

SCHOOL'S FORUM



Subject	Notional SEN and Exceptional Circumstances
Meeting Date	26 th June 2023
Executive Summary	Information report ready for review. In January 2023, BCP committed to reviewing the methodology for Exceptional circumstances which has not been updated since LGR and is no longer 'exceptional' with 20% of schools qualifying for support in the financial year 22-23.
Recommendations	Information report
Reasons for Recommendations	BCP has committed to reviewing the methodology of the funding from September 2023 and proposes to set up a working group to bring a revised methodology to school's forum for consideration in September
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Richard Burton – Children and young People
Corporate Director	Cathi Hadley
Report Author (s)	Sarah Rempel, Director of Education & Skills
Wards	Council-wide
Classification	For Information

Background

Notional SEN funding

1. The School and Early Years Finance Regulations 2023 require the LA to have a formula which identifies a notional amount within the schools funding formula; “a threshold sum of £6,000 per pupil, below which the school will be expected to meet the additional costs of pupils with special educational needs from its budget share.”
2. The notional SEN budget is not separate from the schools overall budget, It is an identified amount within a maintained schools budget or academy’s general annual grant (GAG) so it is important schools are aware of how this budget is calculated. The latest national consultation confirmed that when the direct NFF is implemented, this will include indicative SEND budgets which will replace the notional SEN formula by 2025. Since LGR, locally 100% of the prior attainment factor and 40% of deprivation (IDACI and FSMever6) are identified for additional needs.
3. Some schools will therefore have a larger notional SEN budget per pupil than others reflective of the pupil characteristics of their school.
4. The budget is intended as a guide for schools spending decisions and is neither a target nor a constraint on a schools duty to use its best endeavours to secure special provision for pupils with SEN. It is not intended to provide £6,000 for every pupil with SEN.
5. Mainstream schools are expected to contribute towards the cost of special educational provision for pupils with high needs, up to the £6,000 threshold set. Costs above this should be funded by the high needs block.

Exceptional circumstances funding

6. As the calculation of notional SEN above is unlikely to be a precise match for the costs of support for pupils with SEN, LAs are required to have a separate funding mechanism to target schools that have a disproportionate number of children with SEN relative to their size and characteristics.
7. Since local government reorganisation, the mechanism has been to identify where schools have pupils with EHCPs representing 3% or higher of their total roll. Where this is the case at each termly census, an amount per EHCP is paid. This is £650 pro rata (4/12 in autumn, 3/12 in Spring, 5/12 in summer).
8. This methodology targets schools with a high number of EHCPs regardless of the characteristics of the school.
9. Over the period April 2022 to March 2023, 18 (20%) of mainstream schools received funding totalling £171,763.

Proposed review

10. BCP has committed to reviewing the methodology of the funding from September 2023 and proposes to set up a working group to bring a revised methodology to schools forum for consideration in September.

11. To start the discussion, the attached appendix shows, for each school:

- A. average number of pupils* with SEN support
- B. average number of pupils* with an EHCP
- C. average number of pupils* with an EHCP attending a resource base
- D. average proportion of pupils* with SEN support
- E. average proportion of pupils* with an EHCP
- F. the funding received under the existing methodology
- G. the total funding received through the notional SEN formula plus funding adjustments relating to the minimum funding guarantee (MFG) or minimum per pupil funding level (MPPFL), these being adjustments over and above the formula.
- H. the amount required to fund the first £6,000 for children with EHCPs
- I. the amount remaining for SEN support (per pupil)

*over the 3 termly census between April 22 and March 23)

12. The working group will need to consider

- 1) Is the notional SEN budget the best way to identify schools with disproportionate numbers of SEN pupils?
- 2) To what extent is any MFG / MPPFL adjustment relevant?
- 3) What is an appropriate level of funding for an SEN support pupil?
- 4) Does the methodology provide a perverse incentive to over identify SEN?
- 5) Is the new methodology
 - a. affordable
 - b. fair
 - c. targeted correctly

Background Papers

- a) National guidance on the notional SEN budget

[The notional SEN budget for mainstream schools: operational guidance - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/612212/SEN_budget_guidance.pdf)
(www.gov.uk)

