



Schools Block Funding Formula Consultation

Financial Year 2025/26

Start Date: 9:00am, 25th November 2024

Deadline: 12.00pm, 5th December 2024



School Finance
London Borough of Haringey

Schools Block of Dedicated School Grant (DSG) Funding Formula 2025/26

**Funding Consultation between Haringey School's
Forum and
Academies, Maintained Primary and Secondary
Schools**

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**Contact us:
s-SchoolsReturns@haringey.gov.uk**

1. INTRODUCTION

Under The School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2024, the local authority is required to consult with its Schools' Forum, maintained schools, and academies regarding any proposed changes to the school funding formula. This includes input on the factors and criteria considered, as well as the methods, principles, and rules applied.

This document serves as the basis for consulting with all Haringey schools and the Haringey Schools' Forum on the proposed changes to the school funding formula for the 2025/26 financial year. The consultation also addresses the strategic oversight of current challenges within the high needs block funding.

We encourage all schools to participate in this consultation by completing the [online survey](https://forms.office.com/e/xRrFubYpXZ), or by visiting the following web address:
<https://forms.office.com/e/xRrFubYpXZ>

The deadline for responding to the consultation is **12.00pm, 5th December 2024**. This deadline will enable Schools' Forum to take into consideration the views of schools before the Schools' Forum meeting scheduled for **4.00pm, 5th December 2024**.

The previous Government's intention for school budgets to be determined using a single national formula, known as the National Funding Formula (NFF) has, over the last few years, reduced any discretion Local Authorities used to have in terms of setting their local formula. For Haringey, any remaining local discretion ended, with our 2024/25 local formula becoming aligned with the National Funding Formula (NFF) values.

The NFF provides notional funding allocations for schools (once Area Cost Adjustments are added), which are then aggregated to calculate the total Schools Block funding for each local authority. The autumn school census serves as the primary basis for determining these funding allocations.

Changes for this year 2025/26

Due to the delay in receiving the provisional allocations for the 2025-26 financial year, our consultation with schools will be based on the principles established in last year's DSG allocation funding formula. Specifically, we will adopt 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) factor values (with Area Cost Adjustments) and

the proposed amounts/percentages for block transfers and de-delegation, please see table 1.

Due to changes in Government in the summer, this year there has been a delay in the Department for Education (DfE) publishing their guidance with regard to the 2025/26 Dedicated Schools Grant, and the implications for Schools funding for 2025/26. This year the DfE has not yet released a draft Authority Proforma Tool (APT) for any LA to 'model' 2025/26 school budgets as they have done in previous years.

As the Department for Education (DfE) is only set to publish the APT budget tool in December 2024, we are unable to model the provisional allocations at this stage. It will not be possible to delay the required consultation with schools until after the DfE have published the APT budget tool as there will be insufficient time available to do so. Therefore we are required to proceed with the consultation in advance of the Authority Proforma Tool (APT – schools allocations tool for Dedicated Schools Grant).

The Schools Block Working Group (SBWG) will meet to review the indicative allocation once the APT and the indicative DSG allocation have been published by the DfE. This will likely be in the last week of the School Autumn term. We will then present the individual school allocations to the Schools Forum for final approval of the APT at the scheduled January meeting for the 2025-26 financial year, after which Cabinet Member approval will be required. Once all formalities are complete, we will share the indicative allocations with the schools and final allocation by 28th February 2025.

The Department for Education (DfE) published general guidance on the indicative National Funding Formula (NFF) details for schools and high needs for 2025/26 on 6th November 2024.

A summary policy note for the schools and high needs national funding formula for 2025/26 is available at the following link: [Summary policy note for schools and high needs national funding formula 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK](#)

2. NATIONAL CHANGES IN FUNDING LEVEL FOR 2025/26

The basic structure of the National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools will remain largely unchanged in 2025/26, with only a few national adjustments:

The DfE have stated that schools will receive additional funding for 2025/26 through the following separate grants in 2024/25 being 'rolled into' the Schools Block:

- Teacher Pay Additional Grant (TPAG)
- Teacher Pension Employer Contribution Grant (TPECG)
- Core Schools Budget Grant (CSBG)

These will be incorporated into higher NFF values for 2025/26 to reflect the integration of these grants.

