

Schools Forum – 4th July 2017

Growth Fund - Allocation of Funding 2017/18

Recommendations

- 1) That the Schools Forum notes the allocations of Growth Funding and, where appropriate, the schools' financial self-declarations as requested by Forum:
 - a. funding for Infant class size legislation: five primary schools;
 - b. funding for basic need growth: one primary school for exceptional growth; one middle school for exceptional growth; three secondary schools for exceptional growth

Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for People:

Why is it coming here – what decision is required?

- 2) In February 2013, Schools Forum agreed to establish Growth Fund criteria and members asked to be advised of all funding allocations.
- 3) On 23 March 2016, Forum requested that schools receiving funding should complete a short financial self-declaration (see Appendices.)
- 4) On 27 March 2017, Forum approved the 2017/18 Growth Fund budget of **£95,000** to support compliance with infant class size legislation and **£500,000** to support Basic Need growth in the population (with any underspend being returned to the ISB 2018/19).

Reasons for recommendations:

Funding for Infant Class Size Legislation

- 5) In accordance with the infant class size funding criteria, **£63,823** from the **£95,000** budget will be allocated to five schools on the basis of an agreed number of infant teachers (see Appendix A for the schools' self declarations).
 - a) Baldwin's Gate CE (C) Primary School (Newcastle borough)
£1,557 towards the cost of a 2nd infant class teacher
 - b) The Meadows Primary School (Newcastle borough)
£18,680 towards the cost of a 2nd infant class teacher
 - c) St Mary's CE (C) First School & Nursery (Wheaton Aston, South Staffordshire)
£21,793 towards the cost of a 3rd infant class teacher
 - d) Ashcroft Infant and Nursery School (Tamworth)
£6,227 towards the cost of a 5th infant class teacher

- e) Rushton CE (C) Primary School (Staffordshire Moorlands)
£15,566 towards the cost of a 2nd infant class teacher

Funding for Basic Need Growth

- 6) Funding for exceptional growth in primary: In accordance with the Growth Fund criteria, **£34,080** will be allocated to one school that have worked with the LA to create additional classes in response to Basic Need growth (see Appendix B for the schools' self-declarations).
 - a) Bishops Lonsdale CE (VC) Primary School (Stafford district)
£34,080 for one additional infant class teacher
- 7) Funding for exceptional growth in secondary: in accordance with the new Growth Fund criteria for middle and secondary schools, **£136,320** will be allocated to four secondary schools (£34,080 each) that have worked with the LA to provide at least 5% of additional PAN places in response to Basic Need growth (see Appendix C for the schools' self-declarations).
 - a) Walton Priory Middle School (Stafford borough) - year 5 intake
 - b) Paulet High School & Sixth Form College (East Staffordshire) - year 7 intake
 - c) The Weston Road Academy (Stafford borough) year 7 intake
 - d) Abbot Beyne School (East Staffordshire) - year 7 intake
- 8) As noted at the December 2016 Forum: "Members also noted the Growth Fund principles for both academies and maintained schools; They noted that whilst fully equivalent and equitable, due to the differences in the timescales for receiving funding between schools types, the period over which this is profiled would vary between LA maintained schools and academies eligible to receive the growth fund. .There were no extra costs to the LA between schools types as the Education Funding Agency (EFA) distributed funding covering the extra five month period to the county council as part of the academy recoupment".

Total expenditure

- 9) The allocation of **£170,400** for exceptional pupil is within the budget of £500,000. This represents an underspend of **£329,600**. This underspend, along with the **£31,177** underspend on infant class size will be returned to the ISB 2018/19.

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Appendix A: financial information for Infant Class Size applications 2017/18

Application for Infant Class Size Funding 2017/18 Self-Declaration Form	School Name Ashcroft Infant and Nursery School
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
16/17	683,670.00	638,306.58	94%	School budget has continued to be low as we are a small school with low levels of pupil premium pupils. We have seen a further increase in pupils with additional needs, maintaining a need for TA support.
15/16	671,130.00	666,800.42	99%	Reserves are low for school. Several bids were applied for by the previous headteacher and governor run provision for afternoon nursery provision was set up to generate extra funding for school . An increase in children with additional needs has maintained a need for TA support.
14/15	666,810.00	643,601.00	97%	Numbers on roll have continued to decrease over the last few years. With this the decision was made to decrease classes in Key Stage One from 4 to 3. School PAN was set at 45 which meant there are two smaller classes in Reception. Key Stage One has been organised as a year 1 class, a year 2 class and a mixed year 1 and 2 class.
<i>2014/15</i>	<i>1,234,567</i>	<i>1,111,111</i>	<i>90%</i>	<i>Example</i>

