



HILLINGDON

LONDON

Consultation Paper – October 2020

Schools Funding Formula 2021/22

Target audience: Headteachers
 Governing Bodies
 Finance Officers
 Schools Forum
 Senior Managers

Deadline for response: 30th November 2020

Queries on this consultation paper should be directed to:

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Formal responses should be made by accessing the Google form via the following link;

[Response form](#)

1. Introduction

1.1 The schools funding settlement for 2021/22 will be announced by the Secretary of State for Education in December 2020 and will be updated by using the October 2020 census pupil data. In the run up to this, the Department for Education (DfE) made a number of announcements in July 2020.

1.2 The key points in relation to the schools funding formula are as follows:

- The Government have confirmed that the move towards a hard National Funding Formula (NFF) will be further delayed in light of the need to focus efforts on meeting the challenges of COVID-19. Later this year, proposals will be put forward on the move to a 'hard' NFF in future, but this will not be implemented in 2021/22. There will be a consultation in the near future on the transition to NFF.
- The funding factors used in the 2021/22 national formulae remain the same.
- There has been an update to the Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index (IDACI) data used to determine deprivation funding with the incorporation of the 2019 update.
- Funding previously received through the Teachers' Pay Grant (TPG) and Teachers' Pension Employer Contribution Grants (TPECG), including the supplementary fund, to mainstream schools for pupils from reception to year 11 will be allocated through the schools NFF by adding to schools' baselines; by increasing the basic per pupil funding levels (Primary - £180/Secondary - £265).
- Minimum funding levels will be set for 2020/21 at £4,180 for Primary (from £3,750 in 2020/21) and £5,415 for Secondary (from £5,000 in 2020/21). This will continue to be a requirement within the Funding Formula.
- Schools Block funding is increasing by 4% overall, compared to 2020/21, with the funding floor allocating at least 2% more in pupil-led funding per pupil, and higher minimum per pupil funding levels directing further increases to the lowest funded schools.
- Local authorities must allocate at least 80% of the delegated schools block funding through pupil-led factors
- Local authorities have the freedom to set the Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) at between +0.5% and +2.0%.
- Schools Forum can agree a block transfer up to 0.5% of the Schools Block, anything above this will need Secretary of State approval, although such block transfers cannot include the additional funding local authorities have been allocated for the teachers' pay and pension grants, thereby guaranteeing that all of this funding remains with schools.

- 1.3 The local authority is required to consult with the Schools Forum annually on any proposed amendments to the School Funding Formula
- 1.4 This paper is being circulated widely to encourage engagement with schools and other stakeholders, in order to assist Schools Forum in making a final decision on the schools funding formula, prior to submitting the required details to the DfE in January 2020, who will advise on the suitability of the proposed funding formula.
- 1.5 The release of this paper allows just a short period of time for consultation with stakeholders (approximately 5 weeks) as responses will be required to be returned by midnight on 30 November 2020. Schools Forum will then review the responses when they meet on 10 December 2020 before finalising the school funding formula at the January Schools Forum meeting.

2. School Funding Formula

- 2.1 2020/21 is the fourth year of the National Funding Formula (NFF) for schools. Whilst it remains the government's intention that a school's budget share should be set on the basis of a single national formula, local authorities will continue to determine final funding allocations for schools through a local formula in 2021/22. The expectation remains that a 'hard' NFF will be implemented at some point in the future.
- 2.2 A key design principle of the NFF is that it maximises the proportion of funding allocated to pupil-led factors. This is to ensure that as much funding as possible is distributed in relation to pupils and their characteristics.
- 2.3 In July 2020, the DfE published illustrative schools block funding figures for 2021/22. The indicative DSG Budget for 2021/22 confirms that the Schools Funding Block for Hillingdon will increase by £16,247k (though this includes funding previously received through the Teachers' Pay and Teachers' Employer Contribution grants). The expectation is that there will be a further £3,500k as a consequence of pupil growth.
- 2.4 One of the areas that the local authority and Schools Forum are required to consult on each year is any proposed changes to the local funding formula. For 2021/22, Schools Forum has decided that the only proposed changes to the formula are in relation to the distribution of Mobility funding.

