

Individual Decision



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The attached report will be taken as Individual Portfolio Member Decision on:

Tuesday 23rd January 2024

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Schools Funding Formula 2024/25

Committee considering report:	Individual Executive Member Decisions
Date of Committee:	23 January 2024
Portfolio Member:	Councillor Iain Cottingham
Date Portfolio Member agreed report:	15 January 2023
Report Author:	Melanie Ellis
Forward Plan Ref:	ID4488

1 Purpose of the Report

1.1 To approve the school funding formula distribution for 2024/25.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 To approve the 2024/25 school funding formula to be distributed to schools. The allocations have been made according to the principles agreed by Schools’ Forum in December and in relation to the total funding available from the Schools Block DSG.
- 2.2 To note that the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) will be submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) on 22 January 2024 with a 0.25% block transfer from the schools block to the high needs block
- 2.3 To note that the final formula rates and allocations will be notified to schools by 28th February 2024.

3 Implications and Impact Assessment

Implication	Commentary
Financial:	Distribution of £133.7m to schools
Human Resource:	n/a
Legal:	Need to notify budgets to schools by 28.2.24
Risk Management:	n/a

Property:	n/a			
Policy:	n/a			
	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Commentary
Equalities Impact:				
A Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		x		
B Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		x		
Environmental Impact:		x		
Health Impact:		x		
ICT Impact:		x		
Digital Services Impact:		x		
Council Strategy Priorities:		x		
Core Business:		x		

Data Impact:		x		
Consultation and Engagement:	Consulted with all schools in October/November 2023. Consulted with Heads Funding Group and Schools Forum.			

4 Executive Summary

- 4.1 2024/25 is the second year of transition to the direct schools National Funding Formula (NFF). Each Local Authority (LA) will continue to have some discretion over their schools funding formulae, in consultation with local schools. The LA is responsible for making the final decisions on the formula.
- 4.2 Political ratification is required for the LA to be able to issue budgets to maintained schools. Allocations must be distributed to schools by 28th February 2024.
- 4.3 A consultation was held between 20 October 2023 and 10 November 2023. The responses were considered by the Schools Forum in December 2023, and a methodology for distributing the funding was agreed.
- 4.4 The final DSG funding notification was received from the DfE in December 2023 totalling £134m, including a growth allocation of £0.5m. The growth allocation will be distributed as part of the formula and not added to the Growth Fund. After allowing for a 0.25% block transfer, there is £133.7m for the schools formula distribution.

5 Supporting Information

Introduction

- 5.1 A consultation was held between 20 October 2023 and 10 November 2023. The responses were considered by the Schools Forum in December 2023, and the following agreed:
 - (a) To mirror the Department for Education’s (DfE) 2024/25 National Funding Formula (NFF) to calculate the funding allocations.
 - (b) To address any surplus or shortfall in funding by adjusting the AWPU values.
 - (c) To use the full sparsity factor.
 - (d) To apply a 0.25% top slice to schools’ funding to support the High Needs Block.
 - (e) To not reinstate the Falling Rolls fund.
 - (f) To approve the criteria to be used to allocate additional funds.
 - (g) To approve the proposed services to be de-delegated.
 - (h) To distribute the 2024/25 growth allocation as part of the funding formula.

Schools Funding Formula 2024/25

- 5.2 At the Schools Forum in December 2023 it was agreed not to increase the Growth Fund but to distribute the 2024/25 growth allocation via the formula.
- 5.3 The final DSG funding notification was received from the DfE in December 2023 totalling £134m, including a growth allocation of £0.5m. The growth allocation will be distributed as part of the formula and not added to the Growth Fund. After allowing for a 0.25% block transfer, there is £133.7m for the schools formula distribution.

Growth Funding 2024/25

- 5.4 The main DSG funding for schools is lagged and based on pupil numbers from the previous October census. Since 2019/20, growth funding is allocated to the local authority by formula and forms part of the Schools Block DSG. The formula for allocating growth funding to each LA is based on actual growth in pupil numbers.
- 5.5 This funding can be put aside into a Growth Fund, where it can be awarded to schools under certain criteria. If not required for growth, it can be added into the school formula, but if there is a shortfall, this needs to be met from a top slice of the main schools' block allocation. As it is within the schools block, a movement of funding between the schools formula and the Growth Fund is not treated as a transfer between blocks.
- 5.6 The cumulative balance on our Growth Fund was £1m at 31.3.2023 and is forecast to be £0.85m by 31.3.2024. The DSG growth funding for 2024/25 is £503k. The projected balance of our Growth Fund is sufficient, so the Schools' Forum agreed to put all the 2024/25 funding into the school formula to distribute to schools.

