

**Agenda Item**  
**9**



**Report Status**

For information/note   
For consultation & views   
For decision

Report to Haringey Schools Forum – 14<sup>th</sup> January 2016

**Report Title: Growth Fund 2015-16.**

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**Purpose:**

To inform members of the allocations required from the Growth Fund for 2015-16.

**Recommendations:**

1. That members agree to the allocations set out in Table 1.

## 1. Introduction.

- 1.1. 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.
- 1.2. Schools Forum agreed to allocate £1.1m to a Growth Fund for the 2015-16 financial year. In addition the DfE make an adjustment to the amount taken for recoupment academies to be added to the Fund. This compensates for the different financial year for academies and provides funding for the period April 2015 to August 2015<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.3. Officers are required to report all payments made against the Growth Fund to Schools Forum at least once a year. Any unspent Growth Fund is carried forward and added to the formula allocations for the following financial year.

## 2. Criteria.

2.1. The criteria agreed by Forum for allocations from the Fund are:

- Planned new form of entry approved by the Local Authority:
  - Classroom funding based on 7/12 months \* appropriate basic per pupil entitlement \* expected number in class; plus
  - A set-up allocation of £500 for each pupil in a standard class size for the relevant setting.
- In-year bulge class:
  - Start up and classroom costs as above;
- 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.

3.1. Table 1 sets out the resources now available in the Growth Fund and the proposed calls against it.

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<sup>1</sup> Pupil number increases in September impact on maintained school funding from the following April but on academy budgets from the following September. Therefore there is a need to provide funding from April to August.

**Table 1. Summary of Resources and Proposed Allocations to Date.**

| <b>Resources Available</b>                        |               |                    |                  |
|---|---------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Growth Fund                                       |               | £1,100,000         |                  |
| Recoupment Academy Adjustment for April to August |               | 44,519             |                  |
| <b>Total</b>                                      |               | <b>1,144,519</b>   |                  |
| <b>Application</b>                                |               |                    |                  |
| <b>School</b>                                     | <b>Number</b> | <b>Type</b>        | <b>£</b>         |
| Alexandra Primary                                 | 30            | Expansion          | 77,763           |
| Chestnuts Primary                                 |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 19,133           |
| Coldfall Primary                                  |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| Lea Valley  |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| Noel Park Primary Academy                         | 30            | Bulge Class        | 44,519           |
| Rhodes Ave Primary                                | 30            | Expansion          | 77,763           |
| Rhodes Ave Primary                                |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| Rokesly Infant                                    |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 19,133           |
| South Harringay Infants                           |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 19,133           |
| St Aidan's Primary                                |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| St James CE Primary                               | 30            | Bulge Class        | 77,763           |
| St James CE Primary                               |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| St John Vianney RC Primary                        |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| St Mary CE Primary                                | 5             | Bulge Protection   | 13,449           |
| St Mary CE Primary                                | 30            | Expansion          | 77,763           |
| St Paul's RC Primary                              |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| Stamford Hill Primary                             | 17            | Bulge Protection   | 60,969           |
| Welbourne Primary                                 | 30            | Expansion          | 77,763           |
| Weston Park Primary                               |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| The Willow Primary                                |               | Oversize KS1 Class | 32,800           |
| Heartlands High School                            | 54            | Expansion          | 194,715          |
| <b>Total</b>                                      |               |                    | <b>1,055,066</b> |
| <b>Balance Remaining</b>                          |               |                    | <b>89,453</b>    |

#### 4. Recommendations.

4.1. That members agree to the allocations set out in Table 1.

## Annex.

### Circumstances in which KS1 oversize class funding will be provided.

The legal position is:

**Infant class size** – *Infant classes (those where the majority of children will reach the age of 5, 6 or 7 during the school year) **must not** contain more than 30 pupils with a single school teacher. 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;*

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. This practice is recognised by the DfE in its allowable criteria 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.