

CAMBRIDGESHIRE SCHOOLS FORUM



Friday, 14 July 2023

Democratic and Members' Services
Emma Duncan
Service Director: Legal and Governance

10:00

New Shire Hall
Alconbury Weald
Huntingdon
PE28 4YE

**Virtual meeting
[Venue Address]**

AGENDA

Open to Public and Press

1. **Apologies for absence and declarations of interest**
2. **Schools Forum Minutes - 13 January 2023** **3 - 8**
3. **Review of Membership and Proportionality 2023** **9 - 14**
4. **Schools Balances & DSG Financial Health - 2022-23** **15 - 30**
5. **Early Years and Childcare Entitlement Changes 2023-2025** **31 - 34**
6. **Schools Forum Agenda Plan - July 2023** **35 - 36**
7. **Any other business**

Date of next meeting

3 November 2023

Meetings of the Schools Forum will be held virtually for Committee members and for members of the public who wish to participate. These meetings will held via Zoom and Microsoft Teams (for confidential or exempt items). For more information please contact the clerk for the meeting (details provided above).

Clerk Name:	Tamar Oviatt-Ham
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Cambridgeshire Schools Forum - Minutes

Date: Friday 13 January 2023

Time: 10:00am – 10:50am

Venue: Red Kite Room, New Shire Hall, Alconbury

Present:

Academy Primary – Susannah Connell

Maintained Nursery - Alex Pearson

Maintained Primary – Nicki Brown, Sasha Howard and Guy Underwood

Maintained Special Schools - Joanne Hardwick

Maintained Governor - Paul Stratford (Vice-Chair)

Trade Unions - Jon Duveen

Hospital Education - Nadine Gooding-Hébert

Diocese of Ely Church Schools - Sarah Conant

Academy Sector Appointments - Adrian Ball, Christopher Bennet, Jon Culpin (Chair), Ryan Kelsall (from 10.15am), John King, Duncan Ramsey, Richard Spencer, and Carin Taylor and Mark Vickers.

Cambridgeshire County Council - Councillors Claire Daunton, Bryony Goodliffe and Simone Taylor.

Officers - Jonathan Lewis: Service Director Education, Rhiannon Leighton: Democratic Services Assistant, Tamar Oviatt-Ham: Democratic Services Officer and Martin Wade: Strategic Finance Business Partner.

37. Apologies for Absence and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Simon Bainbridge, Lesley Birch, Duncan Ramsey and Andrew Read (substituted by Sarah Conant).

There were no declarations of interest.

38. Schools Forum Minutes – 14 December 2022

It was resolved:

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2022 as a correct record.

The action log was noted.

39. Proposed Future Dates for Schools Forum 2023-24

It was noted that school holidays and bank holidays were considered when dates were scheduled.

The Democratic Services Officer agreed to determine whether the meeting for Friday 23 February 2024 had been scheduled to occur in half term. **ACTION REQUIRED**

It was resolved to:

Approve the dates for future forum meetings as set out Section 3 of the report.

40. Schools Budget Setting

The Schools Forum received a presentation that outlined the 2022-23 school budget setting process, which was based upon national budget allocations and pupil numbers for 2021-22. The presentation covered;

- Schools Funding Formula
- Education Functions and De-Delegations
- High Needs Block
- Central Schools Services Block
- Early Years

The national funding formula had been announced and 2023/24 dedicated schools grant allocations differed from 2022/23 allocations, with an overall 5.3% increase. Cambridgeshire was likely to receive £15m from the maintained schools additional grant on 1 April 2023, at the same time, the academy sector would also receive funding; £2bn would be received from the core schools budget. Following these allocations, a review of the safety valve submission had been requested.

The additional funding available to meet the revised minimum per pupil number and minimum funding guarantee had reduced. Therefore, less protection was required to top schools up to those levels leaving greater funding available for allocation. Pupil growth within both primary and secondary schools was uneven and delivery would be based upon pupil numbers in individual schools and cost pressures.

Other highlights of the officer presentation included notification that special schools would be contacted with regard to the Olive AP offer; and that protection for schools against rising energy costs was available through the capping mechanism.

In response to a member's question it was confirmed that the maintained schools additional grant would not be subject to high needs block transfer.

Funding Formula

Following adjustments for block transfers, £446.98m would be available for school allocation. Calculations for allocations would consider sparsity, exceptional premises factors, private finance initiatives, separate sites, business rates, and primary school retrospective adjustments.

The funding formula would be approved by the Children and Young People Committee on Tuesday 17 January 2023.

With regard to the Schools Funding Formula, members understood that the 1% transfer to the high needs block was still scheduled to continue for four years as the safety valve proposal had not yet been agreed. However, inflation and new pressures may affect the transfer percentage. This would be considered by the Schools Forum in March, in which a further breakdown and justification of the high needs block spend would be reviewed

Education Functions and De-Delegations

Rates for supporting maintained schools would remain the same and the officer expanded upon ways in which this spending was used.

