

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ



please ask for Martha Clampitt
direct line 0300 300 4032
date 13 June 2014

NOTICE OF MEETING

SCHOOLS FORUM

Date & Time

Monday, 23 June 2014 at 6.00 p.m.

Venue at

Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the SCHOOLS FORUM:

School
Members:

Anne Bell, Headteacher, Willow Nursery School
David Brandon-Bravo, Headteacher, Parkfields Middle School
Paul Burrett, Headteacher, Studham CofE Lower School and Pre-School
Shirley-Anne Crosbie OBE, Headteacher, The Chiltern School
James Davis, Governor, Leighton Middle School
Angie Hardy, Headteacher, Clipstone Brook Lower School
Richard Holland, Governor, Harlington Upper School
Sue Howley MBE, Governor, Greenleas Lower School
Sharon Ingham, Headteacher, Hadrian Academy
Jim Parker, Headteacher, Manshead Upper School
John Street, Academy Middle School Representative
Stephen Tiktin, Governor, Beaudesert Lower School
Rob Watson, Headteacher Stratton Upper School

Non School
Members

Mr M Foster, Trade Union representative
Caroll Leggatt, PVI Early Years Providers Representative
Mrs M Morris, Catholic Diocese Representative
Mrs S Mortimer, Post-16 Education Representative
Sarah Stevens, Church of England Diocese Representative

Observer: Cllr M A G Versallion, Executive Member for Children's Services

Please note that there will be a pre-meeting starting **half an hour before** the Forum meeting to enable technical aspects of the reports to be discussed with officers before the Forum meeting begins.

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitute members.

2. **Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2014/15**

To elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2014/15.

3. **Chairman's Announcements and Communications**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman and any matters of communication.

4. **Members' Interests**

To receive from Members any declarations of interest.

5. **Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting 20 January 2014 and to receive an update on any matters arising from these.

Updates

Item	Subject	Page Nos.
6	Report on Activity during 2013 of Early Years Reference Group To receive an update on activity by the Early Years Reference Group during 2013.	19 - 22
7	School Specific Contingency Budget To provide an update on the use of the School Specific Contingency Budgets for 2013/14.	23 - 26
8	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) To note the 2013/14 DSG and Growth Fund outturn, and 2014/15 DSG allocation. To note the 2015/16 funding consultation.	27 - 50
9	Schools Forum Budget To provide an update on the use of the School Forum Budget for 2013/14.	51 - 52

Consider

Item	Subject	Page Nos.
10	Schools Forum Membership Review	53 - 60

To consider the proposed changes which will be made to the composition of the Schools Forum from 1 September 2014.

Discussion Items

11. **Letter from Chairman to EFA - Funding Lag**

12. **Funding Allocations 15/16 Schools Block and High Needs Technical Sub Group**

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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

At a meeting of the **SCHOOLS FORUM** held at Council Chamber, Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford on Monday, 20 January 2014

PRESENT

Richard Holland (Chairman)
Jim Parker (Vice-Chairman)

School Members:	Anne Bell	Headteacher, Willow Nursery School
	David Brandon-Bravo	Headteacher, Parkfields Middle School
	Paul Burrett	Headteacher, Studham CofE Lower School and Pre-School
	Shirley-Anne Crosbie OBE	Headteacher, The Chiltern School
	James Davis	Governor, Leighton Middle School
	Angie Hardy	Headteacher, Clipstone Brook Lower School
	Sue Howley MBE	Governor, Greenleas Lower School
	Sharon Ingham	Headteacher, Hadrian Academy
	John Street	Academy Middle School Representative
	Stephen Tiktin	Governor, Beaudesert Lower School
Non-School Members:	Caroll Leggatt	PVI Early Years Providers Representative
Observer:	Cllr M AG Versallion	Executive Member for Children's Services
Apologies for Absence:	Mr M Foster Sarah Stevens Rob Watson	
Substitutes:	Mrs J Harper in place of Rob Watson, Stratton Upper School	
Officers in Attendance:	Mrs M Clampitt Ms D Hill Miss H Redding	Committee Services Officer Senior Finance Manager - Children's Services Assistant Director School Improvement

CBSF/13/18 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman welcomed Jane Harper, Deputy Head teacher Stratton Upper School, who was substituting for Rob Watson.

The Chairman also confirmed that Sarah Mortimer would be the new Post-16 Education Representative on the Forum.

CBSF/13/19 **Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Central Bedfordshire Schools Forum held on 14 October 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record, subject to the correction of the spelling of Carol Leggett's name with the removal of an additional 'l'.

Clarification was sought for when the report on Rent would be brought to the Forum. Officers confirmed a date would be set and it added to the work programme.

The Forum noted that there would now be a rolling work programme in place of the once a year Outline Forward Programme.

CBSF/13/20 **Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and 2014/15 Funding Allocations**

The Forum considered a report which provided an update on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and 2014/15 Funding Allocations, and to approve the DSG Admissions allocation for 2014/15. From 2013/14, the DSG would be split into three notional blocks: Early Years, High Needs and Schools.

The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations defined the local authority education budgets for the 2013/14 financial year only. The Regulations provided simplified local formulae, greater delegation to schools and new arrangements for funding pupils with high needs.

The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) was set at negative 1.5% **per pupil** for 2013/14.

It was noted that the Chief Finance Officer (CFO), annually signed two statements: the Actual deployment (out-turn) and Budgeted Allocation of the DSG, which confirmed it had been fully deployed in support of the School's Budget in accordance with the condition of the grant and the School Finance Regulations.

DSG Budget Allocation 2013/14

The final DSG for 2013/14 is £178.842m. This is based on:

- Schools Block: 34,747 (fte number of pupils October 2012) multiplied by £4,144.47 per pupil
- Early Years Block: 2,241 (fte number of pupils January 2013) multiplied by £2,421 per pupil and will be updated again in April 2014 for 7/12ths of the January 2014 pupil numbers to cover the period September 2013 to March 2014.

- High Needs Block: This is calculated in Pre 16 and Post 16 (ages 16 to 24). The post 16 combines three previous budgets, SEN Block Grant, Specialist placements funding and the cost of high needs student in Further Education (FE) with effect from August 2013.

The Forum also noted that the floor protection for 3 year olds had been reduced by £48k from the 2012/13 funding and would be completely removed in 2014/15.

At the Schools Forum meeting held on 24 January 2013, the Forum noted that the Early Intervention Grant had been merged into the DSG, for the early education places for 2 year olds from lower income households. (minute no. CBSF/12/82 refers)

The breakdown of DSG as detailed in the table at paragraph 14 were as follows:

Schools: £144.062k

Early Years: £11,478k

High Needs: £23,302k

Direct payments to Academies included Early Years = £267k and High Needs = £2.967k. As at 31 December 2013 there had been 47 Academy conversions.

Paragraph 15 of the report provided a breakdown of the £16.4m centrally retained DSG.

Growth Fund 2013/14

The Growth Fund is for significant pre 16 growth in schools. Funds are available to both maintained schools and academies. Where a school has elected to expand they are not eligible for the Growth Fund.

The amount for 2013/14 was set at £800k and has been overspent by £22.6k. The Growth Fund Panel will be meeting on 21 January 2014 and a breakdown of the expenditure as at 31 December 2013 was detailed in paragraph 18. The Forum approved an increase to the budget of £200k making the total Fund £1m for 2014/15.

2014/15 Centrally Retained DSG Budget Allocations

The Forum noted that the 2014/15 budget for Admissions remains at the 2013/14 level of £260k. The Admissions Team offers a buy back service to own admission authority schools and Academies, which enables the historic budget level to be maintained whilst funding 6 team members and the recruitment of an additional team member to deal with the schools who have changed their age ranges.

School Funding Settlement 2014/15

The Forum noted the following information:

- The distribution of DSG for 2014/15 will continue on the current 'spend plus' methodology
- Underlying schools budget will remain as flat cash per pupil for 2014/15
- Central Bedfordshire pupil numbers have increased by 401 pupils
- The EFA have ensured that LAs with falling pupil numbers will not lose more than 2% of its budget in cash terms. This does not apply to Central Bedfordshire
- The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) was set at negative 1.5% **per pupil** for 2014/15
- High Needs Block will be adjusted following LA submissions, due December 2013, following a review of places
- Early Years Block will be updated during 2014/15 for January 2014 and for 7/12 of January 2015 pupil numbers (to cover the September 2014 to March 2015)
- Early learning places for two year olds from lower income households became a statutory entitlement for 2013 at 20% and from 2014 at 40%. Funding has been allocated to extend the programme for 2014/15
- 10 December 2012 – DECC announced that all stated funded schools in England to be withdrawn from participating in the CRC Energy Efficient Scheme from April 2014. The DSG will have a deduction for 2014/15 to compensate the Exchequer for the loss of revenue resulting from this change. The charge will be on a pro-rata basis by size of block.
- Paragraph 29 contained a table detailing the DSG revenue allocation for 2014/15 by school block.
- Central Bedfordshire's indicative allocation of £181.972m will be reduced to the centralised licences arranged by the DfE for the following agencies to purchase a single national licence for all state-funded schools:
 - Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA)
 - Music Publisher Association (MPA)
 - Newspaper Licensing Authority (NLA)
 - Education Recording Agency (ERA)
 - Motion Picture Licensing Company (MPLC)
 - Filmbank Distribution Ltd
- Capital funding to provide extra places needed for the growing population (2015 to 2017) and to implement the universal infant free school meals entitlement, improving school kitchens and dining facilities where needed was announced.
- Further information will be provided once available to explain the Basic Needs allocations which are based on LA validated planning data. The DfE reserves the right to abate any overpayment made.
- Free school lunches from September 2014:
 - Every child in reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state funded schools
 - Disadvantaged students at sixth form colleges and further education colleges
 - Funding will be delivered through LAs for maintained schools, based on the number of infant pupils they have.

