottom right. The word "Questions" is centered in the white space between the shapes.

Questions



3. High Needs Funding Consultation

2. High Needs Funding- Consultation

- ▶ The SENCO reference group started exploring different funding models for Element 3 top up in mainstream schools in Autumn 2023.
- ▶ Through various workstreams we agreed a set of ambitions and principles for future funding that were agreed by forum in September 23.
- ▶ Under the DBV scheme, working with the DfE, the council developed a workplan for changes. Jane Friswell (former CEO NASEN) was commissioned to develop the new model with stakeholders. Peter Gray (Author of DfE research into effective high needs systems) has worked with senior leaders and SENCOs to QA the emerging model during May/ June 24.
- ▶ At each point we have shared the ambitions and emerging detail of the model through partnership meetings during 23/24.
- ▶ Alongside formal consultation during May 24, we have engaged through the various partnership forums and local government groups:
- ▶ DASH / Health and Social Care SEND Partnership/ SEND Board/ SEND Engine Room/ Making A Difference parent group/ CYP Shadow Board/ Schools Forum/ SENCO Network/ CYP Scrutiny Panel/ Doncaster Exec and Cabinet groups/ SEND Head Teacher Briefings.
- ▶ We have also visited over 70 schools. Seven schools requested meetings during the consultation period and two multi-academy trusts. We had 20 formal responses to the consultation.
- ▶ We will continue to engage in dialogue with schools around this through a variety of planned meetings and briefings

Consultation questions

The 'notional' element allocated to schools in Doncaster will move from 8.39% to 11 % of the overall school budget. The formula already includes AWPU and LPA as factors, but will now include social deprivation.

There was general support for the principle of bringing notional funding in line with DfE guidance and ensuring that there is a deprivation factor included, as set out in the DfE High Needs guidance. This change will bring us in line with national expectations and will take effect from April 25. Schools have requested that we use FSM data not Idaci as it gives a truer representation of the actual school cohorts.

Following questions, we have also published FAQs to schools to say :

The notional SEN budget is intended to be a guide for a school's spending decisions when it comes to providing for its pupils with SEND. It is not a separate amount of money given to schools specifically for SEND - it is an identified amount from the school's overall budget. The way schools spend this money will differ from setting to setting, based on the specific needs of their pupils and the way that setting is organised.

Government guidance is that schools should provide up to £6,000 worth of SEND provision for a pupil with SEND from their budget. This does not mean that the school will spend £6,000 on every child with SEND. How they spend the money will vary according to the needs of their school - for example, they may use the money to help groups of children with similar needs. Some children will need less support – and some children may need more.

Notional funding is not new or more money. The LA can not offer more money to support SEND in school budgets.

Consultation Questions

To agree in principle to support the introduction and application of the SEN Descriptors of Need to inform SEN funding decisions and resource allocations to schools and pupils who have an EHCP, from the Autumn term 2024. The 'High Needs Funding' system will ensure that funding is allocated against an evidenced and moderated level of need. This proposal was accompanied by the new local arrangements for Ordinarily Available provision, set out in our new SEND Handbook and Toolkit.

In consultation with schools regarding a formula for devolving funding to 4 locality panels we propose the following options:

- ▶ 1) Divide funds on basis of Number on Roll (NOR) and Low Prior Attainment (LPA) indicators- 70/30
- ▶ 2) Divide funding on basis of NOR/ LPA indicators/ Free School Meals (FSM) 50/25/25

Consultation Responses

1. Schools report that the new framework provides clarity, consistency and greater transparency around funding for SEND. There were no negative responses received. A summary of general comments is set out below:

- *Having looked at the documents in detail with staff in school we feel that this is a much more effective and straightforward way to help with the levels of need in regard to SEN.*
- *The transformation agenda has been long awaited and is received with great thanks. It is evident that significant work has been carried out in order to create a cohesive approach which is underpinned by high quality universal provision.*
- ▶ *The changes are very welcome and are clearly underpinned by a comprehensive review of the current issues and a vision of how the system should work in the future*
- ▶ *I am glad that there is a section whereby our school (having disproportionate SEN needs) may be able to benefit from additional funding*