Individual members raised the following points in relation to education functions and de-delegations;

- Thanked officers for providing information on services and requested this was included on the autumn agenda for primary heads.
- Confirmed that the price per pupil head for maintained schools and trade unions would be reconsidered in future.

High Needs Block

High needs block transfers would be considered by the forum in March. A £13.5m overspend was anticipated with a £51m deficit at year-end. Pending release of the green paper, the mandatory override had been agreed and therefore this would be removed from the local authority's bottom line.

Central Schools Services Block

National copyright license arrangements had increased due to increase in pupil numbers. The residual balance had changed to reflect this.

Early Years

Increases to early years figures would go directly to providers. However, there were still significant cost pressures with intense salary competition in Cambridge City. Centrally retained funding was expected to remain at 3% for 2023/24. There was a reduction in the special educational needs inclusion fund (SENIF) as it had not been spent in the previous year.

Individual members raised the following points in relation to early years;

- Clarified that the reduction in finances for early year and childcare qualifications was due to a reduction in contract price and would not impact upon delivery.
- Noted that the SENIF for two year olds was needs led and could be readjusted if required, however, it had reduced for 2023/24 as resource granted had not been utilised in the previous year.

Next Steps

Mainstream school additional funding allocations would be checked against the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) calculator. It was anticipated notification of initial growth fund allocations would occur in early February. The authority hoped to set the methodology for budget setting earlier next year and any member feedback given with regards to timing would be considered.

It was resolved to:

Schools Funding Formula

- a) Schools Forum are asked to note and comment on the final schools funding formula proposals following the December announcements.

Education Functions and De-Delegations – Maintained Primary only

- b) Maintained Primary School representatives on Schools Forum are asked to approve:
 - i. The continued retention of £10 per pupil from maintained schools for services specifically provided to maintained schools.
 - ii. The continuation of the de-delegation in respect of Contingency.
 - iii. The continuation of the de-delegation in respect of Free School Meals Eligibility.
 - iv. The continuation of the de-delegation in respect of Maternity and Paternity Cover.

- v. The continuation of the de-delegation in respect of Trade Union Facilities Time.

High Needs Block

- c) Schools Forum are asked to note and comment on the high needs block following the December announcements.

Central Schools Services Block

- d) Schools Forum are asked to note and comment on the final central schools services block proposals following the December announcements.

Early Years

- e) Schools Forum are asked to note and comment on the final early years block proposals following the December announcements.
- f) Schools Forum are asked to approve the early years centrally retained funding amounts for 2023/24.

41. Agenda Plan – January 2023

The meeting scheduled 24 February 2023 was cancelled by consent of the forum.

It was resolved to:

Note the agenda plan.

42. Any Other Business

No other items of business were raised.

Chair
(13th January 2023)

Review of Proportionality and Membership of Schools Forum

To: Cambridgeshire Schools Forum

Meeting Date: 14 July 2023

From: Tamar Oviatt-Ham – Democratic Services Officer

Purpose:

- To review proportionality on the Forum in relation to the latest data from the January 2023 census data.
- To assess whether any further changes are required regarding Forum seats allocated between the maintained and academies sector.
- To review the current vacancies and appointments identified for re-election and actions required.

Recommendation: Schools Forum is recommended to:

- a) Note and comment on the report.

Name: Tamar Oviatt-Ham

Post: Democratic Services Officer

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Tel: 01223 715668

1. Background

- 1.1 National regulations govern the composition, constitution and procedures for schools forums and are set out in [The Schools Forum Regulations \(2012\) \(as amended\)](#). The Department for Education (DfE) also publishes and periodically updates the [Schools Forum Operational and Good Practice Guide](#) together with guidance on Schools Forums' structure, powers and responsibilities.
- 1.2. Schools Forums are made up of school members (maintained schools), academies members and non-school members (Post 16 providers and Independent or Voluntary Sector Early Years providers). Schools and academies members must together comprise at least two thirds of the membership of the Forum.
- 1.3 The Regulations state that '...primary schools, secondary schools (that is, maintained schools) and Academies must be broadly proportionately represented on the forum, having regard to the total number of pupils registered at them.' However, the Operational and Good Practice Guide also states that 'The Schools Forum Regulations provide a framework for the appointment of members, but allow a considerable degree of discretion in order to accommodate local priorities and practice.'
- 1.4 Whilst Schools Forum good practice guidance suggests a review is undertaken at every meeting, this is not practicable on what are four year appointments. Forum agreed at the July 2018 meeting that it should receive a report once a year reviewing the proportionality of Forum membership. This would be based on the most up to date pupil numbers provided by the Annual Census, and that if there were any significant changes to the pupil numbers split, to then consider if any further changes should be made to the allocation of seats.

