

Agenda Item 7



Report Status

For information/note ☒
For consultation & views
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools' Forum – 17 October 2024

Report Title: High Needs Block (HNB) Section 251 Commissioned Places 2024-25 update.

Authors:

Mary Jarrett
Head of SEND
Telephone: 020 8489 3792
Email: Mary.Jarrett@haringey.gov.uk

Pat Harvey
Senior Schools Finance Manager
Telephone: 020 8489 2985
Email: Patricia.Harvey@haringey.gov.uk

Report Authorised by:

Jackie Difolco
Assistant Director, Early Help, Prevention and SEND Division
Telephone: 020 8489 1114
Email: Jackie.Difolco@haringey.gov.uk

Purpose:

1. To inform members of the Section 251 (S251) commissioned specialist places for 2024-25 as part of reporting to the Department for Education (DfE).
2. To note the latest published HNB budget for 2024-25 and deductions made by the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA).

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report updates Schools' Forum in accordance with the Schools' Forum Regulations 2012 requiring Schools' Forum to meet regularly and the local authority to report and consult with Schools' Forum concerning the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and various related matters.
- 1.2 The section 251 return is a statutory return that local authorities (LA's) are required to complete under section 251 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009. A requirement is for LAs to prepare and submit to the Secretary of State for Education an education and children and young people's services budget statement at the end of April 2024 for the prescribed period. The prescribed period for this budget statement covers 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.
- 1.3 This paper updates Schools' Forum on one of the sections that the local authority reports with commissioned places or PAN numbers of Special schools, Alternative Provision (AP) and Additional Resourced Provision (ARP) places that are funded from the HNB, one of the four blocks of the DSG for the financial year 2024/25.
- 1.4 This report is to update Schools' Forum in their capacity of having the strategic oversight of High Needs budget (HNB) funding implications that directly inter-relate with the Safety Valve ongoing work for 2024/25.

2. Section 251 HNB Places for 2024/25

- 2.1 Table 1 below details an extract from the Haringey's budget statement system.

Table 1 – S251 HNB Commissioned places 2024/25.

| School Name | DfE Number | Type of Establishment | Special Educational Needs (SEN) Places | | SEN Place Funding | Alternative Provision (AP) Places | | AP Place Funding | Hospital Education Places | | Hospital Education Place Funding | Total Place Funding |
|----------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | April 2024 to August 2024 | September 2024 to March 2025 | April 2024 to March 2025 (£) | April 2024 to August 2024 | September 2024 to March 2025 | April 2024 to March 2025 (£) | April 2024 to August 2024 | September 2024 to March 2025 | April 2024 to March 2025 (£) | April 2024 to March 2025 (£) |
| West Green Primary School | 2051 | Mainstream | 8 | 8 | £48,000.00 | | | | | | | £48,000.00 |
| The Mulberry Primary School | 3001 | Mainstream | 24 | 24 | £144,000.00 | | | | | | | £144,000.00 |
| Earlsmead Primary School | 2020 | Mainstream | 0 | 3 | £10,500.00 | | | | | | | £10,500.00 |
| Alexandra Primary School | 2078 | Mainstream | 0 | 3 | £4,500.00 | | | | | | | £4,500.00 |
| Haringey Learning Partnership | 1101 | PRU | | | | 118 | 118 | £1,180,000.00 | 12 | 12 | £225,000.00 | £1,405,000.00 |
| Blanche Nevile School | 7000 | Special | 69 | 69 | £690,000.00 | | | | | | | £690,000.00 |
| Vale School | 7001 | Special | 115 | 120 | £1,179,166.67 | | | | | | | £1,179,166.67 |
| The Brook Special Primary School | 7005 | Special | 135 | 138 | £1,367,500.00 | | | | | | | £1,367,500.00 |
| Riverside School | 7006 | Special | 165 | 173 | £1,696,666.67 | | | | | | | £1,696,666.67 |
| The Grove | Free School | Special Free School | 113 | 113 | £1,130,000.00 | | | | | | | £1,130,000.00 |
| The Grove (post 16) | Free School | Special Free School | 19 | 19 | £190,000.00 | | | | | | | £190,000.00 |
| TOTAL | | | 648 | 670 | £6,460,333.33 | 118 | 118 | £1,180,000.00 | 12 | 12 | £225,000.00 | £7,865,333.33 |