2. We received limited response from schools regarding the locality formula breakdown. We recommend that option 2 is in place for the first year of this project as there was general agreement regarding the need to reference deprivation within the overall funding formula

FAQs

Following a number of questions from schools, we have also published a set of FAQs:

Why is LHNF panel is required to maintain 15% budget, 15% is held back for further emergency panels in the spring and summer terms. Any left over money can be decided on a locality basis for projects within individual schools.

How will moderation of the funding applications work? Requests will be moderated within pyramids and in panel meetings.

What costings will be used for staffing? It is for each school to determine what works for their cohort in terms of support, intervention and any necessary additional adult support.

I am still worried about the impact this will have on time for SENDCOs, particularly in schools like mine where need is so high? Requests will ask schools to use existing paperwork. If we are able to meet needs earlier, then we are likely to require less statutory planning, enabling SENDCOs to focus more on their leadership role within schools and trusts. We will fund schools to release SENDCOs for panel meetings.

FAQs

EHCPs are to be part of the devolved funding model, how does this fit with the mediation and tribunal process? They are not affected.

Could there be a potential negative impact on already difficult support staff retention ? SEND provision arrangements where they are specified within a child or YP's EHCP have always been subject to annual review and therefore should not be perceived as permanent. This model will offer schools more certainty in the long term as most decisions will be made at the same time. Transition requests will cover a longer period of time (5 terms) and will also offer greater certainty than the current model.

The locality panel needs sufficient time to read all paperwork prior to meeting termly. We will agree a timeframe with schools to support this. We will also dedicate an officer to administer the process.

Next Steps

- ▶ Recruit a small evaluation group- to meet in September and 6 weekly.
- ▶ Sharing consultation responses with schools July 2024
- ▶ Refresh guidance after pilot evaluations are complete.
- ▶ Briefings for schools on process and timeframes in September 24.
- ▶ Launch at SEND Conference Sept 24
- ▶ Moderation after half term Oct 24
- ▶ Panels scheduled through November 24
- ▶ Payments under new system Jan 25.

Element 3 Evaluation Group- Request

Suggested membership:

- ▶ 2 x SF members
- ▶ 2 x mainstream MAT representatives
- ▶ 2 x LA officers including one finance officer
- ▶ 1 x Special School rep.
- ▶ 1 x Primary and 1 Secondary HT



Doncaster Council

REPORT TO THE SCHOOLS FORUM

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Revenue Monitoring Quarter 1 2024-25

Purpose

1. This report details the forecast outturn for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budgets for the year 2024-25, as at 30 June 2024
2. 3 (with known updates included).

Recommendation

3. That Schools Forum
 - Notes the report;

Background

4. All Local Authorities receive a ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) from the Department for Education (DfE) for their schools provision. For 2024-25 the DfE funding settlement received in December 2023 was based on October 2023 census.
5. The DSG is split into 4 blocks, as presented in Appendix A:
 - Schools Block
 - Central Schools Services Block
 - High Needs Block
 - Early Years Block

Issues for consideration

6. The attached report at Appendix A shows the budget for 2024-25, projected year-end outturn and projected year-end variance for 2024-25 based on information as at the end of Quarter 1, updated to reflect latest information.
7. The report shows a forecast in-year overspend of £9.67m for 2024-25. Reasons for variances against budgeted spend lines for 2024-25 are detailed in Appendix A with the main reasons outlined in this report.

8. The attached report at Appendix B shows the Medium Term Financial Plan (2024-25 - 2027/28) for the High Needs Block.

Schools Block

9. The Schools Block budget overall is showing a projected (£0.02m) underspend for the year due to underspends on the provisional Growth Fund payments for 2024-25 which are included at appendix C with final payments to be confirmed following the October 2024 census offset by overspends against school maternity pay.
10. A further report on the 2025-26 Schools Block budget will be presented at the November 24 Schools Forum meeting once further details have been received from the DfE.