Key Areas to consider locally:

- Local authorities will be able to set a Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) in local formulas, which for 2025-26 must be between -0.5% and 0%.
- Local authorities can transfer up to 0.5% of their total Schools Block allocation to other blocks within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), subject to Schools Forum approval. Transfers above 0.5% or any transfers without Schools Forum approval will still require a disapplication request to the Secretary of State (SoS).
- Schools with split sites will remain eligible for basic funding, including a lump sum for each site, and additional funding for sites more than 100 metres from the main site.
- Growth and Falling Rolls funding will continue to be incorporated into the formula, with the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) addressing these changes within the formula.

3. PROPOSED FUNDING MODELS

The Schools Forum will be consulted after gathering feedback from schools to finalise the 2025-26 funding formula, taking into account the consultation responses, during the Schools Forum meeting on 5th December 2024.

For 2024/25, Haringey adopted 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) values. Schools are being consulted on a single model that has to reflect the required alignment with NFF values, with the proposed allocations outlined in Table 1 below:

The indicative allocations will be shared with schools after the Schools Forum approval on 9th January 2025.

Table 1: Proposed allocations from the Schools Block DSG

Allocation type	Schools Affected	Description	Proposed Amount (£)
Block Transfer	All Schools	HNB transfer at 0.5%	*TBC
Top Slice	All Schools	Growth Fund/Falling Rolls Fund	£300,000
De-Delegation	Maintained only	Trade Union Facility	£210,147
Block Transfer	All Schools	CSSB for Education Welfare	*£122,000
Block Transfer	All Schools	EY for Nursery split site funding	**0
De-Delegation	Maintained only	Schools in Financial Difficulty Fund	£150,000

*Block transfers subject to disapplication request and Secretary of State approval

** The nursery school is currently operating on a single site.

High Needs Block: All schools: A 0.5% block transfer will be made to the HNB to support SEND growth and as part of the Safety Valve Programme Agreement with the DfE

Growth/Falling Rolls funding: All schools: The growth/falling rolls fund allocation will be set at £300K, based on current projections for potential growth in schools. This amount remains the same as last year and will be allocated within the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) in line with the changes to the 2025/26 school funding formula.

Trade Union Facility: Maintained schools only: The budgets for maintained schools will include de-delegated amounts to cover trade union duties. For the financial year 2025/26, the allocation will remain at £210K, the same as for 2024-25. Any unused funds will be ring-fenced for the Schools Block.

Education Welfare Charge: All schools: A block transfer of £122K will be made to the Central School Services Block (CSSB), the same amount as last year.

Schools in Financial Difficulty: Maintained schools only: to provide targeted support to these schools. This would assist school leadership teams in developing more robust financial forecasts and deficit recovery plans, any unused funds will be ring-fenced for the Schools Block. This is a new request, not made last year.

4. Consultation QUESTIONNAIRE

Feedback questionnaire for Haringey School Funding Formula 2025/26		
Question 1: To support High Needs Block Transfer of 0.5% from Schools Block <i>(as part of Safety Valve Program)</i>	Yes	No
Question 2: To support Growth/Falling Rolls Funding budget of £300k <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
Question 3: To support Block Transfer of £122k for Education Welfare <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
Question 4: MAINTAINED SCHOOLS ONLY To support de-delegated budget from maintained schools for Trade Union Facilities time of £210K <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
Question 5: MAINTAINED SCHOOLS ONLY To support de-delegated budget from maintained schools for targeted support for Schools in Financial Difficulty of £150K <i>(Yes or No)</i>	Yes	No
<i>Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.</i>		

5. SCHOOLS VOTING RIGHTS

Each school will have two votes:

1. Headteacher
2. School Governor (Chair of Governor or Chair of Resources Committee)

6. CONSULTATION DEADLINE

All schools are encouraged to respond to this consultation using the [online survey](https://forms.office.com/e/xRrFubYpXZ) or Web Link: <https://forms.office.com/e/xRrFubYpXZ>

Commencement Date: **9:00am, Monday 25th November 2024**

Deadline: **12.00pm, Thursday 5th December 2024**