- Academies will receive funding through the Academies Capital maintenance Fund (ACMF), which allows Academies to bid for improvement works.
- LAs to determine how best to target its share of the funding for expanding and improving facilities at individual schools.
- Further information to follow
- Paragraph 34 contained a table which illustrated the capital allocations announced to date.

Pupil Premium Grant

The Pupil Premium Grant for 2014/15 had been increased:

- Primary FSM 'Ever 6' pupils £1300
- Secondary FM 'Ever 6' pupils £935
- Service Children £300

From April 2014 LAC, children adopted from care or those who left care with a Special Guardianship Order (SGO) or under a Residence Order (RO) £1900. Further information will follow.

Education Services Grant (ESG)

The Forum noted the following:

- The grant will be allocated to local authorities on a per-pupil basis, as in 2014/15.
- The ESG General Funding Rate is:
 - £113.17 per pupil in mainstreamed schools
 - £424.38 per pupil in PRUS
 - £480.97 per pupil in Special Schools
- 2014/15 General Funding pot will be calculated using the October census pot.
- 2014/15 initial allocation for CBC will be £2.2m, with quarterly adjustments throughout the 2014/15 financial year to account for Academies opening since October 2013
- A flat rate of £15 per pupil will be allocated to LAs for the statutory duties not transferred to academies. The flat rate is multiplied by the number of pupils aged 3 to 19 for all maintained schools and academies equalling £592k in the Retained Duties funding pot.
- Mainstream Academies will receive a set minimum of £140 per pupil
- Alternative Provisions will receive a set minimum of £525 per pupil
- Special Academies will receive a set minimum of £595 per pupil.

RESOLVED

1. That the update on the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2013/14 be noted.
2. That the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation for Admissions to be set at £260k for 2014/15, be agreed.

The vote was unanimous.

3. That the Education Funding Agency (EFA) funding announcement for 2014/15 be noted.

CBSF/13/21 **Use of centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2013/2014**

Prior to discussion three Forum members declared interests:

Richard Holland is the Chair of HAST

David Brandon Bravo is the CEO of HAST

Shirley Ann Crosbie is a member of the EYSS and has a granddaughter who uses the VI unit.

The Forum received and considered a report which outlined how the centrally retained DSG had been used in 2013/14 and recommended uses of the centrally retained High Needs Block for 2014/15. The High Needs Block is not ring-fenced and can be moved within the three DSG blocks, with School Forum agreement.

The budget agreed for 2013/14 had been £12,332,619 as at April 2013. Allowing for adjustments made through the year the budget was £12,770,463 as at December 2013.

Early Years Children with Disabilities retained panel and support function (£23,970)

The DSG funding for this had been commissioned through a contact to the Ivel Valley and The Chiltern Area. The support provided to the children is coordinated through one individual and the salary element has been increased to £26,011 resulting in a small increase. The budget will cover two people plus on costs. It was proposed that the budget be moved from the top up element of DSG as the core budget had supplemented the DSG for 2013/14.

Advisory Support Teachers retained within the Psychology and Advisory Support Team (£113,680)

There are two staff who meet the needs of children with SEN and Disabilities within the Early Years setting. The Budget has been supplemented by core budget and therefore requires an increase of £7,531 to cover the actual costs in 2014/15.

Visual Impairment Service (£218,120)

The contract for the Visual Impairment Service has been awarded to HAST from January 2014 for £252,576 and will be included in the "Commissioned Services" budget, paragraph 29 of the report. Three months of the contract were paid from the 2013/14 budget and it is anticipated that the budget will underspend by £10k.

Due to an increase in the number of young children with severe visual impairments, HAST has reviewed the support requirements needed whilst the children are in the school system and have increased the staffing levels.

Other functions supported by the High Needs Block

Support for high needs children in Early Years:

The children with high needs, who do not yet have a statement, requiring additional support receive support paid for from this budget. Due to the number of children requiring this service, the spend to date has been the following:

Base budget £169,800 (including in year increase of £19,800)
The current commitment will total £174,676 resulting in an overspend of £4,876. The anticipated overspend for the 2013/14 year is £10k should the anticipated requests be approved at Panel. It has been requested that the budget be increased to £190,000 for 2014/15.

Therapies:

The service is commissioned on an individual child basis and it is anticipated that the £70k budget will be spend by the end of the financial year. The spend to date had been £48,936.

Statements:

Statements are a needs led budget area and the budget reduces as statements are made. It is anticipated that the £449,900 budget will be underspent by £158,900 which will be redistributed to schools in 2014. It was noted that the budget would not be reduced due to changes to the SEN code of practice and Childrens & Families.

Academy Statements:

Statements are a needs led budget area and the budget reduces as statements are made. The budget is £2,967,238 of which £2,094,641 had been allocated by November 2013. It was noted that the budget would not be reduced due to changes to the SEN code of practice and Childrens & Families.

High Cost Pupils:

Support is provided for the additional exceptional needs of the most complex pupils in special schools. The budget for this service is £199,900 and to date £166,098 has been allocated and it is anticipated that more pupils will require additional support before the end of the financial year.

Pre 16 Out of County Placements:

It was noted that currently there were 13 pupils who were 16 years of age or under placed out of Authority by education, 2 by Social Care and 1 by Health, where DSG funds the education element. 4 of the children transferred into the Post 16 provision in September 2013. These children have been placed out of county as there needs cannot be met locally. The budget for this area is

£1,689,330 and has historically helped fund the Post 16 funding for High Needs pupils.

Additional Pupil Support:

Support is provided to children who are undergoing assessments and at risk of permanent exclusion. The support provided is through specialist agencies and is a needs led budget. The budget is £219,050 and the spend to date has been £140,000 with earmarked funding of £15,000 for new requests to be appointed at Panel and also £20,000 for an Independent Hospital facilities. There will be an underspend of approximately £44,050 which will offset the overspend in high needs children in early years.

High needs Post 16:

All provision for pupils who are post 16 and high needs college placements (previously funded by the YPLA) is provided and paid for by the Council since April 2013. This area includes the out of county placements of which there are 9 pupils, 4 pupils transferred from pre-16 provision so only 2 terms of costs were required and 4 pupils left school at the end of the summer term so only 1 term of provision was funded. It is forecast the budget will be overspent by £296,294 and this will be offset by the underspend in the out of county pre 16 support.

Access and Inclusion:

The budget for providing management and advice and process for exclusions and elective home education is £95,660 for 2013/14. The budget will be reduced in 2014/15 due to the service being bought back by Academy schools. Also the post for providing the advice is part time. It is estimated the budget will be underspent by £18,955 in 2013/14.

Virtual School management and delivery:

The budget cost for the Virtual School for Looked After Children was £160,000 for 2013/14. The budget will be increased to £200,000 for 2014/15 due to the requirement for a permanent Virtual School Head teacher. The remainder of the budget remains unchanged.

PRU:

The budget of £408,942 supported the running costs of the PRU for excluded pupils until August 2013. This amount now becomes the 'commissioned service' budget for the AP Free school – Academy of Central Bedfordshire for 2014/15.

Commissioned Services:

The budget of £1,417,480 is composed of the following commissioned services:

£145,632	for the peripatetic and management element of the Hearing Impaired Service commissioned through HAST
£270,548	For the Early Years Children with Disabilities Service commissioned through Ivel Valley and Chiltern Area Special Schools
£444,539	For the Medical Needs Service commissioned through HAST
£556,761	For the alternative to the PRU provision being commissioned through the Academy of Central Bedfordshire

From April 2014, the funding for Jigsaw Centre Provision of £414,645 will be centrally held and not delegated to Hawthorn Park.

The Forum noted that all High Needs teaching and support services will be commissioned out to school based providers. The Forum were asked to give a view on all commissioned services contracts, which were identified to Schools through Central Essential.

There is an anticipated overspend in the Commissioned Services budget of £92k due to a calculation error for supply cover for the Medical needs Service and the increased number of pupils medically signed off from school requiring the service. The overspend will be covered by an underspend in the **Other Authority Top-Up payments (Pre-16)**. Clarification is being sought from the EFA regarding whether the service can be included in the high needs return as Alternative Provision.

It was noted that an increase from 5 hours to 6 hours a week teaching hours for each pupil with a statement of SEN has required additional resources to be sought to allow the Council to fulfill its statutory duty. HAST is working with the Council to determine better ways of working for service delivery. £90k will be required from the Top Up budget to the Commissioned Services budget to cover the actual supply costs.

It was also noted that for 2014/15 £50k would be moved from the Top Up budget to the Commissioned Services budget to meet the expected demand for staff to work with children with hearing impairments.

Other Authority Top Up payments (Pre-16):

This budget was formerly known as recoupment. The budget of £2,011,360 funds the mainstream statements in other Local Authority Schools and the top up element of the statement for pupils placed in other Local Authorities' special schools. In 2013, the total expenditure had been unknown when the report was presented to the Schools Forum at their meeting on 24 January 2013. Since that time and following additional funds from the DfE and reduction of

central overheads by the Council there has been an underspend of £967,478. The main source of the underspend was the recalculation of overheads.