Central Schools Services Block

11. The Central Schools Services Block is showing a small underspend of £0.01m against the schools forum budget at this time for the year.

High Needs Block

12. The High Needs Block budget overall is showing a projected £9.7m overspend for the year.
13. Budgets for 2024-25 have increased to estimated expenditure figures (based on 2023-24 outturn levels and known changes) with the balance of these increases showing a £8.0m overspend against the contingency / unallocated budget.
14. Further reasons for the overspend include projected overspends of £0.6m on Element 3 funding to mainstream schools and £0.3m against SEN additional payments for SEND AP, Tuition and other payments to mainstream schools.
15. Overspends are also expected with additional payments to Special Schools and PRU's and NBEC £1.8m.
16. These overspends are being offset by an underspend against the Out of Authority placements for social care children of (0.9m)

Early Years Block

17. The Early Years Block budget overall is showing a break-even position for the year.
18. Early Years funding for 2024-25 is being provided by the DfE based on each termly census data. Further updates will be known following the Quarter 2 monitoring process.

High Needs Block Medium Term Financial Plan (2024-25 - 2027/28)

19. Appendix B sets out details of the High Needs block budget across the current and following 3 financial years.
20. Grant income and expenditure assumptions have been updated to show the expected 2025-26 High Needs income which is still to be confirmed by the Department for Education.
21. Expenditure budgets have been reviewed based on 2023-24 outturn positions and other known changes resulting from the LA's Delivering Better Value in SEND Programme and SEND updates.
22. The current plan also includes an assumption on the continuation of the transfer of the transfer of 0.5% of the total Schools Block into the High Needs Block subject to annual Schools Forum approval.
23. Allowing for the above, the current High Needs overspend position is predicted to be £47.0m by the end of 2027-28, as shown within appendix B with total overspends of £35.0m expected at the end of 2024-25, £40.2m in 2025-26 increasing to £43.9m in 2026-27.
24. This position is not uncommon to other Councils. Work continues to review the DSG medium term financial plan alongside the Delivering Better Value work in order to ensure robust expenditure projections across the period 2024-25 to 2027/28.

Consultation

25. Individual budget holders have considered the current estimated outturn position. The revenue monitoring position for Children's Services has been reported to the Director of Learning and Opportunities, Children & Young People Services and management team through the monthly reporting process.

Conclusion

26. The adjusted quarter 1 position (end of June 2024) shows a forecast in-year DSG overspend of £9.7m. This will continue to be monitored throughout the year with updates brought to subsequent Schools Forum meetings.

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APPENDIX A
Revenue Monitoring 2024/25 Month 3

