



**Haringey** Council

**For Decision**

**11**

## 1.1 The Children and Young People's Service

## 1.2 Report to Haringey Schools Forum –

**Report Title:** feedback from High Needs Funding Working Group

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**Purpose:**

To report to the Schools' Forum on the progress of the High Needs Funding Steering Group.

**Recommendations:**

- (i) The Forum is asked to note the report

## 1. Background and Introduction.

1.1. The Schools Forum of 28<sup>th</sup> February appointed a High Needs Working Group to advise on high needs issues and review funding allocations within the High Needs block to ensure that funding meets needs and supports both the Inclusion Strategy and the proposed legislation arising from Children and Families Bill.

1.2. The Forum agreed the Terms of Reference and membership of the working group. A membership list is attached as Appendix A.

- 1.3. The Working group meets monthly and has met twice to date.
- 1.4. The Working group has agreed a Work Plan which is updated for each meeting and is attached as Appendix B.

## **2. Progress**

- 2.1 Mainstream and special schools have received their notional budgets. Information on the impact was circulated to Working Group. Budgets and the impact of movement of pupils will continue to be monitored.
- 2.2 Mainstream schools have received an estimation of top up funding for Haringey pupils with statements through their monthly cash flow. Budgets will be adjusted following final agreements between schools and the Local Authority.
- 2.3 Academies will continue under the old arrangements until July 2013 with the new arrangements coming into effect from September. The estimation for the summer term is included in the cash flow. From September the top up funding will be estimated and adjusted following final arrangements between the school and the Local Authority.
- 2.4 In Special Schools estimates for top up funding are based on in borough pupils using the profile of high, medium and low banding system Costs will be adjusted once final agreements have been reached between the schools and the Local Authority. In the case of Blanche Nevile where a significant number of pupils are from other Local Authorities, financial support is being provided through the cash flow pending negotiations with each borough and payments received.
- 2.5 Guidance to all heads re new funding and in particular in relation to pupils in Haringey schools from other LAs has been sent to all schools.
- 2.6 The Working party has agreed to use the LGA Protocols for schools and colleges and the Individual Agreements between the C&YPS and schools setting out the funding arrangements for children and young people with statements. These will be completed for each child and young person and circulated to all schools by July 2013. Once in place they can be amended for any changes arising from Annual Reviews and they will meet the requirements of the proposed Education, Health and Care plans from 2014. Copy of protocol and Individual Agreement attached at Appendix C and D.
- 2.7 Data on Haringey pupils in Haringey and out of borough schools has been confirmed and payment arrangements are in place.
- 2.8 New statements issued from April 2013 include costs for education provision and the equivalent hours. The working group has agreed to move away from including hours in statements as this will provide greater flexibility in providing individual needs within the school's context.

- 2.9 Work is underway to support schools to develop their Local Offer and to show link to High Needs Funding. A Pilot group with parents from Haringey, Camden, Enfield and Redbridge is underway to look at how to .strengthen parental confidence in schools' ability to meet needs without recourse to statements for high incidence needs. Work is also underway with SENCOs with regular updates at SENCO conference including feedback from Pathfinders. The Local Offer will also be covered at the Governors Conference on 18<sup>th</sup> May.
- 2.10 Top up funding bands for special schools have been agreed and a meeting for bursars is planned in May.
- 2.11 The North London Strategic Alliance continues to meet to share approaches and top up funding arrangements. The group is currently discussing how LAs can continue to track cross borough consultations and admissions. A meeting has been arranged for 16 May with Colleges in the region to discuss plans for Sept 2013.
- 2.12 A letter regarding the new arrangements has been sent to parents and is attached at Appendix E.
- 2.13 The last meeting looked at the SEN services in the HN block and detailed information was provided on areas covered and outcomes. The group has asked for details of trends re children with disabilities before making recommendations regarding this service.

### **3 Next Steps**

- 3.1 The Working Group will continue to monitor the progress of the Work plan.
- 3.2 The on 24<sup>th</sup> May will consider the funding arrangements for Alternative Provision. (AP);
- 3.2 The meeting in June will consider the new responsibilities from September 2013 for 16 -25 year olds in education.

## Appendix A

### Terms of Reference

#### Terms of Reference for the High Needs Funding Block (HNFB) Working Party of the Schools Forum

##### **Purpose;**

To bring together representatives from Schools, Alternative Provision and Local Authority Officers to recommend to the Schools' Forum the use of the HNBF to support the implementation of the SEN Funding reforms and deliver the desired outcomes within sustainable funding.