SEN Contingency:

£275,670 budget pays for the Outreach services and will be renamed accordingly for 2014/15.

DSG Contribution to Central Overheads:

The budget began 2013 at £1,567,280 and was reduced during the year by £848,434 to £718,846 having taken into account the reduction of centrally retained services and the increase in commissioned services. The reduction was added to the Top Up budget.

The difference of £1,164,600 between the High Needs Block allocation in 2013/14 and the forecast will be transferred to the Schools Block and be redistributed to maintained schools and academies as a one off basis via the AWPU for 2014/15.

The DfE will finalise the High Needs Block in March 2014, which will provide information regarding the Pre 16 and Post 16 allocations and to finalise the proposed figures for 2014/15. Distribution of the High Needs Block settlement will be centrally retained until the following issues have been resolved with the EFA:

- The resource implications of changes in SEND provision through the implementation of the Children and Families Bill in 2014 is determined;
- The funding mechanism for the Academy of Central Bedfordshire to be clarified by the EFA;
- Whether Medical Services can continue to be identified as Alternative Provision as they were previously, and so count as £8k per place;
- The impact of Post 16 changes are known;
- How the EFA plans to top slice Local Authorities and whether that will impact on the initial settlement;
- How the EFA plans to apply growth in 2014/15.

The Forum were advised that any unspent settlement would be redistributed to schools in 2015/16.

The Forum requested that due to the complexity of the report, that a High Needs Technical Group should meet to review the information prior to the next report being brought before the Forum in January 2015.

RESOLVED

- 1. That how the centrally retained High Needs Block has been used in 2013/14 to support high needs provision be noted.**
- 2. That the allocation of the High Needs Block for 2014/15 be supported.**

- 3. That the proposed redistribution of unspent DSG for 2013/14 be supported.**

CBSF/13/22 Schools Forum Budget

The Forum received and considered a report which provided an update on the Schools Forum Budget for 2013/14.

The Senior Finance Officer confirmed that at the date of the meeting the remaining balance for the year was £1,544. It was noted that any unspent budget would be carried forward to the next year. It was proposed that the budget for 2014/15 would be £3,000, with the continued membership of F40.

Members of the Forum were reminded that they could submit travel claims for attending the Forum meetings.

RESOLVED

- 1. That the Schools Forum Budget position statement as at 31 December 2013, be noted.**
- 2. That the 2014/15 budget for servicing the School Forum be set at 2013/14 level of £3,000, with the continued membership of F40.**

CBSF/13/23 Dedicated Schools Grant Contingency Budget

The Forum received a report which provided an update on the use of the Schools Contingency Budgets for 2013/14. It was noted that the Dedicated Schools Grant had been split into three notional blocks: Schools, High Needs and Early Years for 2013/14. Each block would hold its own contingency budget.

Schools Contingency

At the Schools Forum meeting held on 22 October 2012 (minute no. CBSF/12/62 refers) it was agreed that £100k would be de-delegated back to the Local Authority for the purpose of School Contingencies for 2013/14.

The Schools Contingency budget at 31 December 2013 had a surplus of £635,347. It was noted that the £100k for de-delegation had to be removed from the budget before any reallocation of surplus could be considered. The DfE had confirmed that the de-delegated funding was ringfenced.

It was noted that of the £635,347, £100k would be ringfenced for de-delegation, and approximately £500k would be available for redistribution to all maintained schools.

High Needs Contingency

At the Schools Forum meeting held on 21 January 2013 (minute no. CBSF/12/81 refers) had agreed that the SEN Contingency would continue to fund the extended role of a school such as commissioned work for Outreach and other services. The High Needs Contingency allowing for known commitments would be fully spent by the end of this financial year.

It was agreed by the Forum during the discussion of the Use of centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) in 2013/2014 (minute no. CBSF/13/21 refers) that the High Needs Contingency budget would be renamed Outreach Service and reported as part of the annual report.

Early Years Contingency

The Early Years Contingency budget at 31 December 2013 had a surplus of £297,051. A report will be brought to the 24 March 2014 meeting to explain the spend to date.

It was noted that there had been a carry forward from 2012/13 of £296k which would be transferred to the Schools Block and redistributed to maintained schools.

The Senior Finance Officer provided the Forum with a breakdown of the AWPU and how it would be impacted with the redistribution of funds, with a one year additional payment identified on the budgets to be sent to schools. The additional payment amount will be £56.

RESOLVED

That the Dedicated School Grant (DSG) Contingency spend to 31 December 2013, be noted.

CBSF/13/24 School Finance Update

The Forum considered a report which provide an update on the Licence Deficit Schools and the Schools Finance Risk Register.

Central Bedfordshire had 89 maintained schools and 47 Academies as at 31 December 2013.

There were 2 schools with an agreed license deficit with a total value of £37k.

It was categorisation of schools in the risk register was carried out in December 2013 and determined the following:-

No Rating – 64 schools
Green – 16 schools
Amber – 7 schools
Red – 2 schools

The Forum noted that red and amber schools will receive a visit from the School Finance Adviser during the Autumn Term. All schools will be sent a letter advising of their RAG category and the use of criteria following the School Forum update.

RESOLVED

1. that the update on the License Deficit Schools be noted.
2. that the update on the Schools Finance Risk Register be noted.

CBSF/13/25 Proposed Meeting Dates 2014/15

The Forum considered the proposed meeting dates for the municipal year 2014/15 and agreed them as follows:

- 23 June 2014 – 6.00pm – Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford
- 15 Sept 2014 – 6.00pm – Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford
- 24 Nov 2014 – 9.00am – Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable
- 26 Jan 2015 – 9.00am – Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable
- 09 Mar 2015 – 6.00pm – Priory House, Monks Walk, Shefford

The Forum noted that the last meeting for the 2013/14 municipal year would be held on:

- 24 March 2014 – 9.00am – Watling House, High Street North, Dunstable.

AGREED

The Schools Forums meeting dates for the 2014/15 municipal year.

CBSF/13/26 Schools Forums: operational and good practice guide

The Forum received the Schools Forum: operational and good practice guide and noted that the criteria listed in Table 2 was the requirements for the Forum with regards to reports and consultations.

(Note: The meeting commenced at 6.00 p.m. and concluded at 8.30 p.m.)

Chairman

Dated

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Meeting: Schools Forum
Date: 23 June 2014
Subject: Report on Activity during 2013 of Early Years Reference Group
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Summary: To note the update on the activity of the Early Years Reference Group

Contact Officer: Sue Tyler Head of Child Poverty and Early Intervention
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The forum note the report on the activity of the Early Years Reference Group
2. To agree in principle the use of Contingency to increase the base rate

1. The Early Years reference Group met on three occasions during 2013.

Two Year Olds

2. The Two Year Old Initiative was a main agenda item at each meeting. The original target had been set at 449 places for the 20% most deprived two year olds from September 2013. This number was to increase in September 2014 to 889 places for the 40% most deprived children. The attendance is for 15 hours per week in term time. Considerable work had been carried out during 2012 and 2013 to ensure sufficient places. However it became clear during the latter part of 2013 that identifying the appropriate children would prove an even greater challenge. The group were told that the Department for Education had sent out letters on two occasions with time-limited data which could be used by the council to identify and make contact with families. On the first occasion the Department identified 182 families with children and on the second 282. This clearly fell somewhat short of the 449 children in the target group.
3. The criteria for the first 20% were set nationally and included families accessing Income Support, Income based Job Seekers Allowance, Child Tax Credit where the family income was no more than £16,190 p.a., the disability element of Working Tax Credit, Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and the Guarantee element of State Pension Credit. In addition Children who were LAC or on Child Protection Plans were also able to access the free offer.

4. In preparation for the further rollout of the offer in September 2014 the Early Years Reference Group agreed the extension of the criteria in line with government recommendations to cover in addition to the above criteria, those which enable eligibility for Free School Meals namely: Working Tax Credit (with the income level below £16,190), Income related Employment and Support Allowance, Disability Living allowance, children who have a statement of education need or an education, health and care plan, children who have left care through special guardianship, adoption or residence orders. It was agreed that these additional criteria would be introduced with effect from Jan 2014 in order to increase the numbers of two year olds accessing the offer.
5. Reports were given to the group of the considerable publicity which has been Undertaken including, leaflet drops in appropriate areas, posters everywhere, side of bus advertising, and radio advertsising. Referrals have been extended from being received just via Childrens Centres, to include health visitors and self-referrals. Groups are now being incentivised to refer children.

Early Years Funding

6. No changes to the overall funding formula was discussed at the group during 2013. However minor changes to early years funding levels were noted. During 2013 there was a one off payment of an additional 10p per child/hour in the base rate paid, due to a carried forward sum available. Prior to this rates had been static since the introduction of the formula, and the proposed funding for 2014/15 enabled an increase of 5p per hour, which the Early Years Reference Group will be asked to approve at its forthcoming meeting, along with a change in emphasis in the Social Deprivation payment, for the highest level of need from 20p perchild/hour to 40p per child/hour. At this stage of the financial year it is anticipated that there may be a carried forward contingency sum which would enable a an additional 5p per hour to be put onto the base rate for PVI's. The Schools Forum is asked to agree in principle to this increase if there is a contingency. The proposal will also be put to the Early Years Reference Group at its meeting in March.