APPENDIX A

Service	DSG Budget for Year	Month 3 Projection	Projected DSG Variance	Notes	Month 2 Actual Budget	Month 2 Actual	Month 2 Variance	Difference	Explanation of Month 2 / Change from Previous Quarter
	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
HIGH NEEDS BLOCK DSG									
High Needs Contingency/Unallocated	(7,999)	0	7,999	Original budget overcommitted based on original estimates	(7,999)	0	7,999	0	Original budget overcommitted based on original estimates
Pupils Educated Out Of Area - LA SEN	13,062	13,015	(47)	There are currently 196 children in placements, with a net increase of 3 children (5 children started in provision with 2 leaving) at an average cost of £69.9k per year.	13,062	13,224	162	(209)	Figures based on current numbers/packages recently agreed however growth figures (as included in Cabinet report) require review with service to determine if still realistic. Growth review to include OOA search list, CME & movers in.
Pupils Educated Out Of Area - LA CWD	706	745	39	Figures as per Month 3 Social Care Ladder	706	726	20	19	Figures as per Month 2 Social Care Ladder
Pupils Educated Out Of Area - Social Care	2,644	1,799	(845)	Reducing split of packages relating to Education reducing DSG spend proportion of costs (figures as per Month 3 Social Care Ladder)	2,644	1,944	(700)	(145)	Reducing split of packages relating to Education reducing DSG spend proportion of costs (figures as per Month 2 Social Care Ladder)
Specialist Post 16 Institutions	6,567	6,663	96	£96k overspend overall - 3% price inflation included for 24/25 not all providers requested an increase by end May deadline. Still ongoing discussions with providers regarding a block booking. Also 3 children left in 23/24 that we were previously unaware of.	6,567	6,520	(47)	143	£96k overspend overall - 3% price inflation included for 24/25 not all providers requested an increase by end May deadline. Still ongoing discussions with providers regarding a block booking. Also 3 children left in 23/24 that we were previously unaware of.
Post 16 FE Colleges	319	337	18		319	343	24	(6)	
Mainstream EHCP Banded Top Up funding	6,558	6,913	355	Figure based on summer term data from SEN Team (for summer term advances), then estimated for Autumn term. Spring term (Jan-March) expected to be at budget as localities to get 3/12th budget (maximum).	6,558	6,558	0	355	
SEN Children additional Funding	3,479	3,764	285	Budget for SEN AP, Tuition and additional payments for mainstream children above element 3 allocations. Predicted expenditure based on decisions to date including growth at the 2023-24 level with an assumption that from January 25 funding will be devolved to locality panels.	3,479	3,479	0	285	Budget for SEN AP, Tuition and additional payments for mainstream children above element 3 allocations. Predicted expenditure based on decisions to date including growth at the 2023-24 level with an assumption that from January 25 funding will be devolved to locality panels.
Special Schools - ISB	10,625	11,312	687	Overall overspend of £687k due to additional places agreed at Bader, North Ridge and Pennine View (unbudgeted for) This alongside additional payments being made for specific children within special schools is causing the overspend. Future growth numbers to be discussed and agreed with the Service.	10,625	10,625	0	687	
Other LA recoupment	794	798	4		794	794	0	4	
PRUs Incl. Mulberry Unit	2,995	3,208	213	Actuals based on Levett pupil numbers of 35 from January 25 following consultation exercise compared to the budget set at 32 places from September 24.	2,995	3,259	264	(51)	Budget based on Levett pupil numbers of 32 from Sept 24, however now 35 places from Jan 25 planned following consultation exercise.
SEMH Provision	998	1,111	113	Cost increases from those originally expected to be commissioned (£168k on top of original £175k per hub, approved until October 2024, projection includes full year) plus additional payments agreed through SENDQA panel for specific children.	998	1,166	168	(55)	Cost increases from those originally expected to be commissioned (£168k on top of original £175k per hub, approved until October 2024, projection includes full year).
North Bridge Enterprise College	851	1,722	871	Budget based on 24 places from Sept 24 however 48 places now predicted by the Service. Confirmation required from Service on future numbers at this provision.	851	851	0	871	
Big Picture Learning	2,212	2,212	0	Sept 24 future commissioning arrangements still to be agreed and confirmed.	2,212	2,212	0	0	Sept 24 future commissioning arrangements still to be agreed and confirmed.
Specialist AP provision	885	680	(205)		885	885	0	(205)	
Pre-School Inclusion - Portage/SEN	1,220	1,245	25		1,220	1,220	0	25	
Children's Specialist Equipment	168	168	0		168	168	0	0	
ASD Schools Support	440	444	4		440	440	0	4	
HI Schools Support	825	705	(120)		825	825	0	(120)	
VI Schools Support	525	530	5		525	525	0	5	
Primary Outreach	375	419	44		375	375	0	44	
Secondary Outreach	114	114	0		114	114	0	0	
Learning & Behaviour Support Service	1,355	1,519	164	Overspend expected due to payments to schools for work connected to reduction in permanent exclusions offset by payments expected for the Day 6 provision.	1,355	1,355	0	164	
Pupils Educated At Home	100	103	3		100	100	0	3	
Independent Behaviour Provision (Tops Team)	186	178	(8)		186	186	0	(8)	
Contributions to Centrally Retained & De-delegated Budgets	90	90	0		90	90	0	0	
HIGH NEEDS BLOCK Sub-total	50,094	59,794	9,700		50,094	57,984	7,890	1,810	