2. Proportionality Review 2023

- 2.1 The figures for 2021, 2022 and the current figures for 2023 can be found below:

- 2.2 2022 figures with 2021 census are:

Total pupils across primary and secondary (maintained) = 27,635 / 33.34% (34.4%)

Total pupils across primary and secondary (academies) = 55,247 / 66.66% (65.6%)

Current figures as at January 2023 census are:

Total pupils across primary and secondary (maintained) = 27,678 / 32.76%

Total pupils across primary and secondary (academies) = 56,807 / 67.24%

Currently there are 7 Maintained Representatives and 13 Academies Representatives
20 members on the board in total

- 2.3 Based on the current figures it is recommended that no further changes to proportionality are required at this present time.

3. Forum Appointments for Review

- 3.2 There are a number of appointments up for re-election as terms of office are coming to an end :

Maintained Appointments x 2

- Sasha Howard - Headteacher, Meldreth Primary School
- Guy Underwood - Headteacher, Great Abington Primary

Academy Appointments x 5

- Susannah Connell - Headteacher, Middlefield Academy and CEO Diamond Learning Partnership Trust
- Adrian Ball - Chief Executive Officer, Diocese of Ely
- Christopher Bennett - Headteacher, St Peter's School, Huntingdon
- John King – Aspire Learning Trust
- Ryan Kelsall - Impington Village College

- 3.3 There is also one vacancy in relation to academy appointments and one vacancy in relation to maintained appointments as the vice chair Paul Stratford has given notice of his resignation from the forum.
- 3.3 The full list of current voting and non- voting representatives can be found at appendix 1
- 3.4 Elections to fill the vacancy and appointments up for review will take place ahead of the November Schools Forum.

Appendix 1 - Current Schools Forum make up (Changes required highlighted in yellow)

Voting Members:

7 Maintained Representatives

3 Maintained Primary Headteachers

- Sasha Howard – Headteacher, Meldreth Primary School (End of 4 year term)
- Nikki Brown Headteacher, Morley Memorial Primary School
- Guy Underwood – Headteacher, Great Abington Primary (End of 4 year term)

1 Maintained Special School Representative

- Joanne Hardwick – Headteacher, Samuel Pepys Maintained Special School, St Neots

1 Maintained Nursery School Representative

- Alex Pearson - Headteacher Homerton Early Years Centre

1 Pupil Referral Unit Representative

- Nadine Gooding-Hebert - Headteacher - Pilgrim Pathways School

1 Maintained School Governor

- Paul Stratford – Chair of Governors, Alderman Payne Primary School (Vice-Chairman)
(Given notice of resignation from forum)

13 Academies Representatives:

1 Academy Primary Representative

- Susannah Connell - Headteacher, Middlefield Academy and CEO Diamond Learning Partnership Trust (End of 4 year term)

1 Academy Special School Representative

- Simon Bainbridge – Executive Headteacher, Highfield Ely Academy

1 Academy Alternative Provision

- Mark Vickers - CEO Olive Academies

General Academy Appointments

- Jon Culpin – Chief Executive Officer of Anglian Learning (Chairman)
- Richard Spencer – Principal, Ely College
- Adrian Ball – Chief Executive Officer, Diocese of Ely (End of 4 year term)
- Christopher Bennett - Headteacher, St Peter's School, Huntingdon (End of 4 year term)
- John King – Aspire Learning Trust (End of 4 year term)
- Ryan Kelsall - Impington Village College (End of 4 year term)
- Duncan Ramsey - CEO Aspire Learning Trust
- Lesley Birch - Executive Principal Cambridge Primary Education Trust
- Carin Taylor - Executive Headteacher Staploe Education Trust

- **Vacancy**

Non-Voting Representatives

1 Representative of the Early Years Reference Group

- Deborah Parfitt – Nursery Manager, Nene Infants and Nursery School

1 Representative of Post 16 FE

- Jeremy Lloyd - Director of Supported Learning, Cambridge Regional College

Observers

1 Representative Diocese of Ely Board of Education

- Canon Andrew Read

1 Representative Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

- Clare Clarke

1 Teacher Union Membership Representative

- Jon Duveen

NonTeacher Union Membership Representative, non-teaching JCNG

- Rob Turner

Cambridgeshire County Council – three appointments made annually by Children and Young People Committee:

- Councillor Bryony Goodliffe
- Councillor Claire Daunton
- Councillor Simone Taylor

Schools and Dedicated Schools Grant Financial Health

To: Schools Forum

Meeting Date: 14 July 2023

From: Martin Wade – Strategic Finance Manager

Recommendation: Members of Schools Forum are asked to note and comment on the contents of the report.

Officer contact:

Name: Martin Wade

Post: Strategic Finance Business Partner

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Tel: 01223 699733

1. Background

- 1.1 This paper analyses the 2022/23 final closing balance position of maintained schools and the overall Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) as at 31st March 2023.

Please note: the figures below are based on the year-end returns from maintained schools. However, following further validation of the Consistent Financial Reporting (CFR) returns the final information on Schools balances published by the DfE may differ slightly.

- 1.2 The balances for academies to 31st August 2022 have also been collated based on the latest Academies Accounting Returns (AARs) information published by the DfE.

2. Maintained School Balances

- 2.1 The table below shows rounded revenue balances for each sector. The prior year is adjusted for academy conversions during 2022/23 to enable a like-for-like comparison to the year end position.

