
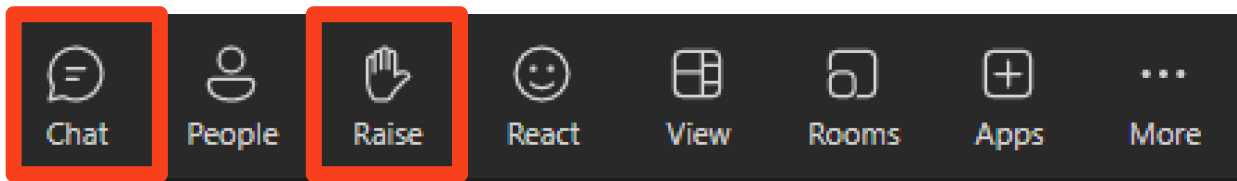


Housekeeping

- This briefing will be recorded
- Please keep your microphone on mute 
- Please turn your camera off unless you are presenting
- If you have a question, please use the chat function or raise your hand in Teams



School Budget Update 2024-25

Karen Stone

Children's Young People & Education Finance Business
Partner

Jody Catterall-James

Schools, High Needs & Early Years Team Manager

Context: Latest School Funding Update

- Government has announced £2.3bn additional funding for 2024-25
- Indicative funding totals have not been announced for 25-26 & 26-27

| Schools, High Needs & CSSB | 19-20 | 20-21 | 21-22 | 22-23 | 23-24 | 24-25 | Increase |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| National Summary | £bs | £bs | £bs | £bs | £bs | £bs | £bs |
| Total School budget | 44.4 | 47.6 | 49.8 | 52.2 | 57.3 | 58.8 | |
| Previous Committed increases in funding (Autumn 19) | | 2.6 | 2.3 | 2.2 | | | 7.1 |
| Autumn 21 Statement increases in funding | | | | 1.6 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 4.7 |
| Autumn 22 Statement increases in funding | | | | | 2.0 | | 2.0 |
| 2023 Teachers Pay Grant | | | | | | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| TOTAL FUNDING INCREASES | | 2.6 | 2.3 | 3.8 | 3.5 | 2.3 | 14.6 |

- Early years Block is separately calculated: the Chancellor confirmed increases in the funding for Early Years Entitlements worth £288 million in 2024-25, compared to 2023-24. Plus, additional funding for the roll out of the free entitlement to working parents for children from 2 years (and from 9 months from Sept 24).

Context: Kent School Funding Update

| 2024-25 Kent Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) | | | |
|---|----------------------|--|---|
| Schools (primary & secondary) | High Needs | Early Years | Central Services Schools Block |
| £1,276m | £322m | £154m | £12.1m |
| <p>2.6% increase + MSAG from 23-24</p> <p>This includes both demography increase and rate increases (around 1.4%)</p> | <p>3.8% increase</p> | <p>Increases included:</p> <p>Full year effect of Sept 23 increase</p> <p>Further 3.8% uplift + extra funding for expansion for free entitlement to working parents for 2 years (April 24) & from 9 months (Sept 24)</p> | <p>2.8% increase overall (includes central government price increases for licences)</p> |

Context: High Needs Deficit & Safety Valve

| | |
|--|--------|
| Total Accumulated Deficit as at March 2023 | +£146m |
| Current forecast in-year overspend | +£45m |
| Contributions | -£102m |
| Estimated Accumulated Deficit as at March 2024 | +£89m |

- Importance of maintaining 1.2% transfer to support recovery and support funding of SEN Support Services.
- Kent currently taking part in Safety Valve
- Focus on meeting needs differently whilst still delivering better outcomes:
 - More children successfully supported in mainstream/Post 16 opportunities leading to reduction in special & independent placements
 - Focus on more cost-effective SEN support/EHCP services in mainstream schools
 - Aiming to achieve breakeven position by 2027-28

Primary & Secondary Budgets

Key Points

- Continuing to mirror NFF for all schools (rates within 2%)
- All factor rates increased by around 1.3%.
- Minimum Funding Guarantee set at 0.5% (max allowable under DfE)
- Minimum Per Pupil Level set at 0.9% lower than NFF
- Split Sites Changes: Basic £53,700 + Distance up to £26,900
- 2023-24 Mainstream Schools Additional Grant rolled into the formula for 2024-25, included within core budget.

Primary & Secondary Budgets

Key Points

- Teachers' Pay Additional Grant, will continue to be paid separately in 24-25 (full year effect).
- Transfer £15m (1.2%) from Schools to High Needs block
- Growth and Falling Rolls policies renewed
 - Growth Policy updated to include reporting and monitoring
 - Falling Rolls allocation from DfE – criteria largely the same but have removed necessity for OFSTED eligibility

De-delegation

- Renewed by the SFF on 2nd February with same items as last year, with the exception of the SiMS Licence

| De-delegation rates (£p per pupil) | Primary | Secondary |
|---|----------------|------------------|
| Schools in Financial Difficulty (DFFG) | £1.12 | £1.12 |
| Schools in Financial Difficulty (Targeted Intervention) | £18.74 | £8.85 |
| Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility | £0.62 | £0.62 |
| County wide SiMS License | £0.00 | £0.00 |
| Supply Cover – Trade Union Duties | £2.01 | £2.01 |
| Supply Cover -SPS | £0.86 | £0.86 |

