

4. EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS FUNDING 2021/22 PROVISIONAL ALLOCATIONS

Finance Briefing Note to Schools Forum



FUNDING ALLOCATION – 20TH JULY 2020

The Department of Education (DfE) have released provisional funding allocations for 2021/22 for the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Schools Block, High Needs Block and Central School Services Block. Information on the Early Years Block is yet to be received.

2021/22 is the second year of a three year funding increase for primary and secondary education. School funding is set to increase by £4.8bn in 2021/22 and £7.1bn in 2022/23, compared to 2019/20 baselines, including additional funding for children with SEND.

The table below shows the impact of this additional funding on Plymouth's DSG allocation for 2021/22.

Please note, these provisional allocations are based on old pupil numbers and will be updated in the autumn term.

PLYMOUTH – PROVISIONAL ALLOCATIONS FOR 2021/22 COMPARED TO 2020/21

	2020/21 Baseline £	2020/21 Per Pupil £	2021/22 Provisional £	2021/22 Per Pupil £	Increase/(Decrease) in Provisional Allocation £	Increase/(Decrease) in Per Pupil Amount £
Schools Block	170,489,400*	4,925	176,695,650	5,103	6,206,250	178.03
High Needs Block	34,026,015	n/a	37,796,919	n/a	3,770,904	-
Central Schools Services Block	3,209,801	n/a	2,845,140	n/a	(364,661)	-
Total	207,725,216		217,337,709		9,612,493	

* 2020/21 baselines for the Schools Block include the Teachers' Pay Grant and Teachers' Pension Employer Contribution Grant.

SCHOOLS BLOCK:

Plymouth's Schools block funding will increase by £6.206m in 2021/22, an increase of 3.6%.

Additional funding for 2021/22 will be distributed through the Schools National Funding Formula (NFF):

- All core factors of the formula will increase by 3%, compared against 2020/21 unit values.

- The minimum per pupil funding levels will increase to £4,180 per primary pupil and £5,415 per secondary pupil.
- The funding floor will provide schools with an increase of 2% per pupil for pupil led funding compared to 2020/21 baselines.
- The sparsity factor will increase from £26,000 to £45,000 for primary schools and from £67,600 to £70,000 for secondary schools. This factor does not apply to Plymouth schools.

Plymouth will see a 3.6% increase (£178.03) in per pupil funding, compared against the 2020/21 baseline (excludes growth funding).

The average per pupil increase nationally is 3.1% (Plymouth 3.6%), average increase per pupil is £157.96 (Plymouth £178.03), average per pupil funding for 2021/22 is £5,301 (Plymouth £5,103).

TEACHERS' PAY GRANT AND TEACHERS' PENSION EMPLOYERS CONTRIBUTION GRANT

The Teachers' Pay Grant (TPG) and Teachers' Pension Employer Contribution Grant (TPECG) will be incorporated into the NFF from 2021/22, a further £180 per primary pupil and £265 per secondary pupil will be added onto the basic entitlement factor (AWPU) to cover these grants. The minimum per pupil funding levels have also been increased by these amounts.

HIGH NEEDS BLOCK:

Nationally, High Needs funding will increase by a further £730m in 2021/22, compared to 2020/21 baselines.

Plymouth's High Needs Block funding will increase by £3.770m in 2021/22, an increase of 11%.

The funding floor factor will provide local authorities with an increase of 8% per head of population compared to 2020/21 baselines.

The limit on gains will be set at 12% per head of population compared to 2020/21 baselines.

The basic entitlement per pupil amount will increase from £4,000 to £4,660 for special schools. This factor has increased by £660 to incorporate the TPG and TPECG from 2021/22.

The average increase nationally is 11.18%, per pupil comparison is not available for High Needs Block.

Locally, Cornwall is getting an increase of £6.879m (13.52%), Devon is getting £9.099m (11.95%) and Torbay is getting £2.086m (10.90%).

The final High Needs Block will differ slightly from these figures as some elements of the formula will change before the final allocations are made.

CENTRAL SCHOOLS SERVICES BLOCK

Funding for the Central Schools Services Block has decreased by £0.365m. Whilst funding for ongoing commitments has increased slightly (£0.056m), historic commitment funding has been decreased by £0.421m, due to unwinding of historic commitments. This is part of Central Government's aim to move funding from individual Local Authorities to increase the overall DSG which is allocated to schools, giving schools greater flexibility.

The £0.365m decrease in historic commitment funding is within the funding block previously allocated to the Excellence Cluster. Plymouth have already ceased funding the Excellence Cluster and in 2020/21 distributed £0.707m to mainstream schools to purchase their own support.

2020/21 ACADEMIC YEAR – CORONAVIRUS CATCH UP FUNDING

Universal Catch Up Premium

The DfE has announced £1 billion of funding to support pupils to 'catch up' after the impact of coronavirus on their education. Part of this is a one-off universal £650m Catch-Up Premium for the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

The catch up premium will be available to all state-funded mainstream, special and AP schools.

- Mainstream schools will receive £80 per pupil from reception to year 11. For Plymouth schools this would be approximately an additional £2.770m
- Special Schools and Alternative Provision will receive £240 per place, this will total approximately £0.220m for Plymouth schools.

This grant will be paid to schools in three payments, starting in autumn 2020 with the final payment will be made in summer term 2021.

It will be available for one year only and not added to baselines for future funding allocations.

Schools should use the funding to support pupils to catch up, but they have the flexibility to do this in whatever way they consider best for their school.

National Tutoring Programme

Alongside the Catch Up Premium, central government has launched a £350m National Tutoring Programme.

This will consist of (at least): a 5-16 programme making tutoring available for 5-16 years from the second half of the autumn term 2020, and a 16-19 fund to provide small group tutoring for disadvantaged 16-19 year olds.

Schools will be able to use their catch up premium to cover the subsidised cost of the programme, which could involve buying in tuition from an approved list of partners or employing in-house academic mentors.