	31st March 2022 £m	31st March 2023 £m	Change £m
Nursery Schools	0.38	-0.02	-0.40
Primary Schools	13.92	12.61	-1.31
Secondary Schools	0	0	0.0
Special Schools	1.09	0.96	-0.13
Total	15.39	13.93	-1.84

- 2.2 **Appendix A** provides the individual revenue balances as at 31st March 2023 for each maintained school. It must be noted that further to the DSG and other grants such as Pupil Premium, this year schools budgets also include additional Covid-19 related grants from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). Schools that converted to Academy status prior to 31st March are no longer reported by the Local Authority and therefore are not included within the figures.

- 2.3 The change in individual school balances can be attributed to several reasons:

- Some schools will have delayed or cancelled spending decisions due to the uncertainty around future years funding amounts.
- Some schools have chosen to apply balances in 2023/24 to maintain current staffing levels and class structures.
- Pressures on capital funding have led some schools to reconsider and reprioritise revenue resources to allow for the possibility of capitalisation in future years.

- 2.4 The table below provides a summary of the value of **surplus** balances held by maintained schools as at 31st March 2023 (excluding academy convertors).

Revenue balances FD01/FD02

Surplus	Nursery	Primary	Special	Total
£0k - £10k	0	7	0	7
£10k - £20k	1	6	0	7
£20k - £60k	0	27	1	28
£60k - £100k	1	18	0	19
£100k - £150k	0	16	0	16
£150k - £200k	1	11	0	12
£200k - £300k	0	12	1	13
£300k - £400k	0	2	0	2
£400k+	0	6	1	7

2.5 The table below shows the number and value of maintained schools that ended 2022/23 with a deficit revenue balance:

Deficit	Nursery	Primary	Special	Total
£100k+	1	3	0	4
£60k - £100k	1	2	0	3
£20k - £60k	1	3	0	4
£10k - £20k	0	3	0	3
£1k - £10k	1	1	0	2

3. Maintained Schools Balance Clawback Mechanism

3.1 Schools Forum previously agreed to a relaxation of the balance control mechanism for maintained schools. An excessive balance is therefore currently classed as:

- over 16% of ISB or £80,000 for nursery, primary and special schools

Or, where a school is below the national educational floor targets:

- over 8% of ISB or £40,000 for nursery, primary and special schools

3.2 Maintained representative of Schools Forum are asked to consider the reintroduction of a more rigorous balance control mechanism for maintained schools.

3.3 Where maintained nursery, primary or special balances exceed 10% of ISB or £50,000 schools will be required to provide details of planned expenditure, including any planned capital expenditure by means of completing a short survey. All supporting evidence should be retained in the school and would not be required to be submitted unless requested.

Any school that does not spend their excess on the stated purpose will need to produce documentation for a panel decision to determine whether the money can be kept by the school or be subject to claw back.

- 3.4 Where schools are categorised as requiring improvement or inadequate the Education directorate will discuss whether plans for using the excess balance will help to raise attainment and progress levels. Where categorised as inadequate, this intervention will be prior to conversion to academy status in consultation with the proposed academy sponsor.
- 3.5 If adopted it is proposed to have a sub-group of maintained representatives of Schools Forum to review the balances in more detail, decide on the appropriate action and manage any subsequent appeals.

4. Maintained Schools In or Facing Financial Difficulty

- 4.1 The number of schools reporting a deficit revenue position at the end of 2022/23 has increased when compared to previous years (a total of 16, compared to 13 at the end 2021/22).
- 4.2 As part of the 2023/24 budget setting process 12 maintained schools have submitted deficit budgets which will require a detailed licensed deficit application. Where a school does apply for a deficit licence, the application must include a multi-year recovery plan, detailing actions the school will be taking to repay the accumulated deficit.
- 4.3 The reasons for deficit budgets vary, but similar recurring themes include:
- Falling rolls between October 21 and October 22.
 - Operation of unsustainable staffing structures compared to overall pupil numbers.
 - Increase in staffing costs, not covered by funding uplifts.
 - Requirement to operate “additional” classes due to infant class size legislation.
- 4.4 Under the Cambridgeshire Scheme for Financing Schools, the authority may issue a Notice of Concern to the governing body of any school it maintains where, the school has failed to comply with any provisions of the scheme, or where actions need to be taken to safeguard the financial position of the local authority or the school.
- 4.5 Alongside those schools reporting a deficit position there are a number of schools where either a significant proportion of surplus balances have been used during 2022/23 or where the 2023/24 is reliant on balances to be applied to meet ongoing running costs. These schools will be written to, to highlight the risk of reliance on one-off reserves. Work is ongoing with these schools to monitor the in-year position and to support sustainable longer-term budget setting.