Appendix

School	SEN support	EHC plan	Resource Base Places	% of pupils with SEN Support	% of pupils with EHCP (excluding bases)	Total Funding 22-23	100% MFG & MPPFL adjustments plus notional SEN	EHCPs x £6k = notional SEN budget required for EHCPs	amount per SEN support remaining in notional SEN
	A	B	C	D = A/NOR	E = (B-C)/NOR	F	G	H = (B-C) x £6k	I = (G-H) / A
Ad Astra Infant	59.1	4.8	0.0	22.1%	1.8%	0	96,462	29,000	1,142
Broadstone First	24.3	7.9	5.3	7.9%	0.9%	0	159,956	47,500	4,637
Canford Heath Infant	51.3	7.6	0.0	14.3%	2.1%	0	170,704	45,500	2,439
Christchurch Infant	30.3	2.0	0.0	9.1%	0.6%	0	192,974	12,000	5,966
Courthill Infant	39.9	4.7	0.0	11.4%	1.3%	0	206,851	28,000	4,481
Lilliput CE Infant	13.9	1.4	0.0	4.0%	0.4%	0	218,815	8,500	15,112
Merley First	14.5	4.3	0.0	4.8%	1.4%	0	169,325	25,500	9,919
Mudeford Community Inf	19.9	4.0	0.0	11.1%	2.2%	0	69,298	24,000	2,274
Old Town Infant and Nursery	19.8	2.6	0.0	10.1%	1.3%	0	75,637	15,500	3,032
Queen's Park Infant Academy	57.8	5.5	0.0	16.1%	1.5%	0	155,038	33,000	2,113
Springdale First	8.1	3.1	0.0	2.7%	1.0%	0	180,856	18,500	20,085
St Clement's and St John's CofE Infant	49.3	4.4	0.0	19.9%	1.8%	0	138,197	26,500	2,264
Stanley Green Infant Academy	24.8	5.4	0.0	9.1%	2.0%	0	81,455	32,500	1,971
Stourfield Infant	50.7	4.9	0.0	15.9%	1.5%	0	173,488	29,500	2,842
Livingstone Road Infant	22.7	6.3	0.0	9.1%	2.5%	2,167	138,664	37,500	4,463
Twin Sails Infant	42.1	4.1	0.0	10.8%	1.0%	0	148,379	24,500	2,944
Infant	528.5	72.9	5.3	11.0%	1.4%	2,167	2,376,099	437,500	3,668
Baden-Powell and St Peter's CofE VC Junior	43.0	8.6	0.0	6.0%	1.2%	0	584,755	51,500	12,401
Bethany CofE Junior	77.1	4.5	0.0	20.9%	1.2%	0	215,985	27,000	2,452
Livingstone Road Junior	24.7	5.4	0.0	10.6%	2.3%	1,138	169,649	32,500	5,560
Canford Heath Junior	57.8	10.0	0.0	12.2%	2.1%	0	281,484	60,000	3,830
Christchurch Junior	65.0	8.3	0.0	13.2%	1.7%	0	326,815	49,500	4,266
Hamworthy Park Junior	43.8	10.2	0.0	9.5%	2.2%	0	215,254	61,000	3,526
Haymoor Junior	57.6	7.4	0.0	16.0%	2.1%	0	161,523	44,500	2,032
Mudeford Junior	22.7	7.0	0.0	8.7%	2.7%	0	120,002	42,000	3,441
Oakdale Junior	47.2	5.3	0.0	10.7%	1.2%	0	240,836	31,500	4,438
Ocean Academy Poole	47.4	10.8	0.0	15.6%	3.6%	4,875	132,969	65,000	1,433
Queen's Park Academy	42.4	3.8	0.0	8.9%	0.8%	0	288,049	22,500	6,260
Stourfield Junior	82.6	17.3	0.0	17.9%	3.8%	11,267	297,487	104,000	2,343
Junior	611.2	98.5	0.0	12.1%	1.9%	17,279	3,034,808	591,000	3,999