##### **Proposed Membership;**

##### **Schools and Alternative Provision representatives;**

Mainstream Schools	Head teachers	Will Wawn Tony Hartney Mike McKenzie Sue Head Nick Hunt
Special Heads	Head teachers	Margaret Sumner Martin Doyle Sarah McClay Veronica Held
Resourced provision Haringey 6 <sup>th</sup> Form Centre Governors	Head teacher Principal	Simon Garrill Bill Barker Jan Smosarski Melian Mansfield Marianne McCarthy Vic Sandeer

##### **Local Authority representatives;**

Interim Head of Finance	Wendy Sagar
School Finance Manager	Stephen Worth
Alternative Provision	Paul Senior & Heather Johnston
Head of Early Years	Ros Cooke
Head of Inclusion	Kirstie Watkins
SEN Team Manager	Janet Miller
Finance Officer	Cynthia Dako
14 -19	Sean May
Additional Needs and Disabilities	Phil Di Leo (Chair)

##### **Objectives:**

- 1 To work together to devise fair, understandable and transparent eligibility criteria for the allocation of HNB funding and aligned to ensure best fit with the needs and preferences of children, young people and their parents;
- 2 To develop Place Plus funding for special schools, resourced and alternate provision to ensure funding is on an equivalent basis;

- 3 To determine and agree the number of planned places to be commissioned at each setting/provider;
- 4 To consider maintaining the threshold between low needs and high needs in mainstream schools at 15 hrs for a further year (2013-14) for primary and secondary pre-16 pupils;
- 5 Oversee the introduction of delegated budgets for Alternative Provision including PSCs and Tuition;
- 6 Oversee the introduction of commissioning arrangements in relation to top-up funding;
- 7 Clarification of new arrangements for assessing a pupil's needs and the menu of interventions that should be managed via the school (£6k) and top up interventions funded by the High Needs Block (Above £10k);
- 8 Developing the "Local Offer" due for implementation in September 2014 and determining how arrangements will work in the interim i.e. development of the menu of interventions expected from Schools for notional SEN and menu of intervention from the HN block;
- 9 Monitor the implementation of arrangements for dealing with schools who might require additional support over and above the notional SEN budget (i.e. exceptional high number of HN pupils, in-year movement);
- 10 To oversee the transfer of responsibilities for Post 16 funding from the EFA and the commissioning of specialist provision and payment of top-up funding;
- 11 To engage and support all stakeholders through this period of change and to produce guidance and procedures for top-up allocations to enable schools manage this process, including the DfE Contract;
- 12 To establish agreed protocols with neighbouring Local Authorities so that cross border funding systems and charges are clear and understood;
- 13 To agree thresholds with other Local Authorities for recovering top-up costs and providing advice to schools for operational arrangements.

**The Working Party will ensure that in taking forward this review they will ensure that: -**

- (i) the agreed solutions are clear and transparent;*
- (ii) the agreed solutions allocate the resources in an equitable manner;*
- (iii) the agreed solutions are clearly documented and available to all concerned;*
- (iv) the recommendations meet the aims of the Local Authority's Strategic Plan for Special Educational Needs and Alternative Provision;*
- (iii) outcomes derived from the recommendations reduce administration, bureaucracy and focus appropriately on meeting the need of children and young people;*
- (iv) achievement and progression for children and young people is taken into account when delivering a curriculum (including raising the participation age);*
- (v) it takes account of proposed legislation arising from the Green Paper 'Support and Aspiration' DfE 2011.*

## Appendix B

<b>High Needs Funding Work Plan</b>				
<b>Themes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Mainstream pre-16 formula	Consider impact of notional SEN budget and Top Up arrangements for mainstream schools and academies	HNF WG	March 2013	30/4/13 Mainstream and special schools have received notional budgets. Information on impact circulated to Steering Group. Budgets and impact of movement of pupils will continue to be monitored.
	Guidance to all heads re new funding and in particular in relation to pupils in Haringey schools from other LAs.	PDL	April 2013	130/4/13 information sent to all schools.
	Complete Individual Agreements with schools	SEN Team	April – May 2013	30/4/13 Information received from DfE to say there will not be a standard agreement. Draft LGA forms have been sent which can be used / adapted. Steering group to discuss.
	Confirm data on Haringey pupils in Haringey and out of borough schools and set up payment arrangements	SEN Team	From 15 <sup>th</sup> April	30/4/13 Completed
	Cost all new statements from April 2013	SEN Panel	From April 2013	30/4/13 New statements issued from April 2013 include costs for education provision and the equivalent hours.
	Support implementation of schools' local offer	HNFWG	From April 2013	30/4/13 Pilot group with parents from Haringey,

