Schools Block Funding Formula Consultation

Financial Year 2026 - 2027

Start Date: 05:00pm, 28th November 2025

Deadline: 05.00pm, 12th December 2025





School Finance London Borough of Haringey

Schools Block of Dedicated School Grant (DSG) Funding Formula

2026 - 2027

Funding Consultation between

Local Authority &

Academies, Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools

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

INTRODUCTION TO SCHOOLS FUNDING CONSULTATION AND DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

As part of the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations, local authorities must consult with providers on the proposed funding formula for the upcoming financial year. This includes input on the factors and criteria considered, as well as the methods, principles, and rules applied. This ensures transparency and allows stakeholders to provide feedback before final decisions are made.

Process Overview:

- 1. <u>Consultation Stage</u>: The draft funding formula is shared with settings for comments and input. This is a mandatory step to gather views and ensure the formula reflects sector needs.
- 2. <u>Schools' Forum Review</u>: Following the consultation, the proposed formula is presented to the Schools' Forum for discussion and approval. The Forum plays a key role in shaping and endorsing the funding approach.
- 3. **Final Approval:** Once approved by the Schools' Forum, the funding formula is ratified by the Lead Member for Children's Services.
- 4. <u>Submission to DfE</u>: After ratification, the final formula is submitted to the Department for Education (DfE) in line with statutory deadlines.

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 2026 - 2027 financial year. The consultation also addresses the strategic oversight of current challenges within the high needs block funding.

We invite all schools to take part in this consultation by completing the survey. Click Here: online survey

Alternatively, you can type this address directly into your web browser: https://forms.office.com/e/L3qsP4EUKR

The deadline for submitting responses to this consultation is <u>5:00 p.m. on 12th December 2025</u>. This timeline ensures that the Schools' Forum can consider schools' feedback ahead of its meeting scheduled for <u>4:00 p.m. on 15th January 2026</u>.

CHANGES FOR THIS YEAR 2026 - 2027

Due to delays in receiving provisional allocations for the 2026–2027 financial year, the Department for Education (DfE) has not yet released the draft Authority Proforma Tool (APT), which local authorities use to model schools block allocations.

As a result, this year's consultation is based on the principles applied in last year's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding formula. Specifically, we will adopt 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) factor values, including Area Cost Adjustments, along with the proposed amounts and percentages for block transfers and de-delegation. Please refer to **Table 3 on page 7** for details.

The DfE is expected to publish the APT in **December 2025**, leaving insufficient time to delay consultation until after its release. Therefore, we are required to proceed with this consultation in advance of receiving the APT.

Next Steps and Approval Process

Once the APT and indicative DSG allocations are published, the Schools Block Working Group (SBWG) will review the figures, expected in the final week of the autumn term. Individual school allocations will then be presented to the Schools' Forum for approval in January 2026 meeting. Following this, Cabinet Member approval will be sought.

The final APT will be submitted to the DfE on **22**nd **January 2026** for validation checks. After DfE approval is confirmed, indicative allocations will be shared with schools, and final allocations will be issued by **28**th **February 2026**.

The DfE published general guidance on the indicative National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools and high needs for 2026 – 2027 on **19**th **November 2025**.

Schools Operation guide for 2027- 2027 is available at the following link: <u>Schools operational guide: 2026 to 2027 - GOV.UK</u>

NATIONAL CHANGES IN FUNDING LEVEL FOR 2026 - 2027

The basic structure of the National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools will remain largely unchanged in 2026 - 2027, with only a few national adjustments.