Final School Funding:

Schools Block	2023/24 Total funding	2024/25		
		Unit of funding	Number of pupils	Total funding
Primary	62,513,308	5,135.27	12,618	64,796,837
Secondary	62,451,438	6,390.70	10,435	66,686,955
Premises factor (NNDR)	1,589,347			2,032,396
DfE allocation	126,554,093			133,516,188
Growth	885,348			502,559
Total block funding	127,439,441			134,018,747
MSAG 2023/24	4,328,470			
Total block funding (incl. MSAG)	131,767,911			134,018,747
Block transfer (0% 23/24, 0.25% 24/25)	-			- 335,047
Total formula funding	131,767,911			133,683,700
NNDR direct allocation	- 341,564			- 376,239
Total schools block after deductions	131,426,347			133,307,461

Formula Rates:

Schools Funding Formula 2024/25

Factor	National Rate	WBC National Rate (with ACA)	WBC final rate (0% transfer)	National Rate	WBC National Rate (with ACA)	WBC Rate with full sparsity and 0.25% transfer	Total Funding after 0% transfer & growth funding	Total Funding with full sparsity and 0.25% transfer
	2023/24			2024/25			2023/24	2024/25
Basic per pupil funding								
Primary AWPU	£3,394	£3,512	£3,501	£3,562	£3,690	£3,671	£45,367,600	£46,388,016
KS3 AWPU	£4,785	£4,952	£4,935	£5,022	£5,203	£5,176	£31,251,334	£32,836,687
KS4 AWPU	£5,393	£5,581	£5,563	£5,661	£5,865	£5,834	£22,367,127	£23,898,605
Minimum per pupil								
Primary	£4,405	£4,405	£4,405	£4,610	£4,610	£4,610		
Secondary	£5,715	£5,715	£5,715	£5,995	£5,995	£5,995		
Additional needs funding								
Deprivation								
Primary FSM	£480	£497	£497	£490	£508	£508	£6,061,528	£6,840,684
Secondary FSM	£480	£497	£497	£490	£508	£508		
Primary FSM6	£705	£730	£730	£820	£850	£850		
Secondary FSM6	£1,030	£1,066	£1,066	£1,200	£1,243	£1,243		
Primary IDACI A	£670	£693	£693	£680	£705	£705		
Primary IDACI B	£510	£528	£528	£515	£534	£534		
Primary IDACI C	£480	£497	£497	£485	£502	£502		
Primary IDACI D	£440	£455	£455	£445	£461	£461		
Primary IDACI E	£280	£290	£290	£285	£295	£295		
Primary IDACI F	£230	£238	£238	£235	£243	£243		
Secondary IDACI A	£930	£962	£962	£945	£979	£979		
Secondary IDACI B	£730	£755	£755	£740	£767	£767		
Secondary IDACI C	£680	£704	£704	£690	£715	£715		
Secondary IDACI D	£620	£642	£642	£630	£653	£653		
Secondary IDACI E	£445	£460	£460	£450	£466	£466		
Secondary IDACI F	£335	£347	£347	£340	£352	£352		
Low Prior Attainment								
Primary LPA	£1,155	£1,195	£1,195	£1,170	£1,212	£1,212	£4,146,645	£4,621,470
Secondary LPA	£1,750	£1,811	£1,811	£1,775	£1,839	£1,839	£4,137,677	£4,317,947
English as an Additional Language								
Primary EAL	£580	£600	£600	£590	£611	£611	£601,097	£636,996
Secondary EAL	£1,565	£1,619	£1,619	£1,585	£1,642	£1,642	£331,285	£400,524
Mobility								
Primary Mobility	£945	£978	£978	£960	£995	£995	£79,131	£77,755
Secondary Mobility	£1,360	£1,407	£1,407	£1,380	£1,430	£1,430	£0	£0
School led funding								
Lump Sum								
Primary	£128,000	£132,454	£132,454	£134,400	£139,246	£139,246	£10,198,989	£10,721,978
Secondary	£128,000	£132,454	£132,454	£134,400	£139,246	£139,246		
Sparsity								
Primary	£56,300	£58,259	£48,015	£57,100	£59,159	£59,159	£742,348	£940,043
Secondary	£81,900	£84,750	£69,850	£83,000	£85,993	£85,993		
Premises								
Primary							£1,797,378	£1,799,164
Secondary								
Total Allocation (excluding minimum per pupil funding level and MFG funding total)							£127,082,139	£133,479,868
Additional funding to meet the minimum funding level							£293,032	£178,812
Total Allocation including minimum funding adj							£127,375,171	£133,658,680
MFG adjustment							£64,271	£25,021
Total funding for Schools Block Formula							£127,439,442	£133,683,700