This would bring the rates to:

Type	Base Rate per Hour	
	Non - Flexible	Flexible
Nursery School	£3.35	£3.40
Primary School	£3.35	£3.40
PVI	£3.70	£3.85

Social deprivation

Three levels using the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) January 2013 data

- 40p per hour for the 0-30% most disadvantaged (increased by 20p in 2014/15)
- 15p per hour for 31-60% disadvantaged and (increased by 5p from 2014/15)
- 0p per hour for remaining 61-100%.

The social deprivation element is based upon the level of disadvantage where a child lives (postcode) and follows the child to the setting they attend.

Quality

The quality factor applies to PVI's only and is at three levels:

- 20p per hour to qualified teacher (QTS) and early years graduate with early years professional status (EYP)
- 15p per hour to an early years graduate without EYP and
- 10p per hour to a level 4

It should be noted that Nursery and Lower Schools are paid a substantial Lump Sum which is not paid to PVIs, and Rates costs are also covered for Maintained Settings.

Recommendation:

The Schools Forum is requested to approve in principle the use of the Contingency Fund to enable an additional 5p per funded hours to be added to the rates paid to the PVIs, once the level of the carried forward contingency is established.

More Great Childcare and More Affordable Childcare

7. These government documents were consulted on during the course of the year, and then guidance published. There was considerable national controversy around proposals to reduce ratios, although these were eventually dropped after vigorous debates within the coalition government. In the main there were not substantive changes required to the local funding agreement in Central Bedfordshire as localised rules had not been introduced as part of the funding framework. The most major change was that Childminders could provide funded hours as long as they had good or outstanding Ofsted grades, regardless of being qualified or in a network which were the former national criteria.
8. The Group approved the local agreement which was updated in line with the new national framework to cover two, three and four year olds. This included Settings which require improvement only being able to take two year olds if there are no places in good or outstanding settings in the local area.
9. The group discussed and expressed concern about the appropriateness of school settings for two year olds in some cases.

Tribal

10. The Group received reports that during 2013 the Tribal database and collection system went live. This enabled groups to complete their census and headcount data on line. It was latterly also used to calculate the payments due.

Setting Support

11. The Group approved the Support Strategy which provides for intensive support for settings who Require Improvement or are Inadequate.

12 Two Year Old Conference

The Group received a report on the very successful provider conference which had taken place in February 2013 as part of the programme around the extension of the Two Year Old offer.

Childcare Funding Panel

13. The Childcare Funding Panel met on three occasions in 2013.
Over the year it approved funding in the following categories:

Inclusion: £45,436
New Childcare Places: £76,800 (including places for 2 year olds)
Quality Improvements: £44,214
Sustainability: £117,611
Capital for Two year old Expansion: £210,000

Appendices:

None

Meeting: Schools Forum
Date: 23 June 2014
Subject: School Specific Contingency Budget
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Summary: To provide an update on the use of the School Contingency Budgets for 2013/14.

Contact Officer: Dawn Hill, Priory House, Shefford
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

To note the School Specific Contingency Budget spend for the financial year 2013/14.

Background

1. From 2013/14 the Dedicated School Grant is split into three notional blocks; Schools, High Needs and Early Years with each block holding its own contingency budget.

School Block

2. The Schools Specific Contingency Budget falls under Schedule 2 (Part 5) of The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013; 'Classes or descriptions of planned expenditure prescribed for the purposes of the Schools budget of a Local Authority which may be deducted from it to determine the Individual Schools Budget (ISB)'. Part 5 relates to items that may be removed from Maintained Schools' Budget Shares by way of de-delegation. De-delegation is not an option for Academies, special schools, nurseries or PRUs.
3. Expenditure on the Schools Specific Contingency is central expenditure deducted for the purpose of ensuring that monies are available to enable an increase in a school's budget share after it has been allocated and where it subsequently becomes apparent that a governing body have incurred expenditure which it would be unreasonable to expect them to meet from the school's budget share which may include expenditure in relation to:
 - Schools in financial difficulty
 - The writing off of deficits of schools which are discontinued, excluding any associated costs and overheads
 - New, amalgamating or closing schools, or

- Other expenditure where the circumstances were unforeseen when initially determining the school's budget share

High Needs Block

4. Contingencies are held centrally to fund Outreach work and the writing off of deficits of special schools which are discontinued. It was agreed at the School Forum meeting of the 20th January 2014 that for 2014/15 this budget would be renamed 'Outreach Service' and included within the update on the use of centrally retained DSG within the High Needs Block.

Early Years Block

5. Early Years provision is funded based on predicted total number of hours attendance of registered pupils. The LA must review the budget share when further information on actual hours of attendance is available, in accordance with Part 3 of The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013. The Early Years Contingency budget has been set aside to fund the headcount adjustment that is allowable within the regulations.

School Contingency

6. It was agreed at the School Forum meeting of the 22nd October 2012 that £100k would be de-delegated back to the LA for the purpose of School Contingencies for 2013/14.
7. The following table sets out the expenditure to 31st March 2014:

	BUDGET £	SPEND £	BALANCE £
Carry Forward from 2012/13	778,963		
Budget Allocation 2013/14	100,000		
Adjustment Academy Recoupment 12/13		24,163	
Adjustment Academy Recoupment 13/14		(75,911)	
Age Range Funding		(261,236)	
Rent Adjustment		(29,050)	
DSG Adjustment		17,282	
Total School Contingency	878,963	(324,752)	554,211

8. It was agreed at the School Forum meeting of the 20th January 2014 that £500k of the 2013/14 balance would be added to the Individual School Budgets (ISB) for 2014/15 and redistributed to all schools via the pupil's basic entitlement (AWPU).

High Needs Contingency

9. It was agreed for 2013/14 that SEN Contingency will continue to fund the extended role of a school such as commissioned work for Outreach and other services. Chiltern, Ivel Valley and Oak Bank are currently commissioned to carry out an Outreach role.

10. The following table sets out the expenditure to 31st March 2014:

	BUDGET £	SPEND £	BALANCE £
Carry Forward from 2012/13	72,858		
Budget Allocation 2013/14	275,670		
Closing School		(53)	
Outreach		(193,243)	
Total SEN Contingency	348,528	(193,296)	155,232

Early Years Contingency

11. The following table sets out the expenditure to 31st March 2014:

	BUDGET £	SPEND £	BALANCE £
Budget Allocation 2013/14	352,450		
January 2013 census adjustment		44,200	
May 2013 census adjustment		(182,549)	
October 2013 census adjustment		82,950	
January 2014 census adjustment		(179,305)	
Total Early Years Contingency	352,450	(234,704)	117,746

12. The balance of DSG Contingencies has been Earmarked and carried forward to 2014/15.

Appendices:

None

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Meeting: Schools Forum
Date: 23 June 2014
Subject: Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Summary: To note the 2013/14 DSG and Growth Fund outturn, and 2014/15 DSG allocation. To note the 2015/16 funding consultation.

Contact Officer: Dawn Hill, Priory House, Shefford

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

Reason for urgency
(if appropriate)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. To note and comment on the 2013/14 DSG Outturn.**
- 2. To note and comment on the 2013/14 Growth Fund outturn**
- 3. To note and comment on the update to 2014/15 DSG allocations.**
- 4. To note and comment on the 2015/16 consultation.**

Background

1. Since the beginning of the financial year 2006/07 local authorities have received allocations of DSG to finance the Schools Budget in each authority. The full DSG received must be applied to the Schools Budget in each authority; although authorities may provide additional resources in support of the Schools Budget should they decide to do so. From 2013/14 the Dedicated School Grant is split into three notional blocks; Early Years, High Needs and Schools.
2. The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013 define the local authority education budgets (the non-schools education budget, the schools budget, the central expenditure and the individual schools budget) and set out how local authorities are to allocate funding from the individual schools budget (ISB) to maintained schools and private, voluntary and independent providers of free early years provision (relevant early years providers) through a locally determined formula.
3. The Regulations give effect to the decisions made to reform the school funding system through simplified local formulae, greater delegation to schools and new arrangements for funding pupils with high needs.
4. The Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) for schools has been set at negative 1.5% per pupil for 2013/14 and 2014/15. The calculation has been simplified compared with previous years and the Regulations set out the factors which are excluded from the calculation.

5. The Chief Finance Officer (CFO), must sign two statements annually: the Actual deployment (out-turn) and Budgeted Allocation of the DSG, confirming that it has been fully deployed in support of the School's Budget in accordance with the condition of the grant and The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013.

DSG Outturn 2013/14

6. The distribution of the DSG for 2013/14 is based on the 'spend plus' methodology and is in three blocks (Early Years, Schools and High Needs).
7. The Schools Block is based on a per pupil unit of funding of £4,144.47 multiplied by 34,747 pupils as reported on the October 2012 census.
8. The Early Years Block is based on a unit of funding of £3,979.80 multiplied by 2,421 full time equivalent number of pupil as reported on the January 2013 census. The Early Years block has been updated in April 2014 for 7/12ths of the January 2014 pupil numbers to cover the period September 2013 to March 2014.
9. The High Needs Block is a single block for high needs pupils/students age 0- 24. For 2013/14 the Block is in two parts, pre 16 and post 16 (age 16-24). The post 16 combines three previous budgets, SEN Block Grant, Specialist placements funding and the cost of high needs student in Further Education (FE). The new system for funding post 16 students was introduced August 2013.
10. The following table represents the distribution of the 2013/14 DSG based on the Academy conversions as at March 2014(47).