Notional SEN

| Budget Factors | 23-24 Notional SEN Budget Calculation % of factor included | 24-25 Proposed Notional Budget Calculation % of factor included |
|----------------------|---|--|
| Basic Entitlement | Not included | 5% |
| Ever 6 FSM | 100% | 70% |
| Deprivation (IDACI) | 100% | 70% |
| EAL | 100% | Not included |
| Low Prior Attainment | 100% | 100% |
| Lump Sum | 4.9% | Not included |
| Mobility | Not included | 70% |
| MPPFL & MFG | 100% | 43% |

High Needs Funding - Mainstream

- Mainstream High Needs Funding top up – current process is continuing for 23-24
- Mainstream Notional Top Up (first £6k) -
 - 40% threshold (primary, school roll up to 175)
 - 45% threshold (primary, school roll between 176 and 315)
 - 50% threshold (primary, school roll over 315, and secondary)
- Next step is consulting with schools on future proposed funding model – considering feedback from localities consultations (1,500 responses)
- Working on the operating model consultation (including funding) – planning to launch over the Summer

Special, PRU and SRPs

- Current method of allocations remain unchanged for 24-25
- All rates within the formulas for special, PRUs, devolved AP allocations and SRPs have been increased by 2%
- Minimum Funding Guarantee for Special Schools Set at 0.5% (DFE maximum)
- Increases from last year (including 3.4% increase & teachers' pay grant will remain separately)
- Workshops will begin after Easter holidays to take forward the Special School Funding review
- Next Steps SRPs
- PRU/AP SLA review – contract been in place for a number of years
- need to review in line with National Changes

Early Years

- Consultation with Early Years providers and Schools Funding Forum, rates for 2024-25:
 - £7.55 / hour for two-year-olds
 - £5.16 / hour for three-and four-year-olds
 - £10.26 / hour for under twos (from September 2024)
 - QTS 30p / hour (for QTS employed not on statutory teachers' pay and conditions) or £1.20 / hour (for teachers employed on statutory teachers' pay and conditions)
- These rates includes the Sept 23 increase along with further uplifts from April 24.
- Deprivation Supplement – changes from April 2024

Other grants

- Pupil Premium - Continue to be based on the number of pupils from the following groups:
 - Ever 6 Free School meals Primary £1,480 And Secondary £1,050
 - Ever 6 Service Children £340
 - Post Looked After Children £2,570
- Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)
- Primary PE and Sports Premium Grant
- School Led Tutoring Grant and Recovery Premium
- Teachers' Pay Additional Grant
- Teachers' Employer Pension Contribution Grant
- Ukraine grant – will cease

Devolved Capital Formula (DCF)

- Indicative budget for 2024-25 that are based on pupil numbers collected in the January 2023 census and the current years funding rates.
- Final allocations will be confirmed by the ESFA in March/April although we are not expecting any material changes.

Three year plans

- Three-year plans expected to be produced.
- Recommendations and suggestions to LA maintained schools for future budgets:

| | 2024-25 | | 2025-26 | | 2026-27 | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| | From April | From Sept | From April | From Sept | From April | From Sept |
| Teaching Staff Pay Uplift | | 2% | | 2% | | 2% |
| Non-Teaching Staff Pay Uplift | Awaiting Kent Scheme | | 3% | | 3% | |
| Income | 1.4% | | 2%? | | 2%? | |

Questions?

Contact details

Jody Catterall-James

Schools, High Needs and Early Years Manager

Jody.catterall-james@kent.gov.uk

School Funding

Schoolfunding@kent.gov.uk

03000 422970

Services to Schools

David Adams
Assistant Director Education (South Kent)

- Considered services/support which is offered from across the Council, for example:
 - Road safety education
 - Health and safety
 - Facilities management
 - Commissioned support from The Education People (schools finance, improvement, careers, early years)
 - Education safeguarding
 - School admissions
 - HR (terms and conditions, employment tribunals, staff care)
 - PIAS
 - Finance (School budgets)
- Out of scope - SEND

- Testing against principles/guidelines
 - Our policy framework should reflect the national direction of travel and guidance, with all schools moving to be self-reliant (regardless of category) within a family of schools (federation or MAT) and the LA discharging its more limited roles/responsibilities.
 - The Council is not in a position to shield schools from the financial realities they face.
 - All schools should be funded equitably, therefore if one category has to self-fund an activity, all should, unless there are prescribed exemptions or an agreed subsidy.
 - Where council tax or LA grants support services to schools this should be provided to all state funded schools equally, regardless of category.
 - Council tax money or LA grants will not be used to provide services to schools which they are considered to have been allocated funding through their school budget to self-provide.

- Current position and next steps
 - Cross Council group has identified lines of activity.
 - Sub-group has reviewed these – cost, funding streams, which schools benefit and considered this information against the principles/guidelines.
 - Sub-group has considered whether the activity should – stop, continue or change. Change may include reduce, transform, or different way of funding.
 - Report being produced for full group to make recommendations to Members and Directors. Intention is to propose a pipeline of changes. Aim for term 5.
 - Consultation – aim for term 6.
 - Decision making – aim term 1.
 - Implementation – pipeline of changes (over 3 years?) commencing 2025-26.

Questions?