Proposals

5.7 To approve the final school funding formula allocations for 2024/25.

6 Appendices

6.1 Appendix A – Final school funding allocations

Subject to Call-In:

Yes: No:

- The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval
- Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council
- Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position
- Considered or reviewed by Scrutiny Commission or associated Committees or Task Groups within preceding six months
- Item is Urgent Key Decision
- Report is to note only

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2024/25 School Formula Allocations					2024/25 FINAL ALLOCATION (after 0.25% HNB transfer)			YEAR ON YEAR CHANGE			
APPENDIX PROVISIONAL ALLOCATIONS 2024/25					2023/24 FINAL ALLOCATION (after 0% HNB transfer)						
School Name	Phase	Pupil count Oct 2022	Formula allocated	Per pupil funding	Pupil count Oct 2023	Formula allocated	Per pupil funding	Increase in total cash	Change in pupils	Increase in per pupil total funding	
										% change	
Aldermaston C.E. Primary School	Primary	120	£676,427	£5,637	103	£678,863	£6,591	£2,436	-17	£954	0%
Basilidon C.E. Primary School	Primary	154	£744,845	£4,837	150	£764,729	£5,098	£19,884	-4	£262	3%
Beedon C.E. (Controlled) Primary School	Primary	44	£381,243	£8,665	35	£373,199	£10,663	£-8,044	-9	£1,998	-2%
Beenham Primary School	Primary	62	£485,322	£7,828	58	£482,743	£8,323	£-2,578	-4	£495	-1%
Birch Copse Primary School	Primary	423	£1,892,243	£4,473	414	£1,937,468	£4,680	£45,225	-9	£206	2%
Bradfield C.E. Primary School	Primary	142	£703,655	£4,955	148	£770,799	£5,208	£67,144	6	£253	10%
Brightwalton C.E. Aided Primary School	Primary	99	£553,940	£5,595	93	£560,736	£6,029	£6,796	-6	£434	1%
Brimpton C.E. Primary School	Primary	59	£434,777	£7,369	53	£443,554	£8,369	£8,777	-6	£1,000	2%
Bucklebury C.E. Primary School	Primary	122	£647,386	£5,306	107	£630,807	£5,895	£-16,578	-15	£589	-3%
Burghfield St Mary's C.E. Primary School	Primary	214	£1,005,648	£4,699	190	£962,434	£5,065	£-43,213	-24	£366	-4%
Calcot Infant School and Nursery	Primary	218	£1,117,402	£5,126	191	£1,035,507	£5,422	£-81,895	-27	£296	-7%
Calcot Junior School	Primary	281	£1,386,750	£4,935	273	£1,435,347	£5,258	£48,597	-8	£323	4%
Chaddleworth St Andrew's C.E. Primary School	Primary	23	£283,581	£12,330	27	£328,324	£12,160	£44,742	4	£-169	16%
Chieveley Primary School	Primary	191	£907,456	£4,751	177	£899,008	£5,079	£-8,448	-14	£328	-1%
Cold Ash St Mark's CE Primary School	Primary	187	£856,254	£4,579	195	£936,081	£4,800	£79,828	8	£222	9%
Compton C.E. Primary School	Primary	183	£911,574	£4,981	179	£945,922	£5,284	£34,348	-4	£303	4%
Curridge Primary School	Primary	93	£532,825	£5,729	82	£509,414	£6,212	£-23,411	-11	£483	-4%
Denefield School	Secondary	961	£5,789,777	£6,025	971	£6,195,305	£6,380	£405,528	10	£356	7%
Downsway Primary School	Primary	213	£977,621	£4,590	212	£1,025,198	£4,836	£47,578	-1	£246	5%
Enborne C.E. Primary School	Primary	77	£467,131	£6,067	75	£491,776	£6,557	£24,646	-2	£490	5%