	DSG	ISB	Revised	ISB	Central
	£'000	Academies	DSG	Schools	Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools	144,062	77,089	66,973	65,715	1,258
EY	11,478	0	11,478	9,300	*2,178
High Needs	23,302	1,543	21,759	9,003	*12,756
Total	178,842	78,632	100,210	84,018	16,192

* Includes EY (£267k) and High Needs (£2,978k) paid directly to Academies by the LA.

11. The centrally retained DSG of £16.2M is further analysed in the table below.

Services	DSG
	£'000
Special Education Needs (Inc Post 16)	8,646
Academies Statements/Early Years	3,244
Two Year old Funding	1,793
Growth Fund	800
DSG Contribution to Central Overheads	719
Pupil Referral Unit	409
School Admissions	260
School Contingency	52
Copyright Licences	84
Teachers Unions & Professional Associations	64
Early Years Contingency	118
School Forum	3
Total CE	16,192

12. The DSG outturn for 2013/14 is £13.979M, an in year underspend of £2.2M. The table below represents DSG carried forward to 2014/15.

	B/F from 2012/13	Spend in 2013/14	2013/14 Unspent DSG	Closing Balances
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools Block	516	(23)	0	493
High Needs Block	336	0	1,741	2,077
Early Years – Two year old funding	0	0	496	496
Total	852	(23)	2,237	3,066

13. The carry forward has been used in part to increase the School's individual budgets for 2014/15 by £1.665M. The balance of £1.4M has yet to be allocated.

Growth Fund Outturn 2013/14

14. The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations, Schedule 2, prescribes expenditure that may be deducted from the Schools budget before determining the Individual Schools Budget and held centrally. Growth Funding falls into this category and is for the purpose of expenditure due to significant growth in pupil numbers as a result of the LA's duty under section 13(1) of the 1996 Act to secure that efficient primary and secondary education are available to meet the needs of the population and in order to make provision for extra classes in order to comply with the School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) Regulations 2012.
15. Local Authorities are required to produce criteria on which any growth funding is to be allocated, and set out the circumstances in which a payment could be made and a basis for calculating the sum. The School Forum regulations requires the agreement of the School Forum for both the central spend on and the criteria for allocating funds.
16. The following table sets out the expenditure to 31st March 2014.

	Budget £	Spend £	Balance £
2013/14 Allocation	800,000		
Growth Fund:			
Fairfield Park Lower		(130,168)	
Greenleas Lower		(417,269)	
Church End Lower		(69,071)	
Gothic Mede Lower		(40,712)	
Alameda Middle		(53,919)	
Etonbury Middle		(78,646)	
Redborne Upper		(82,705)	
Shefford Lower		(74,231)	
Russell Lower		(12,665)	
St Andrews Lower		(7,920)	
Robert Bloomfield Academy		(22,541)	
Infant Class Size:			
Houghton Regis Lower		(27,984)	
Total Growth Fund	800,000	(1,017,831)	(217,831)

17. The revised School and Early Years Finance Regulations 2013 allows LAs to carry over any unspent money from the 2013/14 growth and infant class size funds to be used for the same purpose in 2014/15. This is a change from the draft regulations, which proposed instead that unspent money should be included in the Individual School Budget. The overspend for 2013/14 will be the first call on the 2014/15 allocation for Growth Fund.

2014/15 DSG Budget Allocation

18. On 18th December 2013, the Education Funding Agency (EFA) announced details of the School Funding Settlement for 2014/15. The distribution of the DSG to LAs will continue to be based on the current 'spend plus' methodology, set out in three spending blocks: an Early Years Block, a Schools Block and a High Needs Block. The underlying schools budget will be kept at flat cash per pupil for 2014/15. To protect LAs with falling pupil numbers there will be arrangements to ensure that no authority loses more than 2% of its budget in cash terms. Central Bedfordshire pupil numbers based on October 2013 census data have increased by 401 pupils.
19. Although the overall schools budget will stay at the same level; on a per pupil basis before the addition of the Pupil Premium, the actual level of each school's individual budget will vary. To protect schools from significant budget reductions, the Minimum Funding Guarantee is continuing to ensure that no school sees more than a 1.5% per pupil reduction in 2014/15 (excluding sixth form funding) compared with 2013/14 and before the Pupil Premium is added.
20. The Early Years Block will be updated during 2014/15 for January 2014 and for 7/12 of January 2015 pupil numbers (to cover the September 2014 to March 2015 period).
21. As part of the 2014/15 DSG revenue funding allocation is funding to secure early learning places for two year olds from lower income households. From 1st September 2013 early learning became a statutory entitlement for around 20% of two-year olds, which will extend to 40% from September 2014. To deliver this, funding has been allocated to extend the programme in 2014/15.
22. The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) announced on the 10th December 2012, that all state funded schools in England will be withdrawn from participating in the CRC Energy Efficient Scheme from April 2014. LAs are no longer required to administer the CRC on behalf of Schools. A deduction will be made to the DSG for 2014/15 to compensate the Exchequer for the loss of revenue resulting from this change. For CBC the CRC deduction is £263k.
23. The table below illustrates the DSG revenue allocation for 2014/15.

Block		2014/15 (M)
Schools		145.670
Early Years		9.635
High Needs	Pre 16	21.530
	Post 16 non Schools	1.717
	Post 16 in Schools	1.139
	Place review	0.415
	Non Maintained Special Schools	0.011
2 Year Olds		2.481
NQT		0.053
Deduction for CRC		(0.263)
Total Indicative Allocation DSG		182.388

24. The DfE has agreed with the following agencies to purchase a single national licence managed by the Department for all state-funded schools:
- Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA)
 - Music Publisher Association (MPA)
 - Newspaper Licensing Authority (NLA)
 - Education Recording Agency (ERA)
 - Motion Picture Licensing Company (MPLC)
 - Filmbank Distribution Ltd

Central Bedfordshire's DSG allocation will be reduced by £142k to take account of the cost of the licenses.

25. The following table represents the distribution of the 2014/15 DSG based on the Academy conversions as at May 2014 (47).

	DSG	ISB	Revised	ISB	Central
	£'000	Academies	DSG	Schools	Spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Schools	145,513	80,431	65,082	63,518	1,564
EY	12,098	0	12,098	8,807	*3,291
High Needs	24,777	3,401	21,376	7,974	*13,402
Total	182,388	83,832	98,556	80,299	18,257

* Includes EY (£677k) and High Needs (£3,272k) paid directly to Academies by the LA.

26. The centrally retained DSG of £18.3M is further analysed in the table below.

Services	DSG
	£'000
Special Education Needs (Inc Post 16)	9,410
Academies Statements/Early Years	3,949
Two Year old Funding	2,480
Growth Fund	1,000
DSG Contribution to Central Overheads	719
School Admissions	260
School Contingency	106
Copyright Licences	142
Teachers Unions & Professional Associations	54
Early Years Contingency	134
School Forum	3
Total CE	18,257

Fair Schools Funding in 2015/16

27. On 13 March 2014 the DfE launched a consultation on Fair Schools Funding in 2015/16. The consultation sets out the DfE's proposal to allocate an additional £350m in 2015/16 and increase the per pupil budgets for the least funded local authorities. The DfE has confirmed that no local authority will receive less funding as a result of this proposal.

28. The DfE proposes to allocate the additional funding by setting minimum funding levels that a local authority should attract for its pupils and schools in 2015/16. If a local authority attracts less than these minimum funding level the DfE will increase its budget so that it meets those levels.
29. The table below sets out the DfE indicative minimum funding levels for each factor. For illustrative purposes only the 2014/15 CBC factors and funding levels have been included.

Factor		DfE proposed Minimum Funding Levels		Central Bedfordshire Funding Levels	
		Prim	Sec	Prim	Sec
Age-weighted pupil unit (AWPU)		£2,845	KS3: £3,951 KS4: £4,529	£2,959	KS3: £4,221 KS4: £4,930
Pupils who have been eligible for free school meals in the past six years		£893	£1,080	Nil	Nil
Pupils who live in an area that is in one of the income deprivation affecting children index (IDACI) bands	IDACI 1	£237	£321	0	0
	IDACI 2	£290	£423	£554	£554
	IDACI 3	£387	£530	£554	£554
	IDACI 4	£453	£596	£1,108	£1,108
	IDACI 5	£511	£659	£1,662	£1,662
	IDACI 6	£741	£894	£2,216	£2,216
Looked After Children		£1,009	£1,009	£468	£468
Pupils with low prior attainment		£878	£1,961	Nil	Nil
English as an additional language		£505	£1,216	Nil	Nil
Lump sum		£117,082	£128,189	£120,000	£120,000
Sparsity sum		£53,988	£53,988	Nil	Nil
An area cost adjustment to increase minimum levels in areas with higher labour market cost					

30. The DfE has published the indicative amount that eligible authorities will receive, which has been calculated using the 2013/14 data from local authorities. For Central Bedfordshire the indicative allocation is £3.8m. However, this will be reviewed following consultation responses and updated using 2014/15 data.
31. The DfE is not proposing that LAs should use these factors in their local formula in 2015/16. It will remain for the local authority to decide how to apply its formula to meet its local circumstances. There are no proposals to change the way in which LAs can allocate funding to schools, except some minor changes to the sparsity factor.
32. The technical sub group met on 8th April 2014 to discuss and make a response to this consultation. Minutes of the meeting and the response to the consultation are attached as Appendix 1 and 2.

Appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Minutes of 8th April Technical Funding Group.
Appendix 2 – Consultation response

Minutes of 8th April 2014 Technical Funding Group

Attendees

School Forum Members:

Stephen Tikin (Lower Maintained)
Shirley Crosbie (Special Maintained)
John Street (Middle Academy)
Richard Holland (School Forum Chair)

Officers:

Dawn Hill
Gezim Leka
Christine Mushonga

Apologies:

Sue Howley
Paul Burrett
Anne Bell
David Brandon-Bravo
Helen Redding
Rob Parsons

The meeting commenced at 9.30 a.m. and concluded at 10.50 a.m.

Handouts Provided:

Fairer School Funding Consultation Document
Indicative Minimum Funding Levels for 2015/16
Indicative changes to Local Authority Funding in 2015/16
Area Cost Adjustment
Fairer School Funding Consultation Response Form
Sparsity criteria
F40 Group Chair response to Consultation

Discussions:

1. Key Points

The session started with a brief overview of the Fairer School Funding Consultation, which indicates an increase of £3.8m in funding for CBC.

The Group went on to discuss the following:

- Indicative Minimum Funding Levels for 2015/16 in comparison with CBC local formula.
- The DfE advised that the indicative levels are based on 2013/14 data and will be updated with 2014/15 data when it becomes available. The updated information is yet to be received.
- It was highlighted that the F40 Group Chair had an initial meeting with the Director of the Education Funding Group at the DfE and expressed concern about the method of calculation and the impact that using certain sets of data has had on the outcome. The DfE advised they would be circulating a spreadsheet to each gaining authority showing individual calculations which is yet to be received.
- Individual responses to each question included in the Consultation Response Form.
- The Consultation closes on 30th April 2014.

2. Consultation Response Form

The Group agreed that the existing distribution of schools funding is unfair, and concurred with the proposed choice of characteristics to which to attain minimum funding levels. DH highlighted that LAs are not required to realign their local formula with the indicative funding levels for 2015/16 as a result of this Consultation. It was also highlighted that no LA will receive less funding as a result of the Consultation. As LAs are not obliged to adopt the proposed minimum funding levels, there is an opportunity to target the additional funding on new factors.

DH clarified that while the additional funding per LA will be revised based on 2014/15 pupil numbers, the total funding pot will remain at £350m. Changes in the 2014/15 pupil figures will therefore result in a corresponding increase or decrease to the indicative additional allocation of £3.8m for CBC.

The Group agreed with the proposed choice of characteristics to which to attach minimum funding levels.

○ **AWPU**

The table below shows the comparison between the indicative minimum funding levels for 2015/16 and the current AWPU values for CBC:

Phase	Indicative Minimum Funding Level	CBC Level
Primary	£2,845	£2,959
KS3	£3,951	£4,221
KS4	£4,529	£4,930

The Group agreed with the proposed values of the 2015/16 Minimum Funding Levels for AWPU on the basis that CBC already exceeds the proposed values.

○ **Deprivation and FSM**

CBC local formula does not include FSM as a factor, however, the 2014/15 Deprivation values are above the indicative minimum funding levels for 2015/16.

On the assumption that CBC pupils eligible for FSM also fall into one of the IDACI bands, the result is that the moderately deprived currently do not attract any funding. JS also raised concern over schools losing funding where funding is allocated based on postcode data rather than actual need. It was also highlighted that the introduction of UIFSM (September 2014) may bias FSM as an indicator for need. However, DH and SC clarified that the school census will continue to include an indicator for FSM under the current criteria, which excludes eligibility for UIFSM.

It was noted that in producing the indicative minimum funding levels, the DfE has not done an activity-based cost analysis but rather an average across all LAs. The consensus was to revisit Deprivation and FSM at the next Group meeting, and that

it would be useful to conduct an IDACI versus FSM analysis to identify areas of need that may not be highlighted by postcode.

The Group agreed with the proposed values of the 2015/16 Minimum Funding Levels for Deprivation and FSM.

○ **Looked After Children**

CBC local formula currently allocates funding of £468 per looked after child. The indicative minimum funding level for 2015/16 is £1,009.

The Consultation proposes that the same measure would be used as is currently set out in the 2014/15 school funding arrangements, that is, to provide funding for all children reported as looked after for one day or more at the census point. The consensus was that statistics outlining the impact on pupils of being looked after provide a very strong argument for targeted funding.

The Group agreed with the proposed values of the 2015/16 Minimum Funding Levels for Looked after Children.

○ **English as an additional language (EAL)**

CBC local formula does not include English as an additional language as a factor.

The indicative minimum funding levels for 2015/16 are £505 for Primary pupils and £1,216 for Secondary pupils. The proposal is that the minimum funding level would apply to pupils with EAL who entered the English state school system in the past three years.

SC was of the understanding that within schools, funding for English as an additional language was allocated to promote greater fluency in English to aid learning. The consensus was that although there is not a high need in CBC at present, it may be necessary to reconsider this factor should there be increase in need in the future.

However, the Group recognised there is a need for funding on a national scale, where for example schools in other LAs provide interpreters or learning material in other languages.

The Group agreed with the proposed values of the 2015/16 Minimum Funding Levels for English as an additional language.

○ **Low Prior Attainment**

CBC local formula does not include Low Prior Attainment as a factor.

Indicative minimum funding levels for 2015/16 are £878 for Primary pupils and £1,961 for Secondary pupils. The Consultation proposes that for the primary measure, this would apply to pupils who did not reach the expected level of development on the new EYFSP or who achieved fewer than 78 points on the old EYFSP. For secondary schools the minimum funding level applies to pupils not reaching L4 at KS2 in either English or Maths.

The Group recognised that need for funding on a national scale. ST raised concern that CBC Local Formula does not include targeted funding for low prior attainment. It was argued that while schools may allocate deprivation funding to close the attainment gap, this may give rise to the inadvertent funding basis that only deprived pupils have low prior attainment. The consensus was that it may be necessary to revisit this factor at the next Group meeting.

The Group agreed with the proposed values of the 2015/16 Minimum Funding Levels for Low Prior Attainment.

○ **Lump Sum**

CBC local formula allocates a lump sum of £120k to both Primary and Secondary schools.

The indicative minimum funding levels for 2015/16 are c£117k (Primary) and c£128k (Secondary.) Middle schools would attract a minimum lump sum weighted by their ratio of primary to secondary year groups in the school. All-through schools would attract the secondary amount.

The general consensus was that there may be a national need to vary the lump sum according to phase.

The Group agreed with the proposed values of the 2015/16 Minimum Funding Levels for Lump Sum.

○ **Sparcity**

CBC local formula does not include Sparcity as a factor.

The indicative minimum funding level for 2015/16 is £53,988 for both Primary and Secondary schools. The proposal is that a taper would apply, whereby the sum is in inverse proportion to the size of the school. The criteria for attracting the minimum funding level would be the same as the criteria for the sparcity factor in the local formulas.

Under the current criteria, a fixed or variable amount may be applied to small schools where the average distance to pupils' second nearest school is more than 2 miles (primary) or 3 miles (secondary.)

The general consensus was that it would be useful to revise the criteria such that funding targets geographic locations rather than size of school. Where funding is allocated on school size, pupil movement may result in significant fluctuations in funding allocated from one year to the next, which may have a negative impact on a school's economic viability.

The Group also agreed that revision of the criteria of the Sparcity factor to take into account the average number of pupils in each year group would not be beneficial as year groups impact all schools.

It was further highlighted that due to the perceived notion of higher attainment in small schools, parents may opt for schools where distances travelled to attend school are greater than those specified in the current criteria. This would result in

additional funding for a school whose geographic location is not necessarily sparse.

The Group agreed on the revision of the criteria for the Sparsity factor. It was suggested that the criteria should target geographic locations to improve the operation of this factor and that it may be necessary to revisit Sparsity at the next Group meeting.

○ **DfE approach to allocation of additional funding**

The consensus was that labour market cost differences should not be taken into account when allocating the additional £350m. The current funding arrangements already make allowances for labour market cost differences, which has contributed to the unfair distribution of schools funding. The Group further disagreed with the hybrid approach set out by the Department, which indicates additional funding for some of those LAs at the higher end of the funding scale.

3. Conclusion

- It was agreed that DH would arrange for circulation of any further correspondence received from the F40 group; as well as the updated Minimum Funding Levels for 2014/15 and working paper based on 2014/15 data as soon as it is received from the DfE.
- It was reiterated that the indicative additional allocation of £3.8m for CBC may be reduced based on 2014/15 data.
- It was also agreed that DH would arrange for circulation of possible dates for the next Group meeting to be held in September, taking into account any future commitments of Group members to various Support and Aspiration Group meetings.

Glossary of Terms

CBC	Central Bedfordshire Council
DfE	Department for Education
DH	Dawn Hill
LA	Local Authority
AWPU	Age Weighted Pupil Unit
KS3	Key Stage 3
KS4	Key Stage 4
FSM	Free School Meals
IDACI	Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index
JS	John Street
UIFSM	Universal Infant Free School Meals
SC	Shirley Crosbie
EYFSP	Early Years Foundation Stage Profile
L4	Level 4
ST	Steven Tiktin

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Department
for Education

Appendix 2

Consultation Response Form

Consultation closing date: 30 April 2014
Your comments must reach us by that date

Fairer schools funding in 2015-16

If you would prefer to respond online to this consultation please use the following link: <https://www.education.gov.uk/consultations>

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes, primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Data Protection Act 1998.

If you want all, or any part, of your response to be treated as confidential, please explain why you consider it to be confidential.