<b>High Needs Funding Work Plan</b>				
<b>Themes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Progress</b>
				Camden, Enfield and Redbridge underway. Regular updates at SENCO conference including feedback from Pathfinders. Will also be covered at Governors Conference on 18 <sup>th</sup> May.
	Align processes with proposed Education, health and Care Plans		On going	
Special schools and resourced provision	Agree numbers and top up budgets for in borough provision	SW/PDL	April 2013	30/4/13 Top up for each banding level agreed.
	Support schools and resource bases to agree top up costs for pupils from other LAs	SEN team	April 2013	30/4/13 Discussed at Heads meeting. Meeting with Bursars scheduled for late May
	Work with special schools and resource bases to look at the impact of in year pupil movement and the potential for including occupancy factors within top up rates	SW/PDL		
	Review descriptors and banding levels for implementation for 2014 including stakeholders consultation	PDL/YW/VM-M	May – Sept 2013	
	Define and agree banding moderation process for resource bases and special schools	CD/PDL	Sept 2013	
	Numbers of residential and day	SEN	From April	



<b>High Needs Funding Work Plan</b>				
<b>Themes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Progress</b>
	independent places to be agreed and any impact on funding identified			
Alternative Provision	Confirm AP Place numbers and top up budgets		April 2013	
	Align process with recommendations from the IEG			
Post 16	Post-16 data collection for 2012/13 and identification of place numbers for 2013/14 to be carried out and confirmed to EFA	SEN team /EFA	March 2013	
	Agree 'top up' funding with providers for each placement	JAM/SW	By end of May 2013	
	Estimate costs of high needs placements 2013/4 based analysis of data	JAM	May /June 2013	
	Inform colleagues in health and social care of likely numbers of young people requiring joint funding	PDL	May /June 2013	
	Ensure key worker or other arrangements in place to liaise with the young person and their family until the placement is confirmed	14+ Transition Panel	On going	
	Agree contracts with providers		June 2013	

<b>High Needs Funding Work Plan</b>				
<b>Themes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Progress</b>
	Identify gaps between forecasts of student numbers and need and currently available provision	JAM	June 2013	
	Develop 16-25 SEN High Needs education/training commissioning strategy 2014-2018	HNFWG	June 2013	
Cross borough arrangements	Develop, where possible, agreements with neighbouring local authorities regarding the approach to purchase of cross border placements	SW/PDL	April	30/4/13 This is ongoing work. Agreement in place between Haringey and Hackney to continue to consult the LA as well as the identified school when making out of borough applications.
Communication	Letter to parents /carers outlining changes	PDL	April 2013	30/4/13 Completed
	Information sessions for SENCOs /EPS/Support Services/Health and Social Care teams on reforms	KW/PDL	On going	30/4/13 SENCOs, EPS, SEN services completed. Multi agency sessions planned.
	Road shows for heads / Governors/ Bursars	SW/PDL	On going	30/4/13 Governors Conference 18 May; regular updates at SENCO mtgs; Special School bursars ;
Personalisation	Develop personal budgets approach and align with work with Short breaks and health plans for implementation in 2014.		Sept 2013	
Central support services	Review services in HNF block and	HNFWG		30/4/13 Agenda for 30.04.13

<b>High Needs Funding Work Plan</b>				
<b>Themes</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>Progress</b>
	develop proposals on approach and funding arrangements			
Budget management	Determine monitoring and reporting arrangements for HNF block and ensure pressures are identified, tracked and addressed	WS	July 2013 Oct 2013 Dec 2013 Feb 2014	
	Monitor calls on contingency budget and impact on notional budgets from 2014	SW	On going	30.04.13 This was added at Steering Group

## Appendix C

### PROTOCOL BETWEEN SCHOOLS AND X LOCAL AUTHORITY FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS.

This protocol aims to define the arrangements between [ ] local authority and schools (maintained and academies) regarding the additional support provided for pupils with high levels of special educational need (SEN) and to ensure that there is clarity over the funding arrangements for pupils with SEN between schools and the authority.

#### **Safeguarding**

1. All parties agree to meet their safeguarding duties by following the safeguarding procedures described by the [ ] Safeguarding Children Board.