Appendix

School	SEN support	EHC plan	Resource Base Places	% of pupils with SEN Support	% of pupils with EHCP (excluding bases)	Total Funding 22-23	100% MFG & MPPFL adjustments plus notional SEN	EHCPs x £6k = notional SEN budget required for EHCPs	amount per SEN support remaining in notional SEN
	A	B	C	D = A/NOR	E = (B-C)/NOR	F	G	H = (B-C) x £6k	I = (G-H) / A
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	28.6	4.6	0.0	13.2%	2.1%	0	96,861	27,500	2,427
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	49.3	9.8	0.0	12.9%	2.6%	0	162,146	58,500	2,101
St Mary's Catholic Primary	62.3	8.6	0.0	15.1%	2.1%	0	206,088	51,500	2,480
Avonwood Primary	50.5	13.6	0.0	9.2%	2.5%	0	378,660	81,500	5,884
Bearwood Primary & Nursery	23.6	2.4	0.0	10.8%	1.1%	0	69,858	14,500	2,347
Bishop Aldhelm's CE Primary	81.2	17.2	0.0	12.6%	2.7%	0	340,374	103,000	2,925
Burton CE Primary	44.6	7.3	0.0	13.5%	2.2%	0	168,056	44,000	2,783
Christ The King Catholic Primary	63.4	7.7	0.0	17.1%	2.1%	0	295,996	46,000	3,942
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary	60.1	9.0	0.0	13.9%	2.1%	0	184,200	54,000	2,167
Elm Academy	86.8	9.3	0.0	19.5%	2.1%	0	452,206	55,500	4,569
Heatherlands Primary	98.1	10.1	0.0	15.7%	1.6%	0	354,731	60,500	3,000
Heathlands Primary Academy	42.0	6.4	0.0	23.0%	3.5%	4,171	204,536	38,500	3,953
Highcliffe St Mark Primary	58.7	15.4	0.0	9.0%	2.4%	0	502,265	92,500	6,985
Hill View Primary Academy	46.2	6.7	0.0	7.6%	1.1%	0	423,769	40,000	8,313
Hillbourne Primary	31.8	8.4	0.0	4.9%	1.3%	0	104,364	50,500	1,697
Jewell Academy Bournemouth	46.0	11.8	0.0	11.3%	2.9%	2,600	321,337	70,500	5,453
Kings Park Academy	45.1	15.1	0.0	6.9%	2.3%	0	335,030	90,500	5,424
Kingsleigh Primary	148.4	23.0	0.0	17.6%	2.7%	7,042	411,845	138,000	1,845
Kinson Academy	32.3	3.4	0.0	15.2%	1.6%	0	93,472	20,500	2,257
Longfleet CE Primary	85.0	3.8	0.0	13.6%	0.6%	0	412,657	22,500	4,590
Malmesbury Park Primary	82.2	25.3	12.0	11.9%	1.9%	0	286,458	151,500	1,642
Manorside Academy	45.8	16.2	10.0	11.0%	1.5%	0	217,973	97,000	2,644
Moordown St. John's CofE Primary	71.9	10.7	0.0	17.2%	2.5%	0	241,927	64,000	2,474
Muscliff Primary	90.7	14.0	0.0	14.9%	2.3%	0	411,811	84,000	3,616
Pokesdown Community Primary	64.4	4.8	0.0	15.5%	1.1%	0	181,604	28,500	2,377
Somerford Primary Community	58.5	8.6	0.0	26.1%	3.8%	5,579	140,239	51,500	1,517
St James CofE Primary	46.1	16.0	0.0	11.2%	3.9%	10,400	216,477	96,000	2,614
St Katharine's CofE Primary	40.9	8.7	0.0	9.4%	2.0%	0	315,764	52,000	6,446
St Luke's C of E Primary	63.8	3.4	0.0	14.7%	0.8%	0	204,574	20,500	2,884
St Mark's CofE Primary	50.9	10.5	0.0	12.2%	2.5%	0	250,688	63,000	3,686