5. Schools Financial Value Standard (SFVS)

- 5.1 Local authority maintained schools were required to submit a completed SFVS statement to the local authority (LA) by 31st March 2023, with the LA required to submit an assurance statement to the ESFA by 31st May 2023.
- 5.2 At the time of submission of the LA assurance statement 125 of the 128 maintained school and PRU's had submitted completed SFVS statements. Of the 3 non-submissions, 2 schools were exempt, with the remaining 1 being addressed separately.
- 5.3 Schools are reminded that the majority of the SFVS return can be completed at any time during the financial year and as such we would encourage schools to complete and submit earlier in the year where possible.

6. Internal Audit Programme

- 6.1 To provide assurance regarding the efficacy of financial management in schools, Cambridgeshire County Council Internal Audit undertook a programme of visits to a further 12 maintained schools in 2022/23, aiming to provide assurance over the operation and compliance with local financial management and governance controls in these settings.
- 6.2 A letter detailing the key findings and areas of good practice has recently been circulated to all schools for information.
- 6.3 As a result of the audit findings the Schools Finance Team will be updating a number of the key guidance documents and regulations over the coming months which will be shared with schools in due course.
- 6.4 Following last years audit, a number of model internal financial policies have been developed for schools to adopt covering some of the key areas of weakness identified. These can be accessed at [Cambridgeshire Corporate Requirements - Learn Together \(cambbslearntogether.co.uk\)](https://cambbslearntogether.co.uk)

7. Academy Balances

- 7.1 Although the LA does not routinely collect information on academy revenue balances we have collated the latest information from the Academies Accounting Returns (AARs) which the DfE publish at: <https://schools-financial-benchmarking.service.gov.uk/Help/DataSources>
- 7.2 This information can be viewed at **Appendix B**, although it must be noted that this is based solely on the published "Revenue Reserve BNCH4401" information and as such has not been verified by the LA. Likewise, a growing number of academy trusts are reporting balances at a consolidated level and have therefore not submitted school level balances.

8. Overall DSG Position

- 8.1 As part of the final notes to the accounts there is a requirement to report the overall DSG position as at the end of 2022/23 and the total amount to be carried forward to 2023/24. For DSG purposes, grant allocated to the Individual Schools Budget (ISB) is taken to have been spent as soon as it is deployed – i.e. passed to schools' budget shares. There is no requirement to track DSG through the ISB to its use by individual schools, and changes in balances held by schools are not to be recorded in this note.

	Central expenditure	Individual schools budget	Total
Final DSG for 2022/23 before academy and high needs recoupment			560,452,606
Academy and high needs figure recouped for 2022/23			307,418,220
Total DSG after academy and high needs recoupment for 2022/23			253,034,386
Plus: Brought forward from 2021/22			0
Less: Carry-forward to 2023/24 agreed in advance			0
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2022/23	84,152,115	168,882,271	253,034,386
In-year adjustments	19,600,000	-621,303	18,978,697
Final budget distribution for 2022/23	103,752,115	168,260,968	272,013,083
Less: Actual central expenditure	97,003,792		97,003,792
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools		167,349,575	167,349,575
Plus: Local authority contribution for 2022/23	2,500,000	0	2,500,000
In-year carry-forward to 2023/24	9,248,323	911,393	10,159,716
Plus: Carry-forward to 2023/24 agreed in advance			0
Carry-forward to 2023/24			10,159,716
DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2021/22			-39,319,030
Addition to DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2022/23			0
Total of DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2022/23			-39,319,030
Net DSG position at the end of 2022/23			-29,159,314

- 8.2 Due to the continuing increase in the number of children and young people with an EHCP, and the complexity of need of these young people, the overall spend on the High Needs Block element of the DSG funded budgets has continued to rise. At the end of 2022/23 there was a net DSG overspend of £11.94m, which when added to the existing DSG deficit of £39.32m resulted in a revised cumulative deficit of £51.262m.
- 8.3 As a result of the Safety Valve Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education the local authority received an initial payment of £19.6m in March 2023 which will support the reduction of the overall DSG deficit. Alongside this, a local authority contribution of £2.5m

has been applied, resulting in a reduced cumulative deficit of £29.16m brought forward into 2023/24.

9. Growth Fund & Falling Roll Fund

- 9.1 As part of the budget setting process for 2023/24 Schools Forum approved a centrally retained Growth Fund of £1.7m:

	£000
Approved Growth Fund	£1,700
Diseconomies Commitments for new schools	£192
Primary Growth funding Commitments to date	£244
Secondary Growth funding Commitments to date	£1,481
Total Commitments as at 27th June 2023	£1,918
Current +Deficit / -Surplus	+£218
Estimated Recoupment Adjustment for Academies 5/12 th relating to 22/23	-£541
Revised +Deficit / -Surplus	-£324

- 9.2 There has been a significant increase in required growth funding for secondary schools, in part as a result of the expected increase in secondary numbers, but in part as a result of a 99.5% transfer rate between Year 6 and Year 7 compared to the average 95%. This has equated to approximately an extra 350 pupils / 11.5 classes being required across Secondary schools compared to the expected.
- 9.3 Further growth is anticipated as we move into the autumn term, and as such there is a risk that the Growth fund will overspend in-year. Updated figures will be presented to future Forum meetings alongside forecasts for the overall DSG.
- 9.4 Work will be ongoing with Place Planning colleagues to review pupil forecasts for 2024/25 and the required level of Growth Fund. Alongside this, consideration will need to be given to the implementation of a Falling Rolls Fund. In the recent response the consultation on "Implementing the National Funding Formula" the DfE has stated:

We intend, therefore, to remove the Ofsted restriction for 2024-25, and to require local authorities to use SCAP data in taking decisions and only provide funding where SCAP data shows that school places will be required in the subsequent three to five years.