#### **Timescales**

2. This Protocol is effective from : and will continue until : . It will be reviewed by :

#### **Information to be provided by each School**

3. Schools shall make available to the local authority details of policies that affect the provision of support for pupils with SEN including those on behaviour and discipline, physical restraint, exclusion, child protection, and for the handling of complaints.
4. The school will provide key contact details of staff responsible for special educational needs and finance.

#### **Information to be provided by the Authority**

5. The authority will provide named contact/s in respect of each pupil and also notify schools of its procedures for out of office hours' contact.
6. The authority will provide schools with all necessary information regarding pupils who are assessed to need 'top up funding' including a copy of the pupil's SEN Statement or Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and any other relevant reports or information available and, where appropriate, a Care Plan and Personal Education Plan.
7. The authority will provide each school with copies of all relevant correspondence between the authority and each high needs pupil studying at the school and his or her parent(s), where appropriate.
8. The authority will offer the school access to any relevant professional advice

which it may have available in respect of the care and educational needs of a pupil with high level SEN studying at the School.

### **Pupil Review**

9. Review meetings arranged by a school will be planned in consultation with the authority, the pupil and where appropriate the parent and others concerned with the pupil's welfare and education.
10. Each School shall be responsible for producing and maintaining a written record of review meetings, with a copy of the record being sent to the authority within two weeks of the meeting.

### **High Needs Funding**

11. The authority is responsible for the top-up funding to enable the school to deliver the outcomes described in the SEN statement/EHCP, as specified in the High Needs Pupil Agreement, apart from any parental contributions.
12. All amounts due will be exclusive of VAT, unless otherwise agreed between a school and the authority.
13. Funds will be provided by the authority in line with already agreed financial procedures, or as described within the High Needs Pupil Agreement. These procedures shall be as simple as possible for the sake of all parties whilst ensuring effective financial assurance.

### **Parental or Pupil Contributions**

14. Schools shall be entitled to request voluntary contributions from a parent in line with the school's policy on parental contributions. Parental contributions shall be met by the parent / guardian or pupil (if over 18). The authority accepts no financial responsibility for the payment of such contributions.

### **Direct Payments**

15. Where direct payments are made the parent/ guardian or pupil will agree in writing with both the school and the authority the services subject to the direct payments. The authority accepts no financial responsibility for the payment of such contributions or for the services.

### **The Authority will not pay high needs top up funding in the following circumstances:**

16. When a pupil has been permanently excluded. The authority's liability will cease on the day that the exclusion is confirmed by a school in accordance with any arrangements for appeals or 15 days after the Headteacher has notified the Authority of the exclusion whichever is the earlier.
17. When a pupil has been excluded for a fixed term period exceeding 15 days

and the school is unable to provide suitable alternative education for the period of the exclusion. The authority will pay the funding beyond 15 days and will resume paying on the date that the pupil returns to school.

18. Where a pupil is absent on account of illness and the school is unable to continue to provide suitable and appropriate education or if the authority has to provide home tuition, after 15 days the authority will deduct the cost of this support.
19. In the case of a permanent exclusion, the date of exclusion shall be that date on which, in accordance with a school's or policy on exclusion, following appropriate notice and consultation, it is deemed that a return to the school will not be possible.

### **Statutory and other Regulations**

20. Schools shall operate fully in accordance with all relevant Acts of Parliament, amendment or re-enactment of any Act, Statutory Regulation, and other such laws and statutory guidance.
21. Schools shall ensure that any communication sent to the Authority regarding the health and safety of any student within the scope of Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences (RIDDOR) 1995 and fatal road traffic accidents is also sent to the Education Funding Agency as soon as practically possible.

### **Records, Information and Data Protection**

22. Each school will fully comply with the relevant records regulations and for a minimum of 10 years or longer, if the authority specifically requests so in writing.
23. Schools will provide the authority with information to allow for the monitoring, review and assessment of each school's capabilities to provide the standards of education, health and care required by pupils with special educational needs as defined in the SEN statement / EHCP / Pupil's Details.
24. When a pupil with SEN leaves a school, the school shall ensure that they maintain all files and records, including the pupil's individual record, case notes and information held by school in full compliance with all relevant legislation and guidance.
25. Schools will ensure that where a pupil attends a new school or college all relevant files and records shall be forwarded or copied to the pupil's new school or college within three (3) weeks of the pupil starting at their new school or college.
26. Schools will use best endeavours to assist the authority in meeting its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and fully comply with appropriate and reasonable requests from the authority for that purpose

within 10 working days of the request being made. Any relevant FOIA request made direct to a school will be immediately forwarded in writing to the authority.