If a request for disclosure of the information you have provided is received, your explanation about why you consider it to be confidential will be taken into account, but no assurance can be given that confidentiality can be maintained. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

The Department will process your personal data (name and address and any other identifying material) in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, and in the majority of circumstances, this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties.

Please tick if you want us to keep your response confidential.	
Reason for confidentiality:	

Name:	
Please tick if you are responding on behalf of your organisation.	
Name of Organisation (if applicable): Central Bedfordshire School Forum	
Address: richard holland richard.holland@btinternet.com Chairperson of Central Bedfordshire School Forum Priory House Monk Walk Chicksands, Shefford	

SG17 5TQ

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the consultation process in general, you can contact the Ministerial and Public Communications Division by e-mail: consultation.unit@education.gsi.gov.uk or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the Department's ['Contact Us'](#) page.

Please mark the box that best describes you as a respondent.

<input type="checkbox"/> Maintained school	<input type="checkbox"/> Academy	<input type="checkbox"/> Local authority
<input type="checkbox"/> Governor	<input type="checkbox"/> Bursar	<input type="checkbox"/> Parent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools forum	<input type="checkbox"/> Trade union organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

Please Specify:

1 Do you agree that the existing distribution of schools funding is unfair?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
---	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------

Comments:

The evidence that the current distribution of school funding is unfair is overwhelming; this has been repeatedly acknowledged by government.

Fair funding will only be achieved by introducing a formula-based approach covering the whole of DSG i.e. mainstream schools, Early Years and High Needs.

The methodology proposed for 2015/16 produces some obvious anomalies, with many low-funded authority areas receiving little or no benefit.

We do not understand why LAs in the higher part of the funding league table are gainers, whilst LAs that are obviously more poorly funded have small gains or receive nothing at all to bridge the existing funding gap.

The Department will be aware that schools are facing major cost increases at a time of 'flat cash' funding settlements, particularly:

- September 2014's 1% pay increase for teachers
- The anticipated increase to non-teaching staff pay – which as yet remains unknown.
- The increase in the employer's superannuation contribution from 14.1% to 16.4% from September 2015
- The introduction of a flat rate state pension from April 2016, the impact of which will be to increase schools' costs of in excess of 2% for teaching staff and most ancillary staff.
- For schools with sixth forms, a continuing reduction in sixth form funding
- Energy, fuel and other cost increases

We urge that these cost pressures are fully taken into account in the Spending Review for 2016-17 onwards.

2 Do you agree with our proposed choice of characteristics to which to attach minimum funding levels?

Yes

No

Not Sure

Comments:

We agree with the proposed choice of formula factors for Schools Block funding.

Given our proposal to set minimum funding levels such that we can afford to fund all local authorities at those levels or above in 2015-16, do you agree with the proposed values of the minimum funding levels?

3 a) Age Weighted Pupil Unit

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
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3 b) Deprivation

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
---	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------

3 c) Looked-after children

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
---	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------

3 d) English as an additional language

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
---	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------

3 e) Low prior attainment

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
---	-----------------------------	-----------------------------------

3 f) Lump sum

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
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3 g) Sparsity

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Sure
------------------------------	-----------------------------	--

Comments:

We agree that these are the correct factors and we understand that the formula value for each factor has been based on weighted averages and these will be updated for 2014/15 local funding formulae.

The proposed methodology and current criteria for distributing funding for the sparsity factor does not reflect true sparse schools and does not encourage small schools to merge.

4 Do you agree that labour market cost differences should be taken into account as we allocate the £350m?

Agree Disagree Not sure

Comments:

We do not understand the rationale for adjusting for labour market costs – they are already fully taken into account in the main funding distribution between local authorities.

We can see no case for supplementary funding for area costs.

5 Do you agree this should be calculated using the hybrid approach we have set out?

Agree Disagree Not sure

Comments:

Please see response to question 4.

6 If you do not agree that we should use a hybrid approach, what would you prefer we used?

<input type="checkbox"/> Use teacher pay bands only	<input type="checkbox"/> Use a general labour market measure only	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use an alternative method
---	---	---

Comments:

None of the additional funding should be allocated for labour market costs.

Sparsity Review

7 We introduced a sparsity factor for the first time in 2015-16. How helpful has this factor been in ensuring that sufficient funding is targeted at small schools serving sparsely populated areas?

<input type="checkbox"/> Useful	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not useful	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
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Comments:

We agree that sparsity is potentially a useful means of targeting funding at small rural schools. Many authorities have not introduced a sparsity factor for 2014/15, taking the view that further work is needed on producing a viable model. We would welcome an evaluation by the Department on the approaches local authorities with different characteristics have adopted for 2014/15.

8 Do you think it would be useful to revise the criteria for the sparsity factor to take into account the average number of pupils in each year group, rather than the number of pupils in the school? If so, how?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Useful	<input type="checkbox"/> Not useful	<input type="checkbox"/> Not sure
--	-------------------------------------	-----------------------------------

We believe the number of pupils in each year group is a relevant factor, however, size of year groups impact all schools not just small schools. There are already existing inequalities between the per pupil funding of small schools and larger schools.

We believe the lump sum should be sufficient to cover the fixed costs of schools.

Funding should be targeted at geographical locations, the current criteria of 2/3 miles is not a sparse school.

9 Are there any other changes you would like to suggest to improve the operation of this factor, and why?

Comments:

We believe there are a number of issues on sparsity that still need to be addressed:

- We strongly favour using road distance rather than “as the crow flies”
- Adjustments need to be made where the ‘next nearest school’ is also counted as sparse
- We remain concerned about the impact of a distance threshold where one pupil moving house means a school may qualify for sparsity in one year but not the next.

We are also conscious that the needs of rural communities vary widely across the country and even within local authority areas. This argues strongly for local authorities having discretion on how the factor is applied locally – we do not believe the Department for Education needs to regulate in this area.

We would also ask the Department to note the relationship between the pattern of schools in rural areas and the cost of home to school transport; this needs to be fully reflected in the main funding settlement for local authorities.

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge individual responses unless you place an 'X' in the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply.	
E-mail address for acknowledgement:	

Here at the Department for Education we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, please confirm below if you would be willing to be contacted again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
---	-----------------------------

All DfE public consultations are required to meet the Cabinet Office [Principles on Consultation](#)

The key Consultation Principles are:

- departments will follow a range of timescales rather than defaulting to a 12-week period, particularly where extensive engagement has occurred before
- departments will need to give more thought to how they engage with and use real discussion with affected parties and experts as well as the expertise of civil service learning to make well informed decisions
- departments should explain what responses they have received and how these have been used in formulating policy
- consultation should be 'digital by default', but other forms should be used where these are needed to reach the groups affected by a policy
- the principles of the Compact between government and the voluntary and community sector will continue to be respected.

If you have any comments on how DfE consultations are conducted, please contact Aileen Shaw, DfE Consultation Coordinator, tel: 0370 000 2288 / email: aileen.shaw@education.gsi.gov.uk

Thank you for taking time to respond to this consultation.

Completed responses should be sent to the address shown below by 30 April 2014

Ministerial and Public Communication Division, Level 2, Department for Education,
Mowden Hall, Staindrop Road, DARLINGTON DL3 9BG

Send by e-mail to:

SchoolFunding.CONULTATION@education.gsi.gov.uk

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Meeting: Schools Forum

Date: 23 June 2014

Subject: School Forum Budget

Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children’s Services

Summary: To provide an update on the use of the School Forum Budget for 2013/14.

Contact Officer: Dawn Hill, Priory House, Shefford

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To note the School Forum spend for the financial year 2013/14.

Background

1. The School Forum Budget falls under Schedule 2 of The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2013. ‘Classes or descriptions of planned expenditure prescribed for the purposes of the Schools budget of a Local Authority which may be deducted from it to determine the Individual Schools Budget’ – ‘establishment and maintenance of, and consultation with, Schools Forums’. Any deduction must not exceed the amount deducted for the previous funding period.
2. A budget of £3,000 for 2013/14 has been set for costs associated with the operation of the Forum, with the continued membership of the F40 group and £2,000 delegated to the Chairman of the Schools Forum to fund the commissioning of consultancy and administration support. The level of the budget will be reviewed annually.

Expenditure 2013/14

3. The following table sets out the expenditure to 31st March 2014.

	BUDGET £	SPEND £	BALANCE £
Budget Allocation 2013/14	3,000		
Venue Hire/Refreshments		(556)	
F40 Subscription		(1,000)	
Total	3,000	(1,556)	1,444

4. The balance has been Earmarked and carried forward to 2014/15.

Appendices:

None

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Meeting: Schools Forum
Date: 23 June 2014
Subject: Schools Forum Membership Review
Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Summary: The report details the changes which will be made to the composition of the Schools Forum from 1 September 2014.

Advising Officer: Edwina Grant, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services
Contact Officer: Martha Clampitt, Committee Services Officer
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

RECOMMENDATION:

To implement a Schools Forum Membership Interim Review and agree the changes which will take effect from 1 September 2014 as set out in paragraph 15 below.

Background

1. The current membership of the Schools Forum came into effect on 1 April 2012.
2. Membership lasts for three years so the next planned review will be implemented to take effect for 31 March 2015. However, in view of the increased number of Academies in Central Bedfordshire, it is appropriate to carry out an interim review now.

Conversion to Academy Trusts

3. Fourteen lower schools have converted to Academy Trust status since the last review. This has led to the pupil membership of lower school age-range Academies reaching 3,730.
4. In view of the increase in pupil numbers at this level in Academies, it would be appropriate to increase the number of lower school Academy representatives by 1 to 3.
5. Five middle schools have converted to Academy Trust status since the last review of the Schools Forum membership. This has led to the pupil membership of middle school age-range Academies reaching 8,392.