- 9.5 Following the removal of the current restriction we intend to review the SCAP data to identify any schools which could potentially qualify for additional support as a result of temporary falling rolls. Further information will be presented to Schools Forum in the autumn round of meetings.

Appendix A – Maintained School Revenue Balances as at 31st March 2022 and 31st March 2023 as per FD01/FD02

<u>School Name</u>	<u>c/f 21/22</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>c/f 22/23</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>Fund 01</u> <u>C/fwd as %</u> <u>of budget</u>
Brunswick Nursery School	£77,955	-£2,957	
Colleges Nursery School	£172,463	£17,234	
Histon Early Years Centre	£27,607	-£22,092	
Homerton Children's Centre	£166,332	£83,257	
Huntingdon Nursery School	-£79,573	-£186,783	
Kings Hedges Nursery School	£95,258	£156,047	
The Fields Early Years Centre	-£83,471	-£65,717	
Total Nursery Schools	£376,570	-£21,010	
Abbots Ripton Primary School	£88,613	£97,711	19%
Alconbury Primary School	£22,634	£58,029	7%
Alderman Payne Primary School	£105,825	£125,572	21%
Arbury Primary School	£274,144	£331,335	18%
Ashbeach Primary School	£49,395	-£22,730	-4%
Barnabas Oley Primary School	£141,065	£155,441	24%
Barrington Primary School	£61,252	£62,916	11%
Barton Primary School	£77,876	£57,852	11%
Bassingbourn Primary School	£146,316	£165,509	10%
Beaupre Primary School	£105,287	£121,795	13%
Bellbird Primary School	£260,195	£238,920	13%
Benwick Primary School	£119,333	£127,908	22%
Bewick Bridge Comm. Primary School	£86,715	£158,458	16%
Brampton Village Primary School	£416,869	£586,126	24%
Brington Primary School	£69,887	£68,094	12%
Burrough Green Primary School	£90,373	£63,940	12%
Burwell Primary School	£578,315	£590,719	32%
Bushmead Primary School	-£41,731	-£17,772	-1%
Caldecote Primary School	£29,759	£21,558	3%
Castle Camps Primary School	£38,769	£28,165	4%
Cherry Hinton Primary School	-£42,121	-£13,976	-1%
Cheveley Primary School	£104,524	£87,477	14%
Clarkson Infant School	£179,155	£251,911	27%
Coates Primary School	£249,341	£218,806	26%
Colville Primary School	£262,069	£190,425	18%
Coton Primary School	£38,042	-£4,625	-1%
Cottenham Primary School	£286,203	£205,770	10%

<u>School Name</u>	<u>c/f 21/22</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>c/f 22/23</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>Fund 01</u> <u>C/fwd as %</u> <u>of budget</u>
Dry Drayton Primary School	£59,128	£41,023	10%
Duxford Primary School	£48,086	£20,128	2%
Eastfield Infant School	£26,425	£4,360	1%
Elsworth Primary School	£90,240	£69,177	12%
Elton Primary School	£64,411	£59,409	9%
Ely St John's Primary School	£67,960	£23,381	1%
Eynesbury Primary School	£6,442	£28,734	4%
Fawcett Primary School	£238,778	£155,463	10%
Fen Drayton Primary School	£10,885	£4,292	1%
Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School	£57,508	£108,244	11%
Folksworth Primary School	£33,273	£11,780	2%
Fordham Primary School	£673,218	£429,060	24%
Fourfields Primary School	£310,444	£276,542	14%
Fowlmere Primary School	-£977	£58,457	11%
Foxton Primary School	£57,846	£79,732	15%
Friday Bridge Primary School	£26,851	£27,864	5%
Fulbourn Primary School	£104,015	£152,163	12%
Great Abington Primary School	£24,618	£27,510	4%
Great Gidding Primary School	-£4,997	£15,737	4%
Great Paxton Primary School	£19,921	£7,890	1%
Great Wilbraham Primary School	£11,715	£34,675	7%
Grove Primary School	£49,726	£26,968	2%
Gt & Lt Shelford Primary School	£29,392	£33,206	4%
Hardwick and Cambourne Primary School	£338,696	£309,089	14%
Harston & Newton Primary School	£48,232	£22,145	4%
Haslingfield Primary School	£87,037	£147,385	22%
Hauxton Primary School	£67,781	£13,921	3%
Hemingford Grey Primary School	£125,055	£84,861	7%
Holywell Primary School	£7,895	£123	0%
Houghton Primary School	£78,985	£85,499	10%
Huntingdon Primary	£218,039	£129,502	7%
Isleham Primary School	-£3,737	£25,968	3%
Kettlefields Primary School	£100,387	£161,642	27%
Kinderley Primary School	£50,614	£44,293	9%
Kings Hedges Primary School	£596,392	£633,338	31%
Linton Infant School	-£60,729	-£84,107	-11%
Lionel Walden Primary School	£144,329	£102,138	11%

