

School Funding Updates for Chairs of Governors and Headteachers

Chairs and Vice-chairs meeting – 3rd February 18.00 to 20.00

Director's meeting with heads – 10th February 9.30 to 11.00

Slides will be based on an edited of the following briefing – a short version for governors and a longer one for heads

Schools Funding Formula

- Barnet Schools Block funding up from £286.25m 21-22 to £297.76m in 22-23
- Continuation of the local schools funding formula, based on the National Funding Formula (NFF) but with protection for all schools through the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)
- MFG means that every primary and secondary school will receive an increase in funding per pupil of at least +2% (through the pupil-led element of the schools funding formula).
- Guaranteed minimum per pupil funding of £4,265 for primaries and £5,525 for secondaries.
- Under the NFF, the Basic Entitlement Schools Block Factor rates for 2022/23 have been increased by 3% from 2021/22, so this should be reflected in school budgets.
- Allocations to schools will be based on October 2021 school census data.

Individual school budgets

- The 2022-23 individual school budget shares will be distributed to maintained school Heads by 28th February.
- The document will show the school's calculated budget share for financial year 2022-23.
- Will not include Early Years funding (nursery school, or nursery classes in primary schools) or government grants such as pupil premium, universal infant free school meals etc.
- Indications for EY funding will be distributed by the EY team in due course, before the statutory deadline of March 31st.
- The latest news for other government grants will be available via the Department for Education website.
- The council's finance team will calculate the carried forward balances for each maintained school and share these with schools by 30th April.
- Each maintained school must submit an annual budget and two-year forecast by no later than 30 May. This budget should have been ratified by the full Governing Body and signed by the Chair of Governors. The budget should set out the school's intended expenditure for the financial year and the assumptions which underlie it. Any amendments may be submitted quarterly.
- If you have any questions about the budget-setting process, please send these to SchoolFunding@barnet.gov.uk.

Financial pressures

- The council recognises that schools continue to face financial pressures and particularly those primary schools with falling rolls.
- It is also recognised that, as it is not yet clear what level of pay increases will apply to teachers or school support staff in 2022, or whether there will be any supplementary funding to support any increases, it is not yet possible to say whether the increased funding represents an increase in school funding in real terms compared to 2021/22.
- BELS and the council finance team will continue to offer advice and support to such schools. If you have difficulty in setting a balanced budget, you may find the following guidance, produced by the council's Finance Team, useful, especially the 'Schools in Financial Difficulty' Process Note. The link also includes templates and the relevant forms to use for a 3 Year Recovery Plan and Cashflow Forecasts etc.

[Financial framework | Barnet - WWC](#)

High Needs funding

- Up 7.8% on 21-22 from 60.847 to 65.628
- EHCP numbers growing at a faster rate:
 - 30.2 % between 2015 and 2018 (compared to national average of 33.2% and London average of 31.3%).
 - 28% between 2018 and 2021 (compared to national average of 35%)
- Small Working Party of between 6 and 8 officers and headteachers to consider SEN funding (of EHCPs)
- Being convened by Sarah Sands and Helen Phelan
- Meetings on Tuesdays 22nd February and 15th March, both 10.30am - 12.00

High Needs Working Party

Remit:

- Have an overview of Barnet SEND funding at present, and how this is allocated (ie, EHCP funding, transport, etc)
- Look at how other local authorities allocate funding for EHCPs, and compare this to the Barnet model
- Consider whether there is an alternative model we could adopt, including whether there is any scope to increase funding to schools.
- Consider different ways of working, and how this can be communicated to schools and parents through the EHCP
- Look at how the wording on the EHCP can better reflect the actual funding, and so be realistic in what parents can expect in terms of 1:1 support, group interventions etc.

Early Years Funding and Lump Sum payments for Nursery Schools

Key features:

- Full passporting of DfE increases in the funding of hourly rates
- A one-off hourly-rate supplement for 3- and 4-year-olds and
- A review of any Early Years carried forward underspend in the summer to see if this can be increased
- Consultation on a one-off lump sum payment to maintained nursery schools, funded from general DSG carried forward reserves

EY funding increases

- 17 pence an hour for 3- and 4-year-olds (16 pence on basic rate and 1 penny on the deprivation supplement)
- 21 pence an hour for 2-year-olds
- An additional one-off supplementary funding of 4 pence an hour for 3- and 4-year-olds

Lump sum payments to maintained nursery schools

- Payment of £100,000 lump sum per MNS for 22-23 only
- The proposal is intended to secure the position of our four maintained nursery schools for the coming financial year to allow time for longer term solutions to the funding to be identified and put in place.
- If agreed, this will be funded from general Dedicated Schools Grant reserves rather than from the DSG Early Years block, so there is no detriment to other early years providers.
- Consultation began on 24th January and will last until 21st February.

Funding for children of migrant Hong Kong families and asylum seekers in designated hotels

- Up to £1 million
- To support schools with additional costs arising from the enrolment, after the October 2021 census date, of children of newly-arrived Hong Kong families and children of asylum seeker families living in designated asylum seeker hotels during the school year 2021-22.
- To alleviate some of the cost pressures on schools arising from enrolments of migrant children after the census date, as such children do not generate any funding for the school through the funding formula for the 22-23 financial year.
- Funding based on the number of weeks each child is in school between the day after the census day in October 2021 and the end of the summer term 2022, with amounts linked to the AWPU amounts in the funding formula.
- Methodology to be developed by BELS and agreed with 3 members of the SF and with the council.