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St Michael's CofE Primary	103.1	11.4	0.0	15.8%	1.8%	0	274,980	68,500	2,003
St. Walburga's Catholic Primary	36.6	2.7	0.0	8.7%	0.6%	0	253,701	16,000	6,498
Talbot Primary	65.5	8.7	0.0	10.8%	1.4%	0	313,039	52,000	3,985
The Epiphany	52.6	8.8	0.0	12.5%	2.1%	0	283,382	52,500	4,391
The Priory CE	27.7	6.2	0.0	13.3%	3.0%	2,654	71,573	37,000	1,250
Bayside Academy	61.5	4.8	0.0	23.6%	1.8%	0	182,577	28,500	2,505
Twynham Primary	29.6	5.4	0.0	13.5%	2.5%	0	77,213	32,500	1,511
Winton Primary	98.5	10.3	0.0	11.7%	1.2%	0	523,742	61,500	4,693
Primary	2,274.1	369.4	22.0	13.0%	2.0%	32,446	9,966,171	2,216,500	3,408
St Edward's Roman Catholic/CofE, Poole	168.1	32.3	0.0	15.2%	2.9%	5,363	493,231	194,000	1,780
Avonbourne Girls' Academy	123.4	3.3	0.0	12.9%	0.3%	0	541,540	20,000	4,226
Bournemouth	35.1	6.3	0.0	3.0%	0.5%	0	425,940	37,500	11,072
Bournemouth for Girls	89.6	4.8	0.0	7.5%	0.4%	0	444,903	28,500	4,648
Broadstone Middle	76.9	28.8	15.0	11.6%	2.1%	0	308,748	173,000	1,765
The Cornerstone Academy	105.7	22.8	0.0	18.8%	4.1%	14,842	457,735	137,000	3,035
Corfe Hills	110.0	21.1	0.0	12.2%	2.3%	0	341,344	126,500	1,953
Glenmoor Academy	109.7	13.3	0.0	12.3%	1.5%	0	330,226	79,500	2,286
Avonbourne Boys' Academy	139.6	5.4	0.0	20.1%	0.8%	0	425,067	32,500	2,812
Highcliffe	131.6	22.1	0.0	8.7%	1.5%	0	635,985	132,500	3,826
LeAF Studio	58.1	5.3	0.0	13.3%	1.2%	0	134,582	32,000	1,766
Magna Academy	137.0	23.8	0.0	14.6%	2.5%	0	453,593	143,000	2,267
Oak Academy	95.0	15.0	0.0	19.5%	3.1%	6,933	431,212	90,000	3,592
Parkstone Grammar	172.7	6.1	0.0	14.1%	0.5%	0	482,881	36,500	2,585
Poole Grammar	138.9	6.0	0.0	11.5%	0.5%	0	474,129	36,000	3,154
Poole High	372.3	21.4	0.0	19.8%	1.1%	0	843,832	128,500	1,921
St Aldhelm's Academy	216.1	26.3	0.0	26.2%	3.2%	17,117	679,624	158,000	2,414
The Bishop of Winchester Academy	216.7	35.6	14.0	18.6%	1.8%	0	612,117	213,500	1,840
The Bourne Academy	158.9	47.8	0.0	16.8%	5.0%	31,092	612,578	287,000	2,049
The Grange	68.0	20.9	0.0	18.6%	5.7%	13,596	322,641	125,500	2,899
Twynham	206.1	35.7	0.0	11.4%	2.0%	0	629,887	214,000	2,018

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Winton Academy	186.4	20.2	0.0	20.1%	2.2%	0	443,559	121,000	1,730
Secondary	3,115.8	424.3	29.0	14.2%	1.8%	88,942	10,525,356	2,546,000	2,561
Livingstone Academy	51.0	6.8	0.0	17.8%	2.4%	0	106,033	40,500	1,285
Parkfield	86.0	21.8	0.0	17.4%	4.4%	14,138	263,278	130,500	1,544
St. Peter's	222.5	57.8	0.0	11.4%	2.9%	16,792	629,768	346,500	1,273
All-through	359.5	86.3	0.0	13.1%	3.1%	30,929	999,080	517,500	1,340
Alls	6,889.0	1,051.4	56.3	13.2%	1.9%	171,763	26,901,513	6,308,500	2,989