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of infant class size funding for 2017/18
<p>The headteacher and governors have made decisions to enable a budget to be set each year. We have made restrictions in classes, staffing and made redundancies where possible. We continue to have increased high-needs pupils who do not receive any/enough additional funding for their needs. The funding application has been put forward to ensure we can meet the required staffing costs. Numbers on roll in September will be 122 with a further 26 pupils in Nursery. A total of 43 pupils have admitted to Reception meaning we will require two teachers for these classes. We will have a total of 79 pupils in KS1.</p>

Application for Infant Class Size Funding 2017/18 Self-Declaration Form	School Name Baldwins Gate CE (VC) Primary School
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
2016/2017	£592,160 + £20,000 = £612,160	£565,585	92.39%	Carry forward from 2015/2016: £39,122 Budget set with anticipated AEN income which is then received throughout the year. Governor led extended provision in operation
2015/2016	£601,540 + £20,000 = £621,540	£562,517	90.5%	Carry forward from 2014/2015: £46,134 Budget set with anticipated AEN income which is then received throughout the year. Governor led extended provision in operation
2014/2015	£568,390 + £20,000 = £588,390	£519,761	113%	Carry forward from 2013/2014: £25,161 Budget set with anticipated AEN income which is then received throughout the year. Governor led extended provision introduced
2014/15	1,234,567	1,111,111	90%	<i>Example</i>

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

<p>Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of infant class size funding for 2017/18</p> <p>Baldwins Gate Primary is to expand as a result of a housing development (Baldwins Gate Farm) which will provide 109 dwellings within catchment. Construction is underway. In addition, a further development (Meadow Way) is to go to planning and, if approved, will lead to a further 99 dwellings within our catchment area.</p> <p>As a result, the school is entering a period of uncertainty surrounding pupil numbers while we await final plans but we are working with the School Organisation Team and Entrust Property Services with regard to the school's expansion. We feel there is a need to be flexible as much as possible during this period of uncertainty and predicted growth and this does have budget implications. There are, and will be, difficulties during this period of transition as the school moves towards a one form entry establishment.</p> <p>Governors have met with the School Organisation Team and staff have worked extensively with Karen Richards to discuss the school's PAN and predicted future numbers. The school received 20 applications for admission to Reception in September 2016 (19 of which were catchment or sibling) and due to the impending housing development and growth of school were advised to exceed the PAN if needed.</p> <p>In September 2017 those 20 reception pupils will transfer to Year 1 and join 15 pupils in Year 2 resulting in a total of 35 pupils in Class 2 thereby exceeding</p>

infant class size legislation. The school has obviously had to take steps to ensure that teaching staff will be in place ready for September to cope with the class size. The additional staffing required has obviously had an impact on the budget and the school has had to withdraw £10,000 from the school's deposit account in order to set the budget for 2017/2018.

Extract from minutes of governor meeting (29th November 2016)

Claire Lowe expressed her concern at the already large classes in Key Stage 2 and advised that she would not wish to teach classes in excess of 35 pupils. Any increase in pupil numbers would require careful management and the school would have to manage a flexible approach to classroom structure and staffing. Governors agreed that increasing the PAN to 20 before the development is finished could result in the school admitting children from out of catchment and not being in a position to provide places for children moving into catchment when required.

The School Organisation Team and School Admissions Department had been consulted with regard to the PAN for 2018/2019 and had advised that the best strategy would be to stick to a PAN of 15 and exceed if needed. Keeping the PAN at 15 would not have any negative impact on the plans for expanding the school.

Application for Infant Class Size Funding 2017/18 Self-Declaration Form	School Name Rushton Primary School
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year
2016/17	£268,440	£252,819	94%	NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high £28,000 was taken from the Revenue balance in order to set/balance the budget.
2015/16	£273,810	£252,307	92%	£28,590 was taken from the Revenue balance in order to set/balance the budget.
2014/15	£254,390	£231,075	91%	£13,560 was taken from the Revenue balance in order to set/balance the budget.

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of infant class size funding for 2017/18
The budget is unable to be balanced for 2017/2018. There is only £928 Revenue balance remaining, this is not enough to meet the shortfall in the budget.