6. In view of the increase in pupil numbers at this level in Academies, it would be appropriate to increase the number of middle school Academy representatives by 1, to 2.

Schools Forum Membership Requirements

7. The rules about membership are as follows:-
8. A Schools Forum must have a minimum of 15 members, comprised of:-
9. • School members and Academy members who must make up at least two thirds of the membership of the forum and include:-
- 1 nursery representative
 - 1 special schools representative
 - Primary school, other than nursery, representatives
 - Secondary school representatives
- Non-school members as detailed below
- Academy representatives – the number of which must be proportionate to the number of academies within the area.
10. The current composition of the Schools Forum, as agreed at your meeting on 14 October 2013, is 21 members comprising the following:-
11. Schools members (12)
- 2 Lower School Headteachers
 - 2 Lower School Governors
 - 1 Nursery Headteacher
 - 2 Middle School Headteachers
 - 1 Middle School Governors
 - 2 Upper School Headteachers
 - 1 Upper School Governor
 - 1 Special School Headteacher
 - 1 PRU representative
12. Non-School members (5)
- 1 Roman Catholic Diocese Representative
 - 1 Church of England Diocese Representative
 - 1 Private, Voluntary or Independent sector Provider Representative
 - 1 Post-16 Education representative
 - 1 Trades Union Representative
13. Academy members (4)
- 1 lower school
 - 1 middle school
 - 2 upper school.

14. The Council's Lead Executive Member has observer status by right and the Director of Children's Services or her nominee has the right to advise the Forum.

Conclusion

15. It is proposed that the composition for the period September 2014 to the new municipal year 2015/16 be 23, as follows:-
- School members 12 representatives
 - Non-school members 5 representatives
 - Academy members 6 representatives comprising:-
 - 2 representative for lower schools
 - 2 representative for middle schools
 - 2 representative for upper schools
7. The following factors were taken into consideration when determining the representation:-
- Academy representatives are members with full voting rights, as confirmed by Mr K Howkins, Department of Education, on 15 February 2012.
 - Finance Officers provided a breakdown of the number of schools in each band (i.e. nursery, lower, middle, upper and special) and the number of students in each band.
 - The Academies were identified and put into a separate listing
 - The number of pupils set out in the spreadsheet attached at Appendix A.
8. There is nothing in the Regulations to indicate that an Academy member may not be elected Chairman, as they are a full voting member.
9. In view of the suggested changes to the composition of the Forum, it is recommended that a recruitment drive be carried out to fill any vacancies and the additional Academy places.

Appendices: Appendix A (spreadsheet)

Background Papers: none

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Lower Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil nos. Primary	Middle Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil Nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil Nos. Primary	Pupil Nos. Second
Clifton All Saints Academy	M	148	A	143	Ashton middle	M	614	M	218	243
Ardley Hill Academy	M	225	A	268	Alameda Academy	A	561	A	289	304
Ashton St Peters VA	M	155	M	149	Arnold Academy	A	504	A	290	249
Aspley Guise Lower	M	133	M	134	Brewers Hill Middle	M	181	M	118	58
Beaudesert Lower	M	215	M	246	Brooklands Middle	A	259	A	168	139
Beecroft Lower	M	231	A	251	Burgoyne middle	M	273	M	103	105
Caldecote Lower	M	63	M	82	Caddington Village middle	M	501	M	378	104
Campton Lower	M	115	M	128	Edward Peake Middle	M	347	M	193	153
Chalton Lower	M	47	M	55	Etonbury middle	A	424	A	257	202
Church End Lower	M	267	M	282	Fulbrook middle	M	349	A	231	182
Clipstone Brook Lower	M	179	M	195	Gilbert Inglefield Middle	M	506	A	237	234
Cranfield CofE Academy	A	284	A	280	Holmead Middle (Biggleswade Academy)	A	484	A	547	235
Derwent Lower	M	130	M	124	Henlow Middle	M	564	A	259	253
Doverly Down Lower	M	148	M	148	Holywell Middle	M	533	A	284	221
St Augustine's Academy	M		A	101	Kings Houghton Middle (Houghton Regis Academy)	M	458	A	99	214
Dunton VC Lower	M	57	M	57	Leighton middle	M	462	M	238	228
Eaton Bray Academy	A	111	A	139	Linslade Middle	A	596	A	293	303
Eversholt Lower	A	75	A	76	Mill Vale Middle (Barnfield Vale Academy)	M	393	A	269	170
Everton Lower	M	44	M	45	Parkfields Middle	M	468	M	236	237
Fairfield Park Lower	M	175	M	245	Priory Academy	M	483	A	250	243
Filtwick Lower	M	247	M	265	Robert Bloomfield Academy	A	821	A	435	447
Gothic Mede Lower	M	219	A	288	Sandye Place Academy	A	479	A	266	246
Gravenhurst Lower	M	45	A	43	Streetfield Middle	M	393	M	162	200
Greenfield CofE Lower	M	132	A	129	Woodland Middle	A	606	A	277	299
Greenleas School	M	282	M	410	Totals for all schools		11259		6097	5269
Hadrian academy	A	274	A	283	total maintained	2012	6525	2014	1646	1328
Harlington Lower	M	118	A	138	total academies	2012	4734	2014	4451	3941
Hawthorn Park Community Primary	M			324						
Haynes Lower	M	93	M	97						
Heathwood Lower	M	140	M	149						
Hockliffe Lower	M	56	M	60						
Houghton Conquest Lower	M	58	M	77						
Houghton Regis Lower	M	217	M	218						
Husborne Crawley Lower	M	54	M	52						
Dunstable Icknield Lower	M	278	M	289						
John Donne CofE Lower	M	79	M	80						
Kensworth Lower	M	52	M	60						
Kingsmoor Lower	M	151	M	153						
Laburnham Lower	M	135	M	131						
Lancot Lower	M	321	M	298						
Langford Lower	M	162	M	170						
Lark Rise Academy	A	250	A	219						
Lawnside Lower	M	249	M	264						

Upper Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil Nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil Nos.
Harlington Upper	A	1030	A	997
Manshead	M	806	M	776
Northfields (now All Saints Academy)	A	434	A	564
Queensbury	M	851	A	501
Redborne Upper	A	1020	A	1060
Samuel Whitbread	A	1245	A	1199
Sandy Upper	M	655	M	506
Stratton Upper	A	902	A	874
The Cedars	A	938	A	771
Vandyke Upper	A	664	A	767
totals for all schools		8545		8015
total maintained	2012	2312	2014	1282
total academies	2013	6233	2014	6733

Lower Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil nos. Primary
Leedon Lower	M	279	M	279
Linslade Lower	M	221	M	209
Maple Tree Lower	M	206	M	163
The Mary Bassett Lower	M	155	M	242
Maulden Lower	M	146	M	146
Meppershall CofE Lower	M	98	A	82
Moggerhanger Lower	M	58	M	55
Norhill VA Lower	M	69	M	61
Potton Lower	M	235	M	244
Puiford CofE VA	M	151	M	166
Pulloxhill Lower	A	53	A	64
Ramsey Manor Lower	M	274	M	276
Raynsford CofE Academy	M	147	A	142
Ridgmont Lower	M	44	M	35
Robert Peel Lower	M	277	M	252
Roecroft Lower	M	151	M	266
Russell Lower	M	201	M	263
Shefford Lower	M	338	M	390
Shelton Lower	M	65	M	56
Shillington Lower	M	112	M	122
Silsoe VC Lower	M	116	M	138
Slip End Lower	M	90	M	101
Southcott Lower	M	307	M	296
Southill Lower	M	57	M	59
St Andrew's Lower	M	361	M	397
St Christopher's Lower	M	210	A	212
St George's Lower	M	71	M	78
St Leonards Lower, Heath & Reach	M	96	M	104
Clophill St Mary's Lower	M	131	M	118
St Mary's Ce Academy, Caddington	M	238	M	154
St Mary's Ce Academy, Stofold	M	139	A	235
St Swithuns Lower	M	148	M	145
St Vincent's Catholic Primary	M	217	M	200
Stanbridge Lower	M	82	M	77
Stondon Lower	M	80	M	128
Studham CofE VC Lower	M	39	M	41
Sundon Lower	M	65	A	56
Sutton Va Lower	M	57	M	65
Swallowfield Lower	M	256	M	288
Templefield Lower	M	266	M	283
The Firs Lower	A	283	A	281
Thomas Johnson Lower	M	94	M	87
Thomas Whitehead CofE Lower	M	222	M	205

Middle Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil Nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil Nos. Primary	Pupil Nos. Second
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Upper Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil Nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil Nos.
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Lower Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil nos. Primary
Thornhill Primary	M	161	M	164
Tithe Farm Lower	M	161	M	191
Toddington St George				
CofE Lower	M	315	A	300
Totternhoe Lower	M	62	M	67
Watling Lower	M	178	M	172
Westoning Lower	M	129	M	114
Woburn Lower	M	45	M	60
Wrestlingworth Lower	M	51	M	63
Totals for all schools		14732		15737
total maintained	2012	13402	2014	12007
total academies	2013	1330	2014	3730

Middle Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil Nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil Nos. Primary	Pupil Nos. Second
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Upper Schools	2012 M or A	Pupil Nos.	2013 M or A	Pupil Nos.
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