APPENDIX A
Revenue Monitoring 2024/25 Month 3

APPENDIX A

Service	DSG Budget for Year	Month 3 Projection	Projected DSG Variance	Notes	Month 2 Actual Budget	Month 2 Actual	Month 2 Variance	Difference	Explanation of Month 2 / Change from Previous Quarter
	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
SCHOOLS BLOCK DSG									
Individual School Budgets	32,497	32,497	0		32,497	32,497	0	0	
Staff Absence Compensation - Maternity	207	227	20		207	207	0	20	
Staff Absence Compensation - TU Facility	56	56	0		56	56	0	0	
Museums-Art Gallery(Education Service)	28	28	0		28	28	0	0	
EMTAS & GRT Virtual School	86	86	0		86	86	0	0	
Other Insurances	6	6	0		6	6	0	0	
Free School Meals Eligibility	20	20	0		20	20	0	0	
Support for Schools in Financial Difficulty (Causing Concern)	44	44	0		44	44	0	0	
Growth Fund	520	481	(39)		520	481	(39)	0	
Additional school improvement services (incl. Maths/Literacy Lead)	64	64	0		64	64	0	0	
Education functions for maintained schools (former ESG general duties)	118	118	0		118	118	0	0	
SCHOOLS BLOCK Sub-total	33,646	33,627	(19)		33,646	33,607	(39)		
CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK DSG									
Servicing of Schools Forum	35	20	(15)		35	35	0	(15)	
School Admissions	314	314	0		314	314	0	0	
Miscellaneous Provision (Safeguarding)	23	23	0		23	23	0	0	
Recharges Corporate Services/Management	91	91	0		91	91	0	0	
ICT revenue funding	99	99	0		99	99	0	0	
National Copyright Licences	286	286	0		286	286	0	0	
Education functions for all schools & academies (former ESG retained duties)	864	864	0		864	864	0	0	
Learning & Behaviour Support Service	57	57	0		57	57	0	0	
CENTRAL SCHOOL SERVICES BLOCK Sub-total	1,769	1,754	(15)		1,769	1,769	0	(15)	
EARLY YEARS BLOCK DSG									
Nursery Education Fund - 2 year olds	9,692	9,692	0		9,692	9,692	0	0	
Nursery Education Fund - 3 & 4 year olds	19,251	19,251	0		19,250	19,250	0	0	
Under 2 Year Olds	3,694	3,694	0		3,694	3,694	0	0	
Early Years Retained Duties	838	838	0		838	838	0	0	
Early Years Pupil Premium	519	523	4		519	519	0	4	
Early Years Contingency	0	(4)	(4)		0	0	0	(4)	
High Needs Block transfer to EY Block - Early Help funding	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	
Disability Access Fund	265	265	0		265	265	0	0	
EARLY YEARS BLOCK Sub-total	34,259	34,259	0		34,258	34,258	0	0	
EARLY YEARS BLOCK DSG									
Grand Total	119,768	129,434	9,666	In-year 2024/25 overspend of £9.67m	119,767	127,618	7,851	1,795	In-year 2024/25 overspend of £7.9m

APPENDIX B

4.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	Price inflation used in 24/25 council budget/MTFS report (as at Nov 23) with 3% estimate future years.
5.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	Pay inflation used in 24/25 council budget/MTFS report (as at Nov 23).
3.4%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	DSG increase as per DfE - applies to Special/PRU/EHCP.

Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs Block Medium Term Financial Plan (2023/24 - 2026/27)

	2021-22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
High Needs Block Funding							
Initial DSG Settlement	42,747,785	48,504,344	54,023,648	56,294,393	57,983,225	59,722,722	61,514,403
less High Needs Places deductions (Academies)	-6,670,669	-6,881,335	-7,124,168	-7,499,168	-7,499,168	-7,499,168	-7,499,168
Agreed 0.5% contribution from the Schools Block Budget	0	0	1,217,806	1,298,568	1,337,525	1,377,651	1,418,980
less HN funding transfer to EY block (Early Help Strategy)	-450,000	-450,000					
	35,627,116	41,173,009	48,117,286	50,093,793	51,821,582	53,601,204	55,434,215
High Needs Block Expenditure Projections							
Pupils Educated Out Of Area - LA SEN	7,147,810	9,624,414	12,093,990	13,015,000	11,599,093	10,954,324	11,167,129
Pupils Educated Out Of Area - LA CWD	1,776,110	1,632,233	1,143,073	745,000	767,350	790,371	814,082
Pupils Educated Out Of Area - Social Care	4,210,670	5,038,802	2,342,680	1,799,000	1,852,970	1,908,559	1,965,816
Specialist Post 16 Institutions	3,197,460	5,163,864	5,900,865	6,663,000	6,098,461	6,056,165	6,191,976
Post 16 FE Colleges	453,680	290,108	284,958	337,000	350,508	361,023	371,854
Mainstream EHCP Banded Top Up funding	5,985,557	5,356,168	6,342,486	6,913,000	6,386,596	6,578,194	6,775,540
SEN Children additional Funding	799,619	1,826,270	3,365,010	3,764,000	3,876,920	3,993,228	4,113,024
Special Schools - ISB	7,458,037	8,623,897	9,850,545	11,312,000	11,651,360	12,000,901	12,360,928
Other LA recoupment	561,130	568,586	767,614	798,000	821,940	846,598	871,996
PRUs Incl. Mulberry Unit	3,023,770	3,236,451	3,280,263	3,208,000	2,501,353	2,576,394	2,653,685
SEMH Provision	0	0	265,050	1,111,000	762,715	785,596	809,164
North Bridge Enterprise College	1,171,600	1,186,812	1,281,746	1,722,000	877,300	221,846	0
Big Picture Learning	418,470	749,410	1,321,419	2,212,000	2,598,196	3,058,640	3,150,399
Specialist AP provision	721,310	623,597	654,062	680,000	1,256,381	1,423,692	1,466,403
Pre-School Inclusion - Portage/SEN	915,500	994,319	1,180,767	1,245,000	1,261,900	1,279,138	1,304,721
Children's Specialist Equipment	100,000	161,176	161,180	168,000	173,040	178,231	183,578
ASD Schools Support	681,680	685,800	419,383	444,000	452,880	461,938	471,176
HI Schools Support	773,330	753,490	785,901	705,000	719,100	733,482	748,152
VI Schools Support	323,180	421,445	499,578	530,000	540,600	551,412	562,440
Behaviour Outreach Team - Primary	308,960	351,397	357,471	419,000	427,380	435,928	444,646
Behaviour Outreach Team - Secondary	107,000	109,000	109,000	114,000	116,280	118,606	120,978
Learning & Behaviour Support Service	891,580	885,760	1,290,145	1,519,000	1,549,380	1,580,368	1,611,975
Pupil Educated At Home	83,180	88,266	94,927	103,000	105,060	107,161	109,304
Independent Behaviour Provision (Tops Team)	150,080	154,762	176,989	178,000	181,560	185,191	188,985
Contributions to Centrally Retained & De-delegated Schools Budgets	73,730	87,094	90,098	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
Gross Expenditure	41,333,443	48,613,120	54,059,201	59,794,000	57,018,322	57,276,983	58,547,861
High Needs Budget Variance (in Year)	5,706,327	7,440,111	5,941,915	9,700,207	5,196,740	3,675,779	3,113,645
DSG Schools Block, Early Years Block Variance	-1,130,173	-1,253,982	-432,727	-34,000			
Overall DSG Balance	13,626,072	19,812,201	25,321,390	34,987,597	40,184,337	43,860,115	46,973,761