The DfE has confirmed that the School Budget Support Grant (SBSG) and the National Insurance Contributions (NICs) grant will be incorporated into the 2026 – 2027 funding by:

- Adding the amounts currently received through these grants into schools' baseline allocations.
- Including the value of the lump sums, basic per-pupil rates, and Free School Meals Ever6 (FSM6) elements of the grants within the corresponding factors of the National Funding Formula (NFF)

Table 1: Factor value uplifts from the rolling in of grants

Factor per pupil	SBSG (annualised)	NICs grant	Total
Primary basic	£55	£78	£133
KS3 basic	£78	£68	£146
KS4 basic	£88	£77	£165
Primary FSM6	£49	£75	£124
Secondary FSM6	£72	£60	£132
Lump sum	£2,086	£2,400	£4,486

Table 2: Minimum per pupil (MPPL) funding uplifts due to grants

MPPL	Uplifts for 2025-26 SBSG and NICs	MPPL Values	
	grant	2026 - 2027	
Primary	£160	£5,115	
Secondary	£175	£6,388 for KS3	
		£7,018 for KS4	

The Minimum Per Pupil Level (MPPL) ensures that every pupil receives a guaranteed minimum amount of funding. Schools whose formula allocation falls below this threshold receive a top-up to meet the required minimum level.

Expansion of Free School Meals (FSM): In June 2025, the government announced that, starting from September 2026, free school meals (FSM) will be extended to all children in households receiving Universal Credit. For the 2026–27 financial year, no changes are proposed to the NFF to reflect this expansion. Instead, the additional funding required will be provided to schools through a separate grant allocation.

Key Areas to consider locally:

- Local authorities will be able to set a Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) in local formulas, which for 2026 27 must be between 0% and -0.5%.
- 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.

PROPOSED FUNDING MODELS

After collecting feedback from schools, the proposed 2026 – 2027 funding formula will be finalised and presented to the Schools' Forum for consideration at its meeting on **15**th **January 2026**. The Forum will review consultation responses before approving the formula.

For 2026–2027, Haringey will adopt 100% of the National Funding Formula (NFF) values. Having converged with NFF values since 2024-25, the LA is unable to diverge from these values.

As mentioned the Schools Block Working Group (SBWG) will review the modelling once the APT and Haringey's indicative Schools Block allocation for 2026-27 are published in December. As in previous years the SBWG will work to the principle of setting an MFG as high as possible within the permitted range.

Schools are being consulted on a single model aligned with these NFF values, with the proposed allocations detailed in **Table 3 below**.

Table 3: 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
Block Transfer	All Schools	CSSB for Education Welfare	£122,000
De-Delegation	Maintained only	Trade Union Facility	£210,000

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

<u>High Needs Block</u>: <u>All schools:</u> 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.

<u>Growth/Falling Rolls funding:</u> <u>All schools:</u> 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 2026 - 2027 school funding formula.

<u>Education Welfare Charge:</u> <u>All schools:</u> A block transfer of £122K will be made to the Central School Services Block (CSSB), the same amount as last year. Schools' Forum Paper published in October 2025: <u>Item 5 - Education Welfare Service.pdf</u>

<u>Trade Union Facility:</u> <u>Maintained schools only:</u> The budgets for maintained schools will include de-delegated amounts to cover trade union duties. For the financial year 2026 - 2027, the allocation will remain at £210K, the same as for 2025 -2026. Any unused funds will be ring-fenced for the Schools Block.

^{**} The figure is subject to the final DSG settlement.

CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Feedback questionnaire for Haringey School Funding Formula 2026 - 2027		
Question 1: To support High Needs Block Transfer of 0.5% from Schools Block (as part of Safety Valve Program)	Yes	No
Question 2: To support Growth/Falling Rolls Funding budget of £300k	Yes	No
Question 2: To support Block Transfer of £122k for Education Welfare	Yes	No
Question 4: MAINTAINED SCHOOLS ONLY		
To support de-delegated budget from maintained schools for Trade Union Facilities time of £210K	Yes	No
Any further comments you would like to make with regards to the consultation:	Comments	
Thank you for taking the time to provide your feedback.		

SCHOOLS VOTING RIGHTS

Each school will have two votes:

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

CONSULTATION DEADLINE

We invite all schools to take part in this consultation by completing the survey. Click Here: online survey

Alternatively, you can type this address directly into your web browser: https://forms.office.com/e/L3qsP4EUKR

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