School Name	<u>c/f 21/22</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>c/f 22/23</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>Fund 01</u> <u>C/fwd as %</u> <u>of budget</u>
Little Paxton Primary School	£267,149	£264,058	17%
Little Thetford Primary School	£27,014	£67,365	13%
Littleport Primary School	£253,780	£222,248	12%
Manea Primary School	£108,914	£96,488	9%
Mayfield Primary School	£47,708	£9,189	1%
Melbourn Primary School*	£114,515	£89,248	5%
Meldreth Primary School	£67,052	£117,558	13%
Meridian Primary School	£30,717	-£35,586	-4%
Milton Road Primary School	£230,790	£197,496	11%
Monkfield Park Primary School	£591,339	£684,219	39%
Morley Memorial Primary School	£408,577	£212,496	13%
Newnham Croft Primary School	£71,061	£44,669	5%
Newton Primary School	£116,143	£113,408	28%
Orchard Park Comm. Primary School	£94,382	£14,406	2%
Over Primary School	£14,534	-£13,087	-1%
Park Street Primary School	£55,612	£78,150	13%
Pendragon Primary School	£198,539	£162,244	10%
Petersfield Primary School	£82,486	£77,435	13%
Priory Junior School, St Neots	£397,748	£402,824	28%
Priory Park Infant School	£211,348	£292,747	26%
Queen Edith Primary School	£280,196	£275,937	16%
Queen Emma Primary School	£125,744	-£61,565	-4%
Rackham Primary School	£157,638	£187,889	15%
Ridgefield Primary School	£209,284	£219,068	23%
Robert Arkenstall Primary School	£90,077	£89,343	7%
Sawtry Infant School	£86,600	£128,928	16%
Shirley Primary School	-£64,764	-£101,627	-6%
Spinney Primary School	-£201,348	-£138,839	-15%
Spring Meadow Infant School	-£20,697	£9,881	1%
St Alban's Primary School	£81,668	£11,579	1%
St Anne's Primary School	£65,694	£42,384	5%
St Helen's Primary School	£38,204	£10,604	1%
St Matthew's Primary School	£12,140	-£124,203	-5%
St Paul's Primary School	£166,441	£180,221	26%
St Philip's Primary School	£74,165	£51,057	4%
Steeple Morden Primary School	£63,264	£35,436	4%
Stretham Primary School	£118,812	£106,262	14%
Stukeley Meadows Primary School	£136,720	£89,132	5%

School Name	<u>c/f 21/22</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>c/f 22/23</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>Fund 01</u> <u>C/fwd as %</u> <u>of budget</u>
Sutton Primary School	£50,303	£4,933	0%
Swavesey Primary School	£100,493	£128,929	10%
Teversham Primary School	-£13,619	£56,922	6%
The Vine Inter-Church Primary School	£130,731	£20,401	1%
Thorndown Primary	£290,133	£249,447	11%
Townley Primary School	£101,183	£117,640	22%
Trumpington Meadows P	£128,996	-£28,467	-3%
Waterbeach Primary School	-£3,934	£30,361	2%
Westfield Junior School	£131,087	£78,983	6%
Wheatfields Primary School	£137,420	£123,945	8%
Wilburton Primary School	£91,557	£52,887	9%
William Westley Primary School	£82,889	£104,229	12%
Willingham Primary School	£107,485	£105,033	7%
Wyton Primary School	£19,295	£33,650	4%
Yaxley Infant School	£150,424	£93,483	14%
Total Primary Schools	£13,915,675	£12,608,354	
Castle Special School	£234,156	£40,378	
Granta Special School	£523,859	£667,233	
Samuel Pepys Special School	£334,349	£253,598	
Total Special Schools	£1,092,363	£961,209	
Overall Total	£15,384,608	£13,548,553	

Appendix B – Academy Revenue Balances as at 31st August 2021 and 31st August 2022 as per Academies Accounting Returns (AARs) – BNCH44001 – Revenue Reserves