27. Within the requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998, the authority will share appropriate data about pupils with SEN with the Education Funding Agency and the Department for Education.

### **Monitoring of Service Provision**

28. Schools acknowledge the right of the authority to monitor the provision made for pupils specified in the SEN Statement/ EHCP or High Needs Pupil Agreement. This will include monitoring all aspects of education and support made for pupils with Special Educational Needs, irrespective of the funding body.
29. Where the SEN provision delivered by schools is subject to inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorates and the inspection results in the provision being assessed as inadequate, the authority may, in its absolute discretion, take whatever action it deems appropriate.

Schools shall send copies of their annual SEN report to the authority.

### **Transfer of a pupil to another school or college**

30. Where a parent of a pupil or a young person chooses, for whatever reason, to transfer to another school or college, the local authority will cease to pay the top up funding. Every effort will be taken to ensure that the top up funding associated with the pupil is available with immediate effect in the new school or college, however consideration will be given to paying for residual employment obligations of the previous school associated with the pupil's SEN support.

### **Resolution of Disputes between Parties**

31. If a dispute arises regarding a pupil with High Needs, the school and authority will use best endeavours to settle the dispute by negotiation.

Signed on behalf of schools :

Signed on behalf of the local authority :

Date :

### **Appendix D**

# HIGH NEEDS PUPIL AGREEMENT

For Pupils with high levels of special educational needs

## 1. PUPIL'S DETAILS

Family Name:				
First Name:				
Known As (if applicable):				
Pupil's Personal Identity Number:				
Learner's Unique Number (if different):				
Date of Birth:		Gender:	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Female <input type="checkbox"/>
EHC:	<input type="checkbox"/>	SEN:	<input type="checkbox"/>	

2 Date of commencement : (DD/MM/YYYY)	
Review/ End Date	

## 3 School Details

Name & Address of School or College:			
		Postcode:	
Telephone:		Fax:	
Email:			
Name of Principal / Head Teacher:			

## 4. LOCAL AUTHORITY KEY CONTACTS

<b>EDUCATION OFFICER</b>	
Name:	
Team Name:	
Based at:	



Teleph one:		Mobile:	
Fax:			
E-mail:			
<b>OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITY OFFICER CONTACT:</b>			
Name:			
Role			
Based at:			
Teleph one:		Mobile:	
Fax:			
E-mail:			

### 5 SCHOOL KEY CONTACTS

<b>SEN LEAD</b>			
Name:			
Based at:			
Telephone:		Mobile:	
Fax:			
E-mail:			
<b>FINANCE LEAD</b>			
Name:			
Based at:			
Telephone:		Mobile:	
Fax:			
E-mail:			

### 6 OTHER RELEVANT CONTACTS

<b>Role:</b>			
Name:			
Organisation			
Address:			
Telephone:		Mobile:	
E-mail:			
<b>Role:</b>			
Name:			

Organisation			
Address:			
Telephone:		Mobile:	
E-mail:			

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<b>7 High Needs Funding</b>				
£		Per week <input type="checkbox"/>	Per term <input type="checkbox"/>	Per year <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Made up of</b>	Amount		Funded by	
<b>Element 3 Top Up Funding</b>	£			
	Details:			
Arrangements for Payment £ paid	Per Month	Per term <input type="checkbox"/>	Per year <input type="checkbox"/>	Other
<b>8 Variations to the Contract or Schedule resulting in Supplementary Costs</b>				
<b>Detail Variation</b>	<b>of</b>			<b>Supplementary Costs</b>
<b>Review date:</b>		<b>End Date:</b>		£
<b>Review date:</b>		<b>End date:</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> per hour
				<input type="checkbox"/> per week
				<input type="checkbox"/> per term
<b>9 Contributors to the Funding:</b>				
<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>COST</b>	<b>PERIOD</b> (eg Per Week, Month, Term, Year)	
LA Social Care	%	£	Per	
LA Education	%	£	Per	
Health	%	£	Per	
Direct Payment	%	£	Per	
Other funding (Please specify):	%	£	Per	

<b>10 Signatures of Agreeing Parties</b>	
This Agreement is signed and agreed by:	
<b>Authorised Signatory on behalf of the School</b>	
Signature Signed by: (PLEASE PRINT NAME)	
Designation: (PLEASE PRINT)	Dated:

