

---

# Dedicated Schools Grant 2024-25: Final Allocations

---

**Report being considered by:** Schools Forum on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024  
**Report Author:** Melanie Ellis  
**Item for:** Discussion **By:** All Forum Members

---

## 1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To set out the final Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation for 2024-25.

## 2. Recommendation

2.1 To note the funding allocation.

## 3. Introduction

3.1 The National Funding Formula (NFF) is used by the Department for Education (DfE) to calculate the blocks within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and was finalised in December 2023.

3.2 The DSG consists of four blocks: Schools, High needs, Central School Services and Early Years.

## 4. Overall position

4.1 The following table shows the 2024-25 DSG allocation based on the October 2023 census pupil numbers.

DSG Final Allocation	Schools Block (Including growth)	High Needs Block (after deductions)	Central Schools Services Block	Early Years Block	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>2023/24 block funding</b>	127.44	25.78	0.97	10.85	165.04
Mainstream schools additional grant	4.33				4.33
High Needs Additional funding		1.10			1.10
<b>2023/24 total funding</b>	<b>131.77</b>	<b>26.89</b>	<b>0.97</b>	<b>10.85</b>	<b>170.48</b>
<b>2024/25 block funding (incl. MSAG)</b>	<b>134.02</b>	<b>27.61</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>17.37</b>	<b>179.96</b>
High Needs Additional funding		0.00			0.00
<b>2024/25 total funding</b>	<b>134.02</b>	<b>27.61</b>	<b>0.96</b>	<b>17.37</b>	<b>179.96</b>
<i>Change from last year</i>	2.25	0.72	-0.01	6.52	9.48
<i>Percentage change</i>	1.7%	2.7%	-1.3%	60.1%	5.6%

## 5. Schools Block

5.1 2024-25 is the second year of the transition to the direct NFF for schools. In 2024-25, local authorities will only be allowed to use NFF factors in their local formulae and

## Final Allocations

must use all NFF factors. Local authorities will also be required to move their local formulae factors 10% closer to the NFF values, compared to where they were in 2023-24, unless they are already mirroring the NFF.

5.2 Nationally, funding through the NFF in 2024-25 is increasing by 1.9% per pupil compared to 2023-24. The allocation for 2024-25 is shown below:

Schools Block	2023/24	2024/25		
	Total funding	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
<b>DfE allocation</b>	<b>126,554,093</b>			<b>133,516,188</b>
Growth	885,348			502,559
<b>Total block funding</b>	<b>127,439,441</b>			<b>134,018,747</b>
MSAG 2023/24	4,328,470			
<b>Total block funding (incl. MSAG)</b>	<b>131,767,911</b>			<b>134,018,747</b>
Block transfer (0% 23/24, 0.25% 24/25)	-			- 335,047
<b>Total formula funding</b>	<b>131,767,911</b>			<b>133,683,700</b>
NNDR direct allocation	- 341,564			- 376,239
<b>Total schools block after deductions</b>	<b>131,426,347</b>			<b>133,307,461</b>

## 6. High Needs Block (HNB)

6.1 The national increase in high needs funding from 2023-24 to 2024-25 is 4.3%.

6.2 The 2024-25 allocation for West Berkshire is £27.61m, after deductions for direct funding of places (2023-24 £26.89m), an increase of £0.72m from last year (2.7%).

## 7. Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)

7.1 The CSSB within the DSG provides funding for local authorities to carry out central functions on behalf of maintained schools and academies. This covers Statutory and Regulatory duties, Education Welfare, asset management and other duties such as licences, admissions and servicing of Schools' Forum.

7.2 The CSSB DSG funding for 2024-25 is £961k, a reduction of £12k from last year (1.3%).

## 8. Early Years Block

8.1 The new Early Years formula was introduced in 2017-18 with new funding rates to local authorities, and a revised simplified formula for allocating funding to providers was also brought in. All providers are now on the same rates.

8.2 Funding for 2024-25 has been announced as £17.37m.

8.3 The early years entitlements are:

- 15 hours entitlement for eligible working parents of children from 9 months to 2 years old (new entitlement from 1 September 2024)
- 15 hours entitlement for eligible working parents of 2-year-old children (new entitlement from 1 April 2024)

## Final Allocations

- 15 hours entitlement for disadvantaged 2-year-olds
- universal 15 hours entitlement for all 3 and 4-year-olds
- additional 15 hours entitlement for eligible working parents of 3 and 4-year-olds