Englefield C.E. Primary School	Primary	109	£549,194	£5,038	109	£575,273	£5,278	£26,079	0	£239	5%
Falldland Primary School	Primary	423	£1,891,219	£4,471	420	£1,964,104	£4,676	£72,885	-3	£205	4%
Fir Tree Primary School and Nursery	Primary	196	£1,031,245	£5,261	206	£1,149,166	£5,578	£117,921	10	£317	11%
Francis Bally Primary School	Primary	549	£2,433,454	£4,433	524	£2,477,611	£4,728	£44,157	-25	£296	2%
Garland Junior School	Primary	235	£1,170,142	£4,979	220	£1,163,795	£5,290	£-6,347	-15	£311	-1%
Hampstead Norreys C.E. Primary School	Primary	75	£501,854	£6,691	67	£512,736	£7,653	£10,882	-8	£961	2%
Hermitage Primary School	Primary	191	£899,815	£4,711	188	£938,454	£4,992	£38,639	-3	£281	4%
Highwood Copse Primary School	Primary	73.5	£452,647	£6,158	98.5	£574,925	£5,837	£122,277	25	£-322	27%
Hungerford Primary School	Primary	360	£1,696,512	£4,713	346	£1,772,871	£5,124	£76,359	-14	£411	5%
Inkpen Primary School	Primary	56	£436,665	£7,798	48	£421,658	£8,785	£-15,007	-8	£987	-3%
John O'gaunt School	Secondary	430	£2,908,003	£6,763	463	£3,254,136	£7,028	£346,133	33	£266	12%
John Rankin Infant and Nursery School	Primary	230	£1,096,459	£4,767	220	£1,128,644	£5,130	£32,185	-10	£363	3%
John Rankin Junior School	Primary	357	£1,608,436	£4,505	358	£1,679,949	£4,693	£71,513	1	£187	4%
Kennet School	Secondary	1517	£9,258,071	£6,103	1522	£9,831,511	£6,460	£573,440	5	£357	6%
Kennet Valley Primary School	Primary	201	£1,001,475	£4,982	194	£1,030,986	£5,314	£29,511	-7	£332	3%
Kinbury St Mary's C.E. Primary School	Primary	140	£746,936	£5,335	130	£760,292	£5,848	£13,356	-10	£513	2%
Lambourn CofE Primary School	Primary	157	£844,959	£5,382	149	£848,947	£5,698	£3,988	-8	£316	0%
Little Heath School	Secondary	1325	£8,144,727	£6,147	1312	£8,460,100	£6,448	£315,373	-13	£301	4%
Long Lane Primary School	Primary	214	£1,024,705	£4,788	209	£1,059,026	£5,067	£34,321	-5	£279	3%
Mortimer St John's C.E. Infant School	Primary	174	£843,232	£4,846	176	£885,448	£5,031	£42,216	2	£185	5%
Mortimer St Mary's C.E. Junior School	Primary	242	£1,099,976	£4,545	243	£1,145,899	£4,716	£45,922	1	£170	4%
Mrs Bland's Infant School	Primary	154	£860,215	£5,586	148	£861,122	£5,818	£907	-6	£233	0%
Pangbourne Primary School	Primary	174	£868,807	£4,993	164	£883,993	£5,390	£15,186	-10	£397	2%
Park House School	Secondary	975	£5,970,446	£6,124	912	£5,857,925	£6,423	£-112,521	-63	£300	-2%
Parsons Down Infant School	Primary	117	£640,728	£5,476	90	£548,861	£6,098	£-91,867	-27	£622	-14%
Parsons Down Junior School	Primary	179	£894,024	£4,995	184	£976,161	£5,305	£82,137	5	£311	9%
Purley CofE Primary School	Primary	98	£548,894	£5,601	93	£565,863	£6,085	£16,969	-5	£484	3%
Robert Sandilands Primary School and Nursery	Primary	212	£1,063,208	£5,015	213	£1,115,313	£5,236	£52,105	1	£221	5%
Shaw-cum-Donnington C.E. Primary School	Primary	93	£541,841	£5,826	95	£587,512	£6,184	£45,671	2	£358	8%
Shefford C.E. Primary School	Primary	56	£417,993	£7,464	52	£417,400	£8,027	£-593	-4	£963	0%
