Paper 9 - for information

Core Schools Budget Grant Funding 2024-25

Key Messages

Forum members are asked to note:

- The new Grant of **£1.1b,** for pupils aged 5-16 - mainstream/special/AP (1% approximate possible allocation of £11m for Sheffield).
- The £97m allocation for early years and post-16.
- That all financial year allocations cover September 2024 to March 2025.
- The same methodology as previous grants applies:
  - Base; Lump Sum; FSM6 elements.
- That allocations will be published in September 2024.
- That this will be paid in November 2024 to maintained schools and December 2024 to academies.

1. Introduction/background

1.1. In July 2024 the Government announced additional national funding of £1.1b in the form of the Core Schools Budget Grant, to support schools with budget pressures, in particular the Teachers' Pay Award.

1.2. They are also providing £97m for Early Years and Post 16.

1.3. Additional funding for early years will be distributed through the Early Years Budget Grant (EYBG) using the same methodology as the previous Early Years Teachers' Pay Grant (EYTPG) where we distributed it on an additional £ per pupil rate on the base rate. This is to support general pressures and in particular for school teachers' pay increases. Private, voluntary and independent providers (PVIs) will also receive this funding.

1.4. Post-16 information will be published in due course.

2. Eligibility for the Grant

2.1. All mainstream schools, high needs settings, early years and post-16 are eligible to receive funding through the Core Schools Budget Grant (CSBG), plus local authority centrally employed teachers.

2.2. The allocations for Sheffield will be published by the end of September 2024.

3.   Methodology

3.1. The same methodology that was used for previous grants such as the Teachers' Pay Additional Grant, has been used for the CSBG.

3.2. The methodology and allocation rates for mainstream schools are set out below:

- a basic per-pupil rate of £76 for primary pupils, including pupils in reception
- a basic per-pupil rate of £108 for key stage 3 pupils
- a basic per-pupil rate of £122 for key stage 4 pupils
- a lump sum of £2,900
- a FSM6 per-pupil rate of £70 per eligible primary pupil
- a FSM6 per-pupil rate of £100 per eligible secondary pupil

3.3 **High Needs Settings**

- High Need Settings will receive **£610** per place.
- Local Authorities will also receive an allocation equivalent to 2.2% of the annual funding relating to hospital education within their Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding for 2024-25.
- The allocations for high needs settings will be based on the following places:
    - First allocation based on 2023-24 S251 budget statement published places for maintained schools and 2024-25 academic year as at July 2024 for academies.
    - Second allocation based on 2024-25 S251 budget statement published places for maintained schools and updated data for the 2024-25 academic year for academies.
- There will be updated allocations in March 2025 based on updated place numbers.
- Local authorities have the flexibility to decide on how to allocate this funding including to hospital schools.
- The funding rate also applies at a per pupil level for those with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan or special educational needs (SEN) support in independent special schools.
- We will be holding a consultation as soon as we are in receipt of the allocations, with the high needs settings to decide the allocation and distribution methods to be applied.

4.   Payment

4.1. Local Authorities will receive payment for maintained mainstream schools in November. We will receive payment in two tranches for maintained special schools - November and March.

4.2. All maintained schools will receive their funding in the next available cash advance.

4.3. Academies will receive their payment directly from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in December.

5. Recommendations

Forum members are asked to note the:

- Details relating to the grant.
- Forthcoming consultation with the high needs settings.