- 2.2 The HNB supports provision for pupils and students with SEND who require additional resources to participate in education and learning, from their early years to age 25 in schools and colleges (excluding students aged 19 to 25 who do not have an EHC plan or students who are over the age of 25) and pre-16 pupils in Alternative Provision (AP) who, because of exclusion, illness, or other reasons, cannot receive their education in mainstream schools. In support for specialist provision, the HNB supports both **place funding** and **top up funding** for the specialist provisions and numbers may change during the academic year due to demand for special places within Haringey and agreement between the local authority (commissioner) and provision/setting for the pupils is necessary to manage this budget.
- 2.3 Out of Borough (OOB) children may be placed within Haringey provision, but priority should always be given for Haringey pupils for the specialist places, due to high demand. Funding for OOB places is supported from the local authority HNB for place funding (i.e., £10,000) but

top up funding is paid by the OOB local authority directly to the provision or setting in support of the pupil(s) educational attendance in school.

Special School Notional budget 2024/25

Special school **PLACE** funding budget for 2024/25 details as table 2:

Table 2 – S251 Special School Notional Place Funding Budget 2024/25

| Table 2 - HNB Special School budgets 2024-25 | S251 Places 2024-25 | S251 Place Funding at 10k per place | School PAN (agreed Apl 24) | HNB Budget 2024-25 |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| | No | £ | No | £ |
| Blanche Nevile School | 69 | £690,000 | 68 | £680,000 |
| Riverside School | 165 | £1,650,000 | 165 | £1,650,000 |
| Riverside School (Sept24) | 8 | £46,667 | 7 | £40,833 |
| The Brook Primary | 135 | £1,350,000 | 130 | £1,300,000 |
| The Brook Primary (Sept24) | 3 | £17,500 | | |
| Vale School | 115 | £1,150,000 | 114 | £1,140,000 |
| Vale School (Sept24) | 5 | £29,167 | | |
| The Grove (top sliced from DSG) * | 113 | £1,130,000 | 113 | £1,130,000 |
| The Grove (post 16) (top sliced) * | 19 | £190,000 | 12 | £120,000 |
| | 632 | £4,933,333 | | |
| Budget 2024-25 | | £4,810,833 | | |

*The Grove place funding is top sliced from DSG and paid via GAG

2.4 Place funding is as follows:

- S251 budget return to the DfE is 632 special school places £6.253m
- Published Admission Number (PAN) is 609 budgets of £6.061m and agreed with settings during April 2024. The school budgets are notional due to changes during 2024/25 on both commissioned places plus top up payments and OOB children.
- Special Free School (The Grove) PAN (agreed) place funding is top sliced from DSG and paid directly to school via General Annual Grant (GAG) statement from ESFA.
- 114 Out of Borough (OOB) places, costing local authority £1.086m to support non-Haringey residential children. Nb – this may change during 2024/25.

2.5 Special School Notional **TOP UP** budget for 2024/25 details as table 3:

Table 3 – S251 Special School Notional Top-up Funding Budget 2024/25

| Table 3 - HNB Special School Top up budgets 2024-25 | S251 Top up 2024-25 | S251 Top up Funding at per place | HNB 2024-25 Top up Budget £ | HNB 2024-25 Top up Budget £ | HNB 2024-25 Top up Budget -3% | Total HNB 2024-25 Top up Budget |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | No | £ | Apl-Aug24 | Sept-Mar25 | Sept-Mar25 | £ |
| Blanche Nevile School | 23 | £24,000.00 | £230,000.00 | £322,000.00 | -£9,660.00 | £542,340.00 |
| Blanche Nevile School (Sept24) | 2 | £24,000.00 | £0.00 | £28,000.00 | -£840.00 | £27,160.00 |
| Riverside School | 147 | £24,000.00 | £1,470,000.00 | £2,058,000.00 | -£61,740.00 | £3,466,260.00 |
| Riverside School (Sept24) | 9 | £24,000.00 | £0.00 | £126,000.00 | -£3,780.00 | £122,220.00 |
| The Brook Primary | 125 | £24,000.00 | £1,250,000.00 | £1,750,000.00 | -£52,500.00 | £2,947,500.00 |
| The Brook Primary (Sept24) | 3 | £24,000.00 | £0.00 | £42,000.00 | -£1,260.00 | £40,740.00 |
| Vale School | 99 | £24,000.00 | £990,000.00 | £1,386,000.00 | -£41,580.00 | £2,334,420.00 |
| Vale School (Sept24) | 1 | £24,000.00 | £0.00 | £14,000.00 | -£420.00 | £13,580.00 |
| The Grove | 112 | £27,920.00 | £1,302,933.33 | £1,824,106.67 | -£54,723.20 | £3,072,316.80 |
| The Grove (Sept 24) | 2 | £27,920.00 | £0.00 | £32,573.33 | -£977.20 | £31,596.13 |
| | 523 | | £5,242,933.33 | £7,582,680.00 | -£227,480.40 | £12,598,132.93 |