Speenhamland School	Primary	276	£1,348,299	£4,885	286	£1,462,786	£5,115	£114,487	10	£229	8%
Springfield Primary School	Primary	309	£1,408,217	£4,557	304	£1,463,122	£4,813	£54,904	-5	£256	4%
Spurcock Primary School	Primary	398	£1,840,337	£4,624	382	£1,841,150	£4,820	£813	-16	£196	0%
St Bartholomew's School	Secondary	1353	£7,854,034	£5,805	1354	£8,395,759	£6,201	£541,725	1	£396	7%
St Finian's Catholic Primary School	Primary	196	£895,697	£4,570	201	£960,876	£4,780	£65,179	5	£211	7%
St John the Evangelist C.E. Nursery and Infant Sch	Primary	180	£887,667	£4,931	179	£936,656	£5,233	£48,989	-1	£301	6%
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	Primary	213	£1,046,400	£4,913	213	£1,106,255	£5,194	£59,856	0	£281	6%
St Nicolas C.E. Junior School	Primary	251	£1,127,023	£4,490	258	£1,235,423	£4,788	£108,400	7	£298	10%
St Paul's Catholic Primary School	Primary	304	£1,374,123	£4,520	298	£1,416,337	£4,753	£42,214	-6	£233	3%
Stockcross C.E. School	Primary	90	£524,376	£5,826	73	£499,252	£6,839	£-25,124	-17	£1,013	-5%
Strealey C.E. Voluntary Controlled School	Primary	99	£530,318	£5,357	99	£562,495	£5,682	£32,178	0	£325	6%
Sulhamstead and Ufton Nernet School	Primary	102	£556,633	£5,457	99	£584,194	£5,901	£27,560	-3	£444	5%
Thatcham Park CofE Primary	Primary	337	£1,577,042	£4,680	320	£1,581,182	£4,941	£4,140	-17	£262	0%
The Downs School	Secondary	1047	£6,118,444	£5,844	1046	£6,404,391	£6,123	£285,947	-1	£279	5%
The Islisley Primary School	Primary	60	£418,719	£6,979	53	£414,979	£7,830	£-3,740	-7	£851	-1%
The Willink School	Secondary	1026	£6,305,557	£6,146	1016	£6,550,610	£6,447	£245,052	-10	£302	4%
The Willows Primary School	Primary	348	£1,790,551	£5,145	349	£1,895,491	£5,431	£104,940	1	£286	6%
The Winchcombe School	Primary	441	£2,050,804	£4,650	425	£2,085,649	£4,907	£34,846	-16	£257	2%
Theale C.E. Primary School	Primary	318	£1,461,539	£4,596	314	£1,522,849	£4,850	£61,310	-4	£254	4%
Theale Green School	Secondary	634	£4,075,274	£6,428	699	£4,658,693	£6,665	£583,419	65	£237	14%
Trinity School	Secondary	1085	£6,762,439	£6,233	1145	£7,538,958	£6,584	£776,520	60	£352	11%
Welford and Wickham C.E. Primary School	Primary	72	£472,080	£6,557	66	£489,494	£7,417	£17,414	-6	£860	4%
Westwood Farm Infant School	Primary	179	£870,286	£4,862	186	£952,740	£5,122	£82,454	7	£260	9%
Westwood Farm Junior School	Primary	233	£1,110,438	£4,766	238	£1,183,972	£4,975	£73,534	5	£209	7%
Whitelands Park Primary School	Primary	393	£1,758,282	£4,474	392	£1,920,240	£4,899	£161,958	-1	£425	9%
Woolhampton C.E. Primary School	Primary	100	£553,131	£5,531	100	£599,347	£5,993	£46,217	0	£462	8%
Yattendon C.E. Primary School	Primary	90	£519,994	£5,778	94	£563,900	£5,999	£43,907	4	£221	8%
Total formula funding			£127,439,442			£133,683,700		£6,244,258			
Block Transfer			£0			£335,047					
Total allocation			£127,439,442			£134,018,747					
Primary Total			£64,252,670			£66,536,312		£2,283,642			
Secondary Total		23313	£63,186,772		23076	£67,147,388		£3,960,616	-237		

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