Application for Infant Class Size Funding 2017/18 Self-Declaration Form	School Name: St Mary's CE First School
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
Add financial year 14/15	486,520 (15,420)	467,493	96.1%	All reserves, except £120, used to balance 14/15 budget Original budget allocation £387,500, extra funding includes NEF Funding Carry forward of £19,027 placed in reserves for future years
Add financial year 15/16	495,906 (10,150)	473,198	95.4%	Used £10,150 to balance 15/16 budget Original budget allocation £403,540, extra funding includes NEF Funding Carry forward of £22,708 placed in reserves for future years
Add financial year 16/17	498,980 (14,740)	450,710	90.3%	Used £14,740 to balance 16/17 budget Original budget allocation £416,390, extra funding includes NEF Funding Carry forward of £48,269 placed in reserves Needed £35,340 to balance 17/18 budget and will need remaining £29,894 to help balance 18/19 budget
2014/15	1,234,567	1,111,111	90%	<i>Example</i>

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of infant class size funding for 2017/18
Without the small school grant St Mary's CE First school will have to mix Reception with year 1 and year 1 with year 2. By allocating St Mary's this funding it will allow us to employ another teaching member of staff to reduce the amount of time classes are combined. Reception and year 1 would be combined for 2 days only not 5 as original budget suggests, this will lead to better outcomes for these pupils.

Application for Infant Class Size Funding 2017/18 Self-Declaration Form	School Name: The Meadows School
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
2016/17	£494,340	£501,393	101%	Salary costs - £385,344 (78% of budget) Carry forward from 2015/16 - £30,759
2015/16	£496,488	£465,728	94%	Salary costs - £356,444 (72% of budget) Carry forward from 2014/15 - £12,077
2014/15	£482,399	£470,321	97%	Salary costs - £362,617 (75% of budget) Carry forward from 2013/14 – 29,555
2014/15	1,234,567	1,111,111	90%	<i>Example</i>

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of infant class size funding for 2017/18
<p>Currently our budget is being reduced each year by 1.5% under the minimum funding guarantee. The Meadows is very unique as it is housed in a privately owned building. We have a full repair lease and are charged £9800 rent per year. This is paid in full from the school's budget. Furthermore the school does not have a hall so we have to hire the community centre for PE and hire a coach each week to transport the children. This costs £5000 and is paid for directly from the school's budget.</p> <p>These various factors put additional financial pressures on the school, making our circumstances quite exceptional.</p> <p>The above figures reflect the school's struggle to manage a decreasing budget with significantly increasing staffing costs since 2014. The acceptable level of salary costs v budget is 70% and as you will note this is becoming increasing more difficult to achieve. The following points should also be noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has sought financial support from SCC and Entrust. The senior school's accountant has visited the school recently and given advice on how the school may achieve a balanced budget. • Staffing costs are increasing for 2017-18 due to the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy and the annual 1% increase. <p>The school has also been unable to make any significant investment in its physical development, i.e. refurbish the library space, due its limited funding. The school has made significant efforts to further reduce expenditure; e.g. reduced cover for staff sickness insurance, minimal training provision, increase teaching commitment for the head teacher, cancelled library services from Entrust, reduced music provision.</p>

Appendix B: financial information for exceptional growth funding applications 2017/18

Growth Fund Policy – 2017/18 Allocation Self-Declaration Form				School Name: Bishop Lonsdale CE Academy
Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
2016/17	£934,392	£841,009	90%	£93,383 agreement of balances - Premature Retirement Cost of £68,323.67 for JB (5 payments remaining subject to 0.5% interest above BOE base rate). Replacement 3G pitch provision required of £50,000 by 2027
2015/16	£927,430	£872,478	94%	£54,952 balance
2014/15	£800,932	£757,567	95%	£43,365 balance

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of Growth Fund for 2017/18

We have an influx of pupils due to the 2 housing developments in close proximity to the school, we are extending the academy to include 3 additional classrooms and a mobile in the interim to address the increase in admissions. We had 51 applications for our reception intake in September 2017 and have currently accepted 38 to date, Year 1 has 31, Year 2 has 22, Year 3 has 32, Year 4 has 32, Year 5 has 38, and Year 6 has 31. As you can see we are oversubscribed in all years apart from Year 2, technically we are still only a 1 Form Entry school and are therefore 22 pupils oversubscribed.

