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# Growth Fund 2019/20 Payments

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**Report being considered by:** Schools' Forum  
**On:** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
**Report Author:** Melanie Ellis  
**Item for:** Information      **By:** All School representatives

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## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To inform School Forum Members of payments made to schools from the Growth Fund in 2019/20.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 To note the payments made to schools.

<b>Will the recommendation require the matter to be referred to the Council or the Executive for final determination?</b>	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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## 3. Introduction

- 3.1 Growth funding is within the Local Authorities' Schools Block national funding formula allocations. For 2019/20, growth funding was allocated by the Department for Education using a new formulaic approach based on lagged growth data.
- 3.2 The purpose of the growth fund is to support maintained schools and Academies which are *required* to provide extra places in order to meet basic need within the authority, and to meet the cost of new and reorganised schools including pre-opening and diseconomy costs. It can also fund schools where very limited pupil number growth requires an additional class *as set out by infant class size regulations*. It cannot be used for general growth in pupil numbers.
- 3.3 The growth fund is also to support new schools with pre-opening costs and diseconomies of scale. We have a commitment to pay for the opening of the new school Highwood Copse.
- 3.4 Following the receipt of the final October 2019 Census data, all schools were invited to make a funding request if they felt that their circumstances met the growth fund criteria. To support their applications, schools were asked to submit information regarding increases in class and teacher numbers between the two academic years. Only growth in relation to basic need requirements in the area (and thus increases in

## Growth Fund and Falling Rolls Fund 2018/19

PAN or bulge years approved by the local authority for this purpose) qualifies for this funding.

### 4. Budget and Payments Made 2019/20

- 4.1 The current balance of the growth fund is £183k. It has been agreed by Schools' Forum that any unspent balance will be carried forward and added to next year's growth fund, to ensure that there is enough funding being built up for 2020/21 in order to provide funding for the new primary school, Highwood Copse, when it is planned to be opened in September 2020
- 4.2 Only one school applied for growth funding: Kennet School Academies Trust. The school met the Growth Fund criteria and the relevant payment of £50k has been approved by the Head of Education (the detailed calculations are in Appendix A). This will reduce the growth fund to £133k.

### 5. Appendices

Appendix A – Growth Fund Calculations 2019/20

## Appendix A

### Growth Fund Calculation 2019/20

SECONDARY ACADEMY APPLICATION									
SECONDARY SCHOOL NAME:		Kennet School Academies Trust - Kennet							
Please tick the box that forms the basis of your application									
a) Extra class in September to meet basic need								<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b) Increase in Admission number in September by 5 or more to meet basic need								<input type="checkbox"/>	
Year Group:	Pupil Numbers			No. of Classes			No. of Teachers FTE		
	Oct-19	Oct-18	Change	Oct-19	Oct-18	Change	Oct-19	Oct-18	Change
Year 7	331	301	30	11.0	10.0	1.0	17.1	15.3	1.9
Year 8	302	298	4	10.0	10.0	0.0	15.3	15.3	0.0
Year 9	297	285	12	10.0	10.0	0.0	15.6	15.8	-0.2
Year 10	273	285	-12	10.0	10.0	0.0	17.4	17.4	-0.1
Year 11	281	282	-1	10.0	10.0	0.0	17.5	18.1	-0.6
<b>TOTAL All Classes</b>	<b>1,484</b>	<b>1,451</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>82.9</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Classes Required (assuming 30 pupils per class)									
<b>Total</b>	50	49	1						
<b>Funding Options:</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Funding</b>	<b>No. Mths</b>	<b>Payment</b>	<b>Max Payable</b>	<b>per class:</b>		
Extra class KS3	30	£4,157	124,710	12	£124,710	£50,000			
or									
Extra class KS4		£4,719	0	12	£0	£50,000			
or									
Increase in PAN		£2,079	0	12	£0	£25,000			
<b>Reason for funding approved or for not meeting criteria:</b>							<b>Funding Approved</b>		
LA requested a bulge class							£50,000		