2.6 Total Special School notional budgets for 2024/25 as detailed in table 4:

Table 4 – S251 Special School Notional Place Funding and Top-up Budget 2024/25

| Table 4 - HNB Special School budgets 2024/25 | S251 PAN/Places 2024/25 | TOTAL PLACE FUNDING | TOTAL TOP-UP FUNDING | TOTAL DELEGATED BUDGET 2024/25 |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| | No | £ | £ | £ |
| Blanche Nevile School | 69 | £690,000 | £569,500 | £1,259,500 |
| Riverside School | 165 | £1,650,000 | £3,466,260 | £5,116,260 |
| Riverside School (Sept24) | 8 | £46,667 | £122,220 | £168,887 |
| The Brook Primary | 135 | £1,350,000 | £2,947,500 | £4,297,500 |
| The Brook Primary (Sept24) | 3 | £17,500 | £40,740 | £58,240 |
| Vale School | 115 | £1,150,000 | £2,334,420 | £3,484,420 |
| Vale School (Sept24) | 5 | £29,167 | £13,580.00 | £42,747 |
| The Grove (top sliced from DSG) * | 113 | £1,130,000 | £3,103,912.93 | £3,103,912.93 |
| The Grove (post 16) (top sliced) * | 19 | £190,000 | | |
| | 632 | £4,933,333 | £12,598,133 | £17,531,466 |

2.7 Both place funding and top up place funding/numbers are now being reviewed termly meetings to confirm places, OOB numbers and agreement on any variations due to the monitoring and delivery of the Safety Valve Programme.

2.8 School decision to go over PAN number of commissioned special school places must be **agreed between the Headteacher and the local authority budget holder**. The local authority does not have to allocate full place funding to additional places as per HNB guidance unless prior agreement has been sought.

2.9 Place and top up notional budget for Haringey maintained special schools is **£17.531m**.

3. Resource base notional budgets 2024/25

The Resource base notional budget is detailed in table 5 below.

Table 5 – S251 Resource Base Notional Budget 2024/25

| Table 5 - HNB Resource Base School Budgets 2024-25 | S251 Places 2024-25 | School Block AWPUP @ £4k per place | S251 Place Funding @ £6k per place/ £10k new/vacant | Budget S251 Top Up Funding | HNB Budget 2024/25 Place | HNB Budget 2024/25 Top-up | Actual Places April 24 | Places Over agreed numbers |
|--|---------------------|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| | No | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | No | No |
| West Green Primary School | 8 | £32,000.00 | £48,000.00 | £8,000.00 | £48,000.00 | £64,000.00 | 8 | 0 |
| The Mulberry Primary School | 24 | £96,000.00 | £144,000.00 | £18,000.00 | £144,000.00 | £342,000.00 | 19 | 0 |
| Earlsmead Primary School (new 15 place) | 3 | N/A new | £17,500.00 | £20,000.00 | £17,500.00 | £35,000.00 | 3 | 0 |
| Alexandra Primary School (new 10 place) | 3 | N/A new | £2,500.00 | £20,000.00 | £2,500.00 | £5,000.00 | 3 | 0 |
| | 38 | | £212,000.00 | | £212,000.00 | £446,000.00 | 27 | 0 |
| £658,000.00 | | | | | | | | |

2.10 These are units within mainstream schools and are funded at £6,000 per commissioned place (based upon autumn census) plus agreed top up for pupils attending the education setting. Top ups payments are paid upon pupils actually attending the unit, whereas place funding is paid whether or not a pupil is attending.

2.11 Pupils attending the units are part funded from Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) of c£4,000 from school's block as per autumn census. Any additional or vacant places commissioned over S251 agreed places are paid at £10,000 per place.

2.12 OOB pupils are supported from Haringey High Needs (HN) budget for HN place funding and top up from the pupil's resident local authority.

2.13 One new provision is being established during 2024/25:

- 15-place ASC unit at Earlsmead Primary school, with 3 places from September 2024.

2.14 Resource base notional funding from the HN budget is **£658k**.

S251 Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) budget and Alternative Provision (AP)

The budget for PRU and AP is detailed in table 6 below.