Growth Fund Policy – 2017/18 Allocation Self-Declaration Form	School Name: Walton Priory Middle School
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
2016/17	£1,521,330 (budget) + £330,352 (rev deposit + c/f at 31/3/16) £1,851,682	£1,700,182	91.82%	£223,660 of reserves were required to set 16/17 budget. An ICT investment plan is in place for implementation during the academic year 17/18 (summer 2017). Balances also required to address a staffing restructure following a RI Ofsted inspection. The School has also requested an advance under the deferred capital loan scheme and has had initial discussions with Property Services about a SALIX loan.
2015/16	£1,453,370 (budget) + £344,090 (rev deposit +c/f at 31/3/15) £1,797,460	£1,512,369	84.14%	£253,340 of reserves were required to set 15/16 budget. Change to Leadership and Governing Body. Balances retained to contribute to a significant investment required in ICT and premises following years of under investment.
2014/15	£1,446,800 (budget) + £369,660 (rev deposit + c/f at 31/3/14) £1,816,460	£1,490,850	82.07%	£179,940 of reserves were required to set 14/15 budget. Change to leadership. Leadership reluctant to commit expenditure at that time due to uncertainty.
2014/15	1,234,567	1,111,111	90%	<i>Example</i>

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of Growth Fund for 2017/18

As well as requiring additional teaching to support the increased pupil numbers the school has invested in the creation of new teaching and ICT space/facilities. There has been required spend from revenue budget to equip a new classroom with furniture and materials and to ensure that ICT facilities are available. The School has also had to change the times of the school day in order to accommodate lunches and PE.

Growth Fund Policy – 2017/18 Allocation Self-Declaration Form	School Name: Paulet High School & 6th Form College
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
2016/17	4,090,150	3,982,595	97	Whilst we have identified a small contingent sum in our 2017/18 budget (0.6% of total budgeted spend), we anticipate that our remaining revenue reserve will be all but exhausted by March 2018 as we increase staffing to meet the needs of our growing cohort. For Sept 2016 we anticipate a Y7 cohort of 164 against 144 in Y7 currently and a current Y11 of 115. Our total cohort is expected increase by 10% in Sept 17 from 793 to 873.
2015/16	4,186,923	4,058,031	97	
2014/15	4,175,063	3,832,659	92	
2014/15	1,234,567	1,111,111	90%	<i>Example</i>

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of Growth Fund for 2017/18
See above comment re revenue reserve leaving us with very little by way of contingency in our revenue budget.

Growth Fund Policy – 2017/18 Allocation Self-Declaration Form	School Name :The Weston Road Academy
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
2015/16	£4,151,000	£4,033,000	97.16%	The Weston Road Academy maintains minimal reserves in line with its reserves policy. Over the three financial years shown reserve levels have varied between £70,000 and £119,000.
2014/15	£4,264,000	£4,194,000	98.36%	
2013/14	£4,442,000	£4,351,000	97.95%	

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2015/16.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of Growth Fund for 2017/18
The Weston Road Academy is growing in pupil numbers due to the number of additional houses being built in its catchment area, which includes the Stafford MOD families. Each year the funding the academy receives is lagged by 12 months for the growth in numbers. During 2017/18, the academy has taken on an additional 3 fte teachers. The need for additional teachers is compounded by the fact we have smaller year groups leaving. No additional funding is available to academies through the EFA.

Growth Fund Policy - 2017/18 Allocation Self Declaration Form	School Name: ABBOT BEYNE SCHOOL
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Previous three financial years	* (a) Total revenue budget £ (incl. reserves)	* (b) Total expenditure/ actual spend £	%age between expenditure and budget (b/a)*100	Commentary on the size and use of balances in each year NB this is intended to allow schools to explain to Forum where balances are high
2016/17	4,108,259	3,861,675	94%	Reserves have been used to smooth out the impact of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Falling Roll b) Changes in the funding formula for Post 16 and Main Grant The school and governors have been very proactive in reducing costs whilst having to fund the running of a split site school with the duplication of costs that this entails. The following steps have been undertaken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Staff Redundancies b) Restructured Teaching Establishment – removal of several TLR positions c) Restructured Support Staff Establishment – several staff moved to term time only contracts d) Cost cutting in non-staff costs e) Limited capital investment f) Exploring the possibility of moving to 1 site The projected figures for 2017/18 are Revenue (inc. reserves) £ 4,025,499 expenditure £3,778,916 equals 94% and for 2018/19 Revenue (inc. reserves) £4,092,228, expenditure £4,084,734 equals 99%
2015/16	4,326,016	3,915,346	91%	
2014/15	4,367,662	3,752,346	86%	
2014/15	1,234,567	1,111,111	90%	<i>Example</i>

* As the year end for academies is 31 August the most recent year end for an academy will be 2014/15.

** Where possible show the individual school budget and expenditure figures (but where necessary show pooled budget figures).

Commentary on the school's need for an allocation of Growth Fund for 2017/18
Abbot Beyne School has been asked by the authority to increase its PAN to meet the needs of the Pupil Place Plan in Burton and have accordingly put in place a staffing structure to meet this increased need. An additional class has been scheduled and staff recruited for September 2017. Without the request from SCC we would have kept our admissions at 150 and scheduled 5 rather than 6 classes.