

Sefton Schools Forum Report

Date of Meeting:	13 th January 2020
Title of Report:	Pupil Growth funding Allocations 2019/20
Presenting Officer:	Mark Chambers / Kevin McBlain
Reason for Submission to Forum:	(4) ITEM FOR INFORMATION
Executive Summary:	To provide members with information on the allocations of Pupil Growth Funding in 2019/20.
Budget/Risk Implications:	None
Recommendations:	1. Schools Forum members are requested to note the allocations of the Infant Class size and Pupil Growth allocations to schools in 2019/20, and the intentions of the LA to request Schools Forum to increase the set-aside Pupil Growth Contingency from £350k to £600k in 2020/21, as part of the Schools Budget proposals elsewhere on this agenda.
Appendices (to be attached)	Pupil Growth funding allocations spreadsheet
Background Papers (available on request)	None
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SCHOOLS' FORUM POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1 ITEMS FOR APPROVAL (DfE can adjudicate where Forum does not agree LA proposal)
- 2 ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION (Forum provides a view on LA proposal but LA decides)
- 3 ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION (Forum provides a view on LA proposal but DfE decides)
- 4 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION (No formal view of the Forum is sought)

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1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform Schools Forum of the funding allocations from the Infant Class Size and Pupil Growth funding contingency set aside in 2019/20 (£350k).

2. Background

- 2.1 From 2019/20, Pupil Growth funding was changed by the DfE, from an historic pupil base calculation, to a real pupil growth allocation, based on annual increases in pupil numbers between the latest census data and the previous year's census data. Funding is then calculated on a per pupil basis and allocated to LA s accordingly.
- 2.2 The Pupil funding growth awarded to Sefton for 2019/20 was subsequently increased, from a low historic base of £150k, to £577k and the DfE offered some guidance on the new Pupil Growth allocations from 2019/20, leaving Local Authorities and their Schools Forum to decide what levels of this funding, should be set aside as a contingency. Member of Schools Forum may therefore recall, when setting the budget for 2019/20 in February 2019, that they agreed to increase the set aside funding allocation for Regulatory Infant class size and Pupil Growth contingency from £150k to £350k following a change in 2019/20 to the funding mechanism by the DfE, leaving a balance of £227k for reallocation through the Schools Formula.
- 2.3 Pupil Growth funding is announced separately to the main Schools Block allocation, and each LA also has to have an agreed policy with their Schools Forum on use of their Pupil Growth contingency, and Sefton's policy has been brought to Schools Forum recently, including an expansion, to include those schools having significant growth in numbers of pupils between census years within their PAN, but causing the need to deploy extra resources not included for in the Current year's formula funding for the period September to March.
- 2.4 This additionality is now included in Sefton's policy, to include for schools with pupil growth of 10+ or more pupils (comparing year on year census data) for Primary phase; and 20+ or more pupils for Secondary schools.
- 2.5 The aim of the funding is to help schools manage increases in pupil numbers where for example, there are agreed changes in their PAN, to accommodate extra pupils from September to March (7/12ths of a year), or where, as explained above, there are sudden increases in pupil numbers within their PAN from September, and where these numbers are not picked up in the formula for the current year.
- 2.6 The funding criteria determines, that this Contingency cannot be exceeded and that Infant Class size changes/Regulatory requirements must first be

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accommodated, before funding for other pupil number changes can be considered within the available resources.

3. Current Position and Costs

- 3.1 As part of the agreed funding mechanism mentioned above, consideration has to be given first, to Infant Class size regulation allocations; and having considered those schools with ongoing agreed funding needs through agreed PAN changes and other Infant Class adjustments from September 2019, £208k of funding provision has to be made available. The remaining balance of available funding from the contingency, is therefore £142k for 2019/20.
- 3.2 With the subsequent publication of the Census 2019 data in December 2019, an analysis can now be provided, to show all the schools having greater than 10 (Primary) and 20 (Secondary) increases in pupil numbers between census years, and this is shown in the attached appendix for information.
- 3.3 There are some quite big increases in pupil numbers, particularly across the Secondary Phase from September, and in fact, greater than anticipated when the contingency was set-aside back in February 2019, with 8 Primary Schools (2 already in receipt of Pupil Growth funding ongoing) and 7 Secondary Schools at, or in excess of, the criteria. Note, that schools already in receipt of pupil growth funding ongoing, cannot receive further funding through the new pupil growth criteria, as agreed in the funding policy.
- 3.4 The calculations, after applying the agreed NFF AWPU elements to the excess numbers (and excluding the two Primary schools already in receipt of some pupil growth funding), suggests there is an 'over-application' of the available contingency by £246k in 2019/20, and the funding allocations to these schools has therefore had to be scaled down accordingly, on a pro-rata basis, to align with the available Contingency as allocated by Schools Forum. The Table below now summarises the funding allocations arising for 2019/20 from the more detailed calculations shown in the appendix for information.

Table showing the allocations of Pupil Growth Contingency Funding in 2019/20

<u>School</u>	<u>Allocation of Pupil Growth Funding 2019/20 (£)</u>
<u>PRIMARY PHASE</u>	
<u>(Ongoing Pupil Growth Funding Infant class size Regs)</u>	
Great Crosby RC Primary	37,878
Linaker Primary	37,878
Norwood Primary	37,878
Birkdale Primary	37,878
Linacre Primary	28,153

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Our Lady Queen of Peace RC Primary	28,153
Funding Allocation (ongoing regulatory)	207,818
<u>Pupil Growth in Numbers within PAN year on year scaled down to match available funding levels</u>	£
<u>PRIMARY PHASE</u>	
Hudson Primary	5,287
Litherland Moss Primary	1,762
Redgate Community Primary	6,461
Kings Meadow Primary	3,524
Christ Church - Church of England Primary	9,399
St Johns Church of England Primary	1,762
	28,195
<u>SECONDARY PHASE</u>	
Kings Leadership Academy - Hawthornes	23,954
Formby High School	10,738
Chesterfield High School	14,868
Birkdale High School	32,626
Meols Cop High School	4,130
Maghull High Schools	22,715
Holy Family Catholic High School	4,956
	113,987
Total Pupil Growth Contingency Funding Allocations 2019/20 (19 schools)	350,000

3.5 Members will note, that the Schools Budget report on this agenda, indicates that the recent Pupil Growth funding for 2020/21, announced in December, will see Sefton's allocation increasing from £577k to £946k; and that the LA is recommending in that Report, that the Pupil Growth contingency increases from £350k to £600k in 2020/21, to accommodate future likely demand on this funding.

4. Recommendations

4.1 Schools Forum members are requested to note the allocations of the Infant Class size and Pupil Growth allocations to schools in 2019/20, and the intentions of the LA to request Schools Forum to increase the set-aside Pupil Growth Contingency from £350k to £600k in 2020/21, as part of the Schools Budget proposals elsewhere on this agenda.