

Agenda Item



Report Status

For information/note
For consultation & views
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 25 February 2021

Report Title: Growth Fund 2021-22 Update

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Report authorised by:

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Purpose:

To inform members of the Growth Fund liabilities for 2021-22

Recommendations:

1. For Members information, regarding total cost of 2021-22 Growth Fund set out in Table 1.

1. Introduction.

- 1.1. This document outlines the purpose of the centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Schools Growth Fund and the basis in which it will be distributed to eligible schools by the Authority.
- 1.2. Under the Schools Finance (England) Regulations of 2012, local authorities, with the agreement of the Schools Forum, are permitted to retain DSG to form a specific schools' contingency to support those schools that, with the prior agreement of the Authority, are permanently expanding and those schools experiencing significant in-year pupil roll increases. This specific schools' contingency is known as the Schools Growth Fund.
- 1.3. The funding changes introduced in April 2013 allow a local authority, with the approval of its Schools Forum, to top-slice a contingency for in year increases in pupil numbers. The Fund applies equally to maintained schools and recoupment academies and is designed to cover required in-year growth in forms of entry and not general variations in numbers experienced during the year.
- 1.4. Schools Forum agreed to allocate £932,000 to a Growth Fund for the 2020-21 financial year.
- 1.5. Officers are required to report all payments made against the Growth Fund to Schools Forum at least once a year. Any unspent Growth Fund will be carried forward and added to the formula allocations for the following financial year.
- 1.6. This funding is equivalent to pro-rata financial-year equivalent to 7 months, from September to March, funding for the number of additional pupils expected to join the school in the Autumn as a result of the temporary expansion within a particular year group. Academies are currently funded for the whole 12 months and council to recoup funding for the 5 months from the ESFA.
- 1.7. This funding is intended to support the additional revenue costs associated with the expansion; teaching and support staffing costs, resourcing classroom equipment and share of senior management salaries cost.
- 1.8. Payments from the Schools Growth Fund will be profiled over the period for which they cover and will be paid with the monthly budget share payments to schools.
- 1.9. The proposed allocation for secondary schools for bulges at para. 3 is based on theoretical modelling from school preference data for entry to secondary school in September 2021. The allocation will be adjusted based on necessity for bulge classes (i.e. how many Haringey residents still require a school place) when the offer iterative process for secondary transfer 2021 is completed in February 2021.

2. Growth Funding Formula (Basis of allocations)

The criteria agreed by the School Forum for allocations from the Growth Fund to support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet the basic need are:

- Planned new form of entry approved by the Local Authority:

Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) x Expected Pupil	+	A set-up allocation of £500 for each pupil in a standard class size for	=	Allocation for the year
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Numbers x 7/12 months;		the relevant setting.		
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- In-year bulge class:
 - Start up and classroom costs as above;
- support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
- Ghost funding guarantee KS1:
 - Minimum basic per-pupil funding for 24 pupils in a bulge class established in a previous year: and
- KS1 classes forced to exceed 30 pupils as a result of appeals (further details of this criteria are set out in the Annex):
 - A lump sum equivalent to the funding of a main-scale 1-teacher £32.8k pro-rata to the part of the year.

3. Proposed Allocations 2021-22.

Indictive Growth Funding Allocation Financial Year 2021-22							
	(a)	(b)	c = (a x b)	(d)	(e = c + d)	(f)	(e x f)
Growth Funding - School Names	No of pupil	AWPU + TPG & TPCEG	Total	Setup - Cost (£500/pupil)	Total allocation (12 months)	No. of months	Total pro-rate allocation 21-22
Bounds Green Juinar (Community)	30	3,823	114,686	15,000	129,686	7.00	81,900
Total Allocation	30		114,686	15,000	129,686		81,900
	(a)	(b)	c = (a x b)	(d)	(e = c + d)	(f)	(e x f)
Bulge Funding - School Names	No of pupil	AWPU	Total	Setup - Cost (£500/pupil)	Total allocation	No. of months	Total pro-rate allocation 21-22
Park View School (Community)	27	5,688	153,579	13,500	167,079	7.00	103,088
Harris Academy Tottenham (Academy)	30	5,688	170,644	15,000	185,644	12.00	185,644
Gladesmore Community School	27	5,688	153,579	13,500	167,079	7.00	103,088
Hornsey School For Girls (Community)	27	5,688	153,579	13,500	167,079	7.00	103,088
Possible additional bulge class 1 - Secondary (TBC)	30	5,688	170,644	15,000	185,644	12.00	185,644
Possible additional bulge class 2 - Secondary (TBC)	27	5,688	153,579	13,500	167,079	7.00	103,088
Tiverton Primary School*	13	3,823	47,359	15,000	62,359	7	36,376
Total Allocation							820,015
*Tiverton Primary has already been allocated AWPU funding for 17 expected pupils in September 2020 as part of the amalgamation. AWPU funding is provided for the remaining 13 children together with set up cost of £500 per child for all expected 30 pupils within the bulge.							
						No. of months	Total pro-rate allocation 21-22
Infant Class over size - School Names	Rate						
Belmont Infant School	2,733					4	10,933
Bounds Green Infant School	2,733					7	19,133
Chestnuts Primary School	2,733					4	10,933
Rhodes Avenue Primary	2,733					12	32,800
Tetherdown Primary	2,733					5	13,667
Trinity Primary Academy	2,733					1	2,733
Total Allocation							90,200
Growth Funding							81,900
Bulge Funding							820,015
Estimated Infant Class over size							90,200
							992,115
Growth Fund Allocation 2021-22							1,100,000
Balance carried forward							(107,885)
* Additional classes in Secondary cohort have not been finalised but has been budgeted for in 2021-22 allocation.							

Recommendations

1. For Members information, regarding total cost of 2021-22 Growth Fund set out in Table 1 above.

Annex.

Circumstances in which KS1 oversized class funding will be provided.

The legal position is:

Infant class size – *Infant classes (those where most children will reach the age of 5, 6 or 7 during the school year) **must not** contain more than 30 pupils with a single schoolteacher. Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances. These children will remain an 'excepted pupil' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit. The excepted children are:*

- a) children admitted outside the normal admissions round with statements of special educational needs specifying a school;*
- b) looked after children and previously looked after children admitted outside the normal admissions round;*
- c) children admitted, after initial allocation of places, because of a procedural error made by the admission authority or local authority in the original application process;*
- d) children admitted after an independent appeals panel upholds an appeal;*
- e) children who move into the area outside the normal admissions round for whom there is no other available school within reasonable distance;*
- f) children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round;*
- g) children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted otherwise than as an excepted pupil;*
- h) children with special educational needs who are normally taught in a special educational needs unit attached to the school, or registered at a special school, who attend some infant classes within the mainstream school.*

In these circumstances, therefore, it is not necessary to take on an additional teacher; however, it has been the practice in Haringey, and other councils, to continue to provide funding for KS1 classes forced to exceed 30 pupils. The DfE in its allowable criteria recognises this practice and we recommend that it continue as an incentive to schools to willingly accommodate these pupils at the start of their school career. Our recommendations are:

- That class size funding continues in the circumstances shown above.
- That KS1 class size funding recognises the local arrangement that requires a school to take a twin even when this puts the school over number.
- That only one enhancement is made per school even if more than one KS1 class is over-size.