<b>Duly Authorised Signatory on behalf of the Authority</b>
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Signed by: (PLEASE PRINT NAME)	
Designation: (PLEASE PRINT)	Dated:

## Appendix E

### **Letter to parents/carers of children with statements attending special schools and resourced provision in and out of borough.**

Dear Parent / Carer,

#### **School Funding Reforms**

We are writing to you to inform you of the planned changes to school and SEN Funding. You may be aware that from April 2013 there has been a number of changes to the way schools are funded. These are national changes from the Department for Education (DfE) and all Local Authorities (LAs) must follow the revised regulations.

The reason for the reforms is to make the way that schools are funded simpler, easier to understand and more equitable across the country.

**It is important to note these changes will not affect the level of the support your child receives, and the school will continue to deliver the provision in statements.**

The DfE want a national approach to the funding arrangements for special schools. Haringey previously used a planned place formula based on three funding levels. From April, places in all our special schools and resourced provision will receive a base level of funding at £10,000 per place. Top Up funding will be provided to the school to meet the needs of individual pupils within each banding level.

Some Haringey children with statements attend special schools or resourced provision out of borough. In these circumstances the school in the other borough will contribute the first £10,000 and Haringey will provide the Top Up. Haringey will pay the Top Up directly to the school rather than to the other LA as happened previously.

You will also be aware that the DfE are planning to replace statements with a new Education, Health and Care Plan in the future. Work is underway on how these plans will look and work. Therefore it is unlikely that we will amend all statements in 2013 to reflect the funding changes.

There is no need for you to do anything at this point.

Your child's Statement will not change as a result of these funding arrangements and the support set out in the statement will continue to be provided as now. The current regulations as set out in the SEN Code of Practice remain in force.

The Annual Review will continue to be the opportunity to monitor the progress your child makes and to make any amendments in relation to meeting your child's needs.

Yours

## **Letter to parents/carers of children with statements attending mainstream schools in and out of borough.**

Dear Parent / Carer,

### **School Funding Reforms**

We are writing to you to inform you of the planned changes to school and SEN Funding. You may be aware that from April 2013 there has been a number of changes to the way schools will be funded. These are national changes from the Department for Education (DfE) and all Local Authorities (LAs) must follow the revised regulations.

The reason for the reforms is to make the way that schools are funded simpler, easier to understand and more equitable across the country.

**It is important to note these changes will not affect the level of the support your child receives, and the school will continue to deliver the provision in statements.**

The way LAs fund SEN and Statements of SEN varies hugely across the country. Previously in Haringey, mainstream schools were given an indication of the amount within their budgets that could have been used to support pupils with SEN. It was for schools to decide how to use their funding to meet these needs. When a child had a statement of special educational needs, the LA funded the full cost of a statement with an allocation of 15 hours Teacher Assistant and above.

The DfE want a national approach to funding Statements and SEN, whereby the schools must contribute the initial £6,000 of support for all statements, including those with 15 hours Teaching Assistant and above. The LA will provide a "Top Up" to the school where the cost of the provision in the statement exceeds £6,000. Therefore, for example, if the cost of the Teaching Assistant hours in a statement is £12,000, the school will contribute £6000 and the LA will provide the Top Up of £6,000. We will put the cost of provision in new and amendand gradually move away from allocating support hours as the system becomes embedded. The funding formula for allocating school budgets have been adjusted to take account of these changes.

Some Haringey children with statements attend mainstream schools out of borough. In these circumstances the school in the other borough will contribute the first £6,000 and Haringey will provide the Top Up above this £6,000 if the allocation in the statement is more than this amount. Haringey will pay the Top Up directly to the school rather than to the other LA as happened previously.

You will also be aware that the DfE are planning to replace statements with a new Education, Health and Care Plan in the future. Work is underway on how these plans will look and work. Therefore it is unlikely that we will amend all statements in 2013 to reflect the funding changes but we will let you know the cost of the provision in your child's statement, including the contribution from the school and the Top Up from the LA.

There is no need for you to do anything at this point.

Your child's Statement will not change as a result of these funding arrangements and the support set out in the statement will continue to be provided as now. The current regulations as set out in the SEN Code of Practice remain in force.

The Annual Review will continue to be the opportunity to monitor the progress your child makes and to make any amendments in relation to meeting your child's needs.

Yours faithfully