

Commentary on the School Funding Allocations April 2016 – March 2017

Version 1.3: 3rd March 2016

This commentary should be read in conjunction with the initial funding allocation sheets published on the Barnet website at www.barnet.gov.uk/school-funding.

Funding sheets issued in February 2016 are a mixture of final allocations and estimates.

Information is issued for all schools and academies, but academies should note that the funding in their General Annual Grant for the financial year September 2016 – August 2017 may vary from the estimates provided by Barnet depending on the funding agreement with the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

Updated allocations	We will issue updated allocations periodically throughout the year. The dates will vary but the following is a rough guide:	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;">April 16</td> <td>Post 16 allocations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>July 16</td> <td>Pupil Premium, high needs top-ups, early years, growth, NNDR, UIFSM,</td> </tr> <tr> <td>October 16</td> <td>PE grant, NNDR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>December 16</td> <td>Early years, high needs top-ups</td> </tr> <tr> <td>February 17</td> <td>Early years, high needs top-ups, NNDR, Trade Union support</td> </tr> </table>	April 16	Post 16 allocations	July 16	Pupil Premium, high needs top-ups, early years, growth, NNDR, UIFSM,	October 16	PE grant, NNDR	December 16	Early years, high needs top-ups	February 17	Early years, high needs top-ups, NNDR, Trade Union support
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Budget shares – for mainstream pupils, Reception to Year 11	There are three changes in the funding formula for 2016/17:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Age weighted pupil unit - £10 added to both the primary and secondary rates 2. Capping system – schools where the average funding per pupil has risen since last year now keep 20% of the increase. Previously these schools kept all of the first 0.5% increase but lost the rest. This has helped the most heavily capped schools 3. IDACI (Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index) – the government recently issued a new version of the index which has produced lower scores throughout London. There are 6 bands of IDACI, the top 3 of which Barnet funded in 2015/16. As no school has a pupil living in a Band 6 area, the funded bands are now Bands 3 to 5. To ensure stability of income for schools the funding rates have also been raised. The same proportion of total funding is still distributed through the deprivation factors of IDACI and Free School Meals (Ever 6), but for secondary schools the IDACI score is now weighted more heavily than FSM6. 										
Budget share allocations are final for the year with the exception of National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR) which are estimated at present. NNDR should be cash neutral to all schools, i.e. what is paid out should match the funding. When we have more information we will update NNDR allocations but schools should send in copies of their bills if they find that the funding is still incorrect. This can be done any time up to February 2017.												

High Needs (Statements / EHCPs, Special Schools, PRUs, Additional Resourced Provision)	Place funding for special schools, ARPs and PRUs remains at £10,000 per annum as required by the government. However most other high needs rates have been increased by 2.1% (rounded to a whole number).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Statements / EHCPs – all bands increased by 2.1% 2. Special school and PRU top-ups as well as Hospital places have increased by 2.1% 3. Additional Resourced Provision (ARP) top-ups have been held at 2015/16 levels for the present but are in the process of being reviewed.
	<p>To calculate initial estimates of high needs top-ups we have assumed that the number of pupils at each band at each school remains the same as in the Spring term 2016. We do not try to predict leavers (e.g. from Year 6) since in many cases leavers will be replaced by a new admission. In the summer term we will replace the band estimates with allocations for individual pupils and these will be updated in the autumn and spring terms for admissions and leavers.</p> <p>Each high needs pupil has a unique “LA Ref” number which is used by the SEN team and also allows us to issue anonymous funding reports for each school. Please ensure a list of “LA Ref” numbers is maintained in school so that the funding reports can be checked for accuracy throughout the year.</p> <p>If pupils have been granted exceptional or medical funding extending into 2016/17, the top-up estimates have included these where possible.</p>	
Post 16 allocations	Sixth form learner funding for the 8 month period August 2016 – March 2017 has not yet been released by the EFA. In the meantime we have used the Academic Year (August 2015-July 2016) as an estimate for secondary schools where known. We do not have information about funding for academy 6 th forms. Special school 6 th form allocations include place funding for Years 12, 13 and 14 instead of an allocation from the post 16 funding formula.	
Early Years	<p>We have estimated the take-up of the Free Entitlement for Early Education for 3 and 4 year olds based on the pupils funded in the period January to December 2015. These will be updated each term once the termly census has been received.</p> <p>The Early Years funding rate increased by 2p to £3.76 per hour for 2016/17.</p> <p>The Early Years funding formula uses the average IDACI score of the nursery pupils (calculated on the January census), which is now lower for all schools because of the new index. The rate has therefore been raised by 17.5% (from £400 to £470) to compensate.</p> <p>Funding for two year olds is not included in the funding sheets. Schools with eligible two year olds should continue to claim through the Early Years team (earlyyears@barnet.gov.uk).</p>	

Grants	Grant allocations are calculated by the EFA and paid by the local authority to maintained schools. Academies receive the money directly from the EFA. VA schools also receive their Devolved Formula Capital funding directly from the EFA.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Devolved Formula Capital (DFC): the EFA issued provisional allocations in February with the same rates as 2015/16. These will be firmed up later in the year. 2. Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM): estimates are based on allocations for 2015/16 except where there had been errors on the census in October 2014 or January 2015. No estimates have been attempted for growth or reduction in infant pupil numbers. We should have more accurate allocations in the summer term. 3. PE Grant: we have not received confirmation that this grant will continue into the academic year 2016/17 so at present are only paying the amount already announced for the summer term 2016. 4. No estimates have been made for any other grants that some schools may receive.
Pupil Premium	<p>The EFA normally announces the Pupil Premium in the summer, so allocations have been estimated. There are 5 elements to the Pupil Premium:</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Free School Meals (Ever 6) – estimates the same as 2015/16 2. Service Children – estimates the same as 2015/16 3. Post LAC – i.e. children adopted from care – estimates the same as 2015/16 4. Early Years Pupil Premium – no estimates until we have more information in the summer 5. Looked After Children – no estimates as allocations are decided by the Virtual School
<p>Please note that once the pupil premium has been announced later this year, the Key to Success website will show the list of pupils on the January 2016 census which have attracted funding. No adjustments are made for in-year joiners or leavers.</p>		
Growth: planned increase in pupil numbers	<p>Mainstream schools which are opening whole new year groups in September 2016 have been funded for the extra pupils through the main funding formula, pro rata for the 7 months from September 2016 to March 2017. These allocations are final.</p> <p>The funding rates are the same as 2015/16. Allocations will change if current plans for new classes are revised over the next few months.</p> <p>All other growth funding is provided as a lump sum.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bulge classes 2. Permanent expansions 3. Protection for bulge classes that have less than 22 pupils (1 or 2 form entry primaries only) 4. Diseconomies of scale for new schools opened to meet basic need which do not have all year groups open. 5. Academies only – summer term expansion funding where lump sum was paid in the previous financial year