Summary table

Description	2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's	2026/27 £000's	2027/28 £000's
DSG High Needs Block grant (after deductions)	41,173	48,117	50,094	51,822	53,601	55,434
High Needs Block expenditure	48,613	54,059	59,794	57,018	57,277	58,548
In year High Needs Block variance (less other DSG underspends)	6,186	5,509	9,666	5,197	3,676	3,114
Overall DSG Balance	19,812	25,321	34,988	40,184	43,860	46,974

2023/24 Q4 Outturn

Description	2022/23 £000's	2023/24 £000's	2024/25 £000's	2025/26 £000's	2026/27 £000's
DSG High Needs Block grant (after deductions)	41,173	48,117	50,094	51,822	53,601
High Needs Block expenditure	48,613	54,059	58,431	56,573	57,571
In year High Needs Block variance (less other DSG underspends)	6,186	5,509	8,337	4,752	3,970
Overall DSG Balance	19,812	25,321	33,658	38,410	42,380

Change from 23/24 outturn to Month 3		0	1,329	1,774	1,480
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APPENDIX C																				
Growth Fund Payments for Financial Year 2024/25																				
School	Criteria met	Increase in PAN per year group	Year Groups increase applies to	£ AWPU per pupil increase	Original PAN	Increased PAN Agreed by LA, from Sept 2024	Final October Census 2024 pupil numbers Reception	actual pupil number increase on original PAN	Total pupils Oct 23 (excl. nursery)	Total pupils Oct 24 (excl. nursery)	Funded increase in pupil number (Capped at overall increase from Oct 23 to Oct 24 census)	Minimum Funding (Average Teached Cost for 7 months) ONLY	Maintained / Academy	Growth Fund payment for period Sept 24 - March 25 (7 months)	Growth Fund payment for period April 25 - August 26 (5 months) ACADEMIES ONLY	Growth Fund payment for period April 24 - August 25 (5 months) CRITERIA 1	NOTES	End Date		
Hatchell Wood	1	30	7	£3,562	60	90	90	30	420	450	30	£24,410	Academy	£62,335.00	£44,525.00	£0	New class for year 7 pupils to increase pupil numbers by 50			
Rossington All Saints	1	30	7	£5,022	190	220	220	30	838	868	30	£24,410	Academy	£87,885.00	£62,775.00	£0	New class for year 7 pupils to increase pupil numbers by 50	AY 23-24		
Don Valley	1	16	7	£5,022	224	240	240	16	1071	1087	16	£24,410	Academy	£46,872.00	£33,480.00	£0	New class for year 7 pupils to increase pupil numbers by 30	AY 25-26		
Ridgewood	1	25	7	£5,022	240	265	265	25	1208	1233	25	£24,410	Academy	£73,237.50	£52,312.50	£0	New class for year 7 pupils to increase pupil numbers by 30	AY 25-26		
Hayfield	1	30	7	£5,022	240	270	1079	30	1079	1109	30	£24,410	Academy	£87,885.00	£62,775.00	£0	New class for year 7 pupils to increase pupil numbers by 30	AY 25-26		
														£295,879.50	£211,342.50	£0	Total Payments 23/24 Growth Fund			
																£507,222				
AWPU Rates 2023-24 APT																				
Primary (Years R-6)	£3,562.00																			
Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9)	£5,022.00																			
Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11)	£5,661.00																			
														Financial Year breakdown		24-25	25-26			
														Apr - Aug 24	£185,418.75			Growth Fund 23-24 (Apr - Aug 24 payments)		
														Sept - Mar 24	£295,879.50			Growth fund 24-25 (Sept 24 - March 25 payments)		
														Apr - Aug 25		£211,342.50		Growth Fund 24-25 (Apr - Aug 25 payments)		
														CMO29	£481,298.25	£211,342.50				