3. Mobility

- 3.1 The mobility factor allocates funding to schools with a high proportion of pupils with an entry date in the last three years which is not typical. (For year groups 1 to 11, 'typical' means that the first census on which a pupil is recorded as attending the school (or its predecessors) is the October census. 'Not typical' means that the first census a pupil is recorded as attending the school is a January or May census. For the reception year, 'typical' means the first census is October or January).
- 3.2 Rather than relying on a single census, this mobility methodology, introduced last year, involves tracking individual pupils using their unique pupil ID through censuses from the past 3 years. If the first census when the pupil was in the school was a spring or summer census, they are a mobile pupil. This excludes reception pupils who start in January. This methodology also excludes pupils who joined in the summer term after the summer census, or pupils who joined in October before the autumn census.
- 3.3 To be eligible for mobility funding, the proportion of mobile pupils a school must be above the threshold of 6%. The DfE allocates a per-pupil amount to all mobile pupils above that threshold. The DfE has published the NFF factor values for mobility as part of the 2021/22 NFF publication (Primary - £988.20, Secondary - £1,416.42).
- 3.4 In Hillingdon, 41 schools now attract an element of mobility funding, though in some cases the actual level of funding is low. The NFF rates for mobility are higher than the LBH formula and Schools Forum, recognising that having a mobile pupil population does incur additional costs, consider that this could be a factor that could be changed in order to allocate more funding to those schools with a high mobility.
- 3.5 The financial impact of this change has been modelled using pupil data from 2020/21 and is detailed in the table overleaf. As can be seen the overall impact is a £72k increase in the mobility funding distributed to the 41 schools. This increase in funding would be met through a similar reduction in the Age Weighted Pupil Unit (AWPU) rates (as this is the factor that is used as a balancing figure in the LBH formula).
- 3.6 Whilst the overall financial impact is minimal, it will have some impact on an individual school level as indicated in the summary table.
- 2.5 The consultation is therefore asking stakeholders for views on the following options:
 - a) **To retain the mobility factor rates at the 2020/21 values (Primary - £832, Secondary - £1,248)**
 - b) **To increase the Mobility factor rates in line with the National Funding Formula (Primary - £988.20, Secondary - £1,416.42).**

School Name	LBH Rates	NFF Rates	Difference
Wood End Park Academy	28,998	34,442	5,444
Hewens College	33,546	38,073	4,527
William Byrd Primary Academy	22,447	26,662	4,214
West Drayton Academy	19,086	22,669	3,583
Pinkwell Primary School	17,605	20,910	3,305
Laurel Lane Primary School	16,623	19,744	3,121
Oak Wood School	22,666	25,725	3,059
Bishop Winnington-Ingram CofE Primary School	15,991	18,993	3,002
Harlyn Primary School	15,558	18,479	2,921
Grange Park Junior School	12,963	15,396	2,434
Hermitage Primary School	12,944	15,374	2,430
Lake Farm Park Academy	12,472	14,814	2,342
Hewens Primary School	11,896	14,129	2,233
Harlington School	16,074	18,243	2,169
Colham Manor Primary School	11,315	13,440	2,124
Rosedale College	14,876	16,884	2,008
Belmore Primary Academy	10,267	12,194	1,928
Rosedale Primary School	10,250	12,175	1,924
Glebe Primary School	10,134	12,036	1,903
Nanaksar Primary School	9,185	10,910	1,724
Rabbsfarm Primary School	9,067	10,770	1,702
Whitehall Junior School	8,070	9,586	1,515
Brookside Primary School	7,954	9,447	1,493
Ryefield Primary School	7,442	8,839	1,397
Highfield Primary School	6,822	8,103	1,281
Charville Academy	6,107	7,253	1,147
St Matthew's CofE Primary School	5,774	6,858	1,084
John Locke Academy	4,069	4,833	764
Cowley St Laurence CofE Primary School	4,027	4,783	756
Minet Junior School	3,827	4,546	719
Barnhill Community High School	4,504	5,112	608
Deanesfield Primary School	2,912	3,459	547
Heathrow Primary School	2,413	2,866	453
Cherry Lane Primary School	2,283	2,712	429
St Martin's Church of England Primary School	2,135	2,536	401
Ruislip Gardens Primary School	1,281	1,522	241
The Harefield Academy	1,398	1,586	189
Lady Bankes Junior School	948	1,127	178
Cranford Park Academy	902	1,071	169
St Andrew's CofE Primary School	849	1,008	159
Harmondsworth Primary School	349	415	66
Total	408,032	479,723	71,691