Table 6 – S251 PRU Funding and AP Budget 2024/25

| Core budget 1st April 2024 | AP Full time Placements (including respite, 6th day PEX, managed transfers) | AP Tuition in the community per Full time place including outreach and home tuition | Simmons House Tier 4 | Total Core Place and top up funding | Total Core Places (excluding Outreach funding) | Outreach core (non SAFE taskforce) | total place, top up and outreach funding |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| New number of places | 38 | 28 | 12 | | 78 | Not place or top up funded (15 top up and places equivalent) | |
| Total place £10,000 and top up £13,292 | £885,096 | £652,175 | £225,000 | £1,762,271 | | £354,840 | £2,117,111 |
| Teachers Pay and Pension HNB- AP | £97,720 | | | | | | |
| plus uplift HNB AP | £114,341.00 | | | | | | |
| Total CORE budget for service delivery (not including pupil premium, FSM, APST and SAFE taskforce grants) | £2,329,172.00 | | | | | | |

| Non-core budget April 2024 | SEMH places @£28,000 per place (non core until August 2025) | Post 16 Specialist Full time placements £6,000 place funding plus £13,292 top up (non core until Aug 2025) |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| | 20 | 7 places from Sept 2024 |
| | £560,000 | £231,504 |
| Total | £791,504 | |

| Apr-24 | Core | Non-core |
|--------|------------|----------|
| | £2,329,172 | £791,504 |
| Total | £3,120,676 | |

| Income -HLP to collect and retain | Respite in borough schools £8000 per rolling place | £96,000 |
|--------------------------------------|---|----------|
| | In borough schools only Fixed term exclusions up to 5 places | £117,000 |
| Total income from schools | £213,000 | |

- S251 reporting to DfE of 78 core places, including 12 hospital places inclusive of top ups **£2.329m**
- Non-core places including SEMH **£0.792m**
- TOTAL £3.121m**
- Teachers Pay and Pension grant is paid outside of HN budget from a separate grant.
- Respite Income directly from schools **£0.213m**

Recommendation (ii): Schools' Forum are asked to:

Note S251 commissioned places and top ups supported from High Needs Budget for 2024/25

2. High Needs Budget 2024/25

- The High Needs Budget allocation was last reported to Schools' Forum in January. Latest published allocation is £58.115m less recoupment of £2.410m. Recoupment is deducted from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), High Needs block and paid to academies and free schools directly for commissioned places and administered by the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA). Table 7 below details recoupment places. It should be noted that top ups are paid from the LA's HN budget directly to the settings.

Table 7 – HIGH NEEDS BLOCK recoupment 2024/25

| Table 7 - HIGH NEEDS BLOCK 2024/25 Recoupment | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------|----------|------------------------------|----------|-------------------|
| PROVISION | Setting | April 2024 to August 2024 | | September 2024 to March 2025 | | DEDUCTION (£) |
| | | No | £ | No | £ | |
| Pre 16 special educational needs places | Special free school THE GROVE | 113 | £470,833 | 113 | £659,167 | £1,130,000 |
| Post 16 special educational needs places | Special free school THE GROVE | 12 | £40,000 | 12 | £80,000 | £120,000 |
| Alternative provision academies and free schools | Pre-16 alternative places | 2 | £8,333 | 2 | £11,667 | £20,000 |
| 16-19 academies and free schools | Post 16 special educational needs places HARINGEY 6TH FORM COLLEGE | 134 | £268,000 | 134 | £536,000 | £804,000 |
| Further education (FE) and Independent learning provider (ILP) places | FE and ILP places ADA NATIONAL COLLEGE FOR DIGITAL SKILLS | 56 | £112,000 | 56 | £224,000 | £336,000 |
| HIGH NEEDS DEDUCTION | | | | | | £2,410,000 |

Recommendation (iii): Schools' Forum are asked to note:

The latest 2024/25 High Needs budget less recoupment.

4. Legal implications

4.1 The Schools' Forums (England) regulations 2012 govern the constitution and conduct of meetings of the forum. The Schools Finance (England) Regulations 2012 determine those matters on which the local authority must or may consult the school's forum and those in respect of which the school's forum can make decisions. These regulations make provision for the financial arrangements of local authorities in relation to the funding of maintained schools and providers of prescribed Early Years provision in England.

5. Other implications

- a. Risk management – None
- b. Contractual issues – None
- c. Staffing issues – None
- d. Customer impact – None
- e. Safeguarding children – None
- f. Health issues – None
- g. Crime and Disorder - None
- h. Property/Asset Issues - None

Background papers used in the preparation of the report:

[Dedicated schools grant \(DSG\): 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/dedicated-schools-grant-dsg-2024-to-2025)

[National funding formula for schools and high needs - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/national-funding-formula-for-schools-and-high-needs-2024-to-2025)

List of appendices N/A