<u>School Name</u>	<u>c/f 20/21</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>c/f 21/22</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>
Alderman Jacobs School	£385,000	£468,000
All Saints Interchurch Academy	£352,000	£252,000
Bar Hill Community Primary School	£58,000	£90,000
Bottisham Community Primary School	£63,000	-£33,000
Bourn CofE Primary Academy	£81,000	£89,000
Buckden CofE Primary School	£111,000	£68,000
Burrowmoor Primary School	£177,000	£375,000
Cavalry Primary School	£202,000	£146,000
Chesterton Primary School	£124,000	£151,000
Cromwell Academy	£200,000	£214,000
Crosshall Infant School Academy	£166,000	£324,000
Crosshall Junior School	£229,000	£284,000
Downham Feoffees Primary Academy	£123,000	£145,000
Earith Primary School	£56,000	£55,000
Elm Road Primary School	£170,000	£166,000
Fen Ditton Primary School	£167,000	£81,000
Gamlingay Village Primary	£38,000	£22,000
Girton Glebe Primary School	£74,000	-£66,000
Glebelands Primary Academy	£179,000	£242,000
Godmanchester Bridge Academy	£425,000	£387,000
Godmanchester Community Academy	£463,000	£329,000
Gorefield Primary School	£71,000	£35,000
Great Staughton Primary Academy	£58,000	£43,000
Hartford Infant School	£194,000	£207,000
Hartford Junior School	£93,000	£166,000
Hatton Park Primary School	£190,000	£281,000
Histon and Impington Infant School	£199,000	£124,000
Histon and Impington Junior School	£420,000	£580,000
Isle of Ely Primary School	£476,000	£478,000
Jeavons Wood Primary School	£64,000	£91,000
Kennett Primary School	£107,000	£102,000
Kimbolton Primary Academy	£31,000	£79,000
Kingsfield Primary School	£215,000	£334,000
Lantern Community Primary School	-£3,000	£132,000
Leverington Primary Academy	£185,000	£242,000
Linton Heights Junior School	£78,000	£114,000
Meadow Primary School	£216,000	£131,000
Middlefield Primary Academy	£19,000	£86,000
Millfield Primary School	£324,000	£351,000

<u>School Name</u>	<u>c/f 20/21</u> (+Surplus -Deficit)	<u>c/f 21/22</u> (+Surplus -Deficit)
Murrow Primary Academy	£272,000	£269,000
New Road Primary School	£128,000	-£99,000
Offord Primary School	-£45,000	-£79,000
Park Lane Primary & Nursery School	£436,000	£233,000
Pathfinder C of E Primary School (1)	£0	£0
Peckover Primary School	£276,000	£308,000
Ramnoth Junior School	£238,000	£316,000
Ramsey Junior School	£140,000	£84,000
Ramsey Spinning Infant School	£23,000	£22,000
Sawtry Junior Academy	£184,000	£270,000
Somersham Primary School	-£83,000	£88,000
Spaldwick Primary School (1)	£0	£107,000
St Laurence Catholic Primary School	£291,000	£424,000
Stapleford Community Primary School	£34,000	£92,000
The Icknield Primary School	£106,000	£49,000
The Nene Infant & Nursery School	£492,000	£485,000
The Round House Primary Academy	£375,000	£577,000
The Shade Primary School	£461,000	£447,000
The Weatheralls Primary School	-£629,000	-£616,000
Thomas Eaton Primary Academy	£40,000	£39,000
Thongsley Fields Primary and Nursery School	£454,000	£427,000
Trumpington Park Primary School	£621,000	£590,000
University of Cambridge Primary School	£432,000	£610,000
Upwood Primary Academy	£214,000	£218,000
Warboys Primary Academy	-£55,000	-£41,000
Westwood Primary School	£295,000	£293,000
Winhills Primary Academy	£84,000	£159,000
Wintringham Primary Academy	£515,000	£782,000
Total Academy Primary Schools	£12,079,000	£13,419,000
Abbey College, Ramsey	£505,000	£416,000
Bassingbourn Village College	£494,000	£491,000
Bottisham Village College	£1,211,000	£1,247,000
Cambourne Village College	£449,000	£275,000
Chesterton Community College	-£539,000	-£654,000
Comberton Village College	£540,000	£297,000
Cromwell Community College	£1,386,000	£1,216,000
Ely College	£68,000	£557,000
Hinchingbrooke School	£733,000	£761,000
Impington Village College	£813,000	£971,000
Linton Village College	£708,000	£670,000
Littleport & East Cambs Academy	£535,000	£331,000

<u>School Name</u>	<u>c/f 20/21</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>	<u>c/f 21/22</u> <u>(+Surplus</u> <u>-Deficit)</u>
Melbourn Village College	£449,000	£374,000
Neale-Wade Academy	£1,608,000	£2,048,000
North Cambridge Academy	£271,000	£395,000
Northstowe Secondary College (1)	£187,000	£212,000
Sawston Village College	£903,000	£957,000
Sawtry Village Academy	£620,000	£328,000
Sir Harry Smith Community College	£1,626,000	£1,363,000
Soham Village College	£1,374,000	£1,550,000
St Bede's Inter-Church School	£1,223,000	£1,373,000
St Peter's School	£519,000	£419,000
Swavesey Village College	£368,000	£1,259,000
The Netherhall School	£372,000	£212,000
Thomas Clarkson Academy	-£465,000	-£484,000
Witchford Village College	£116,000	£69,000
Total Academy Secondary Schools	£16,074,000	£16,653,000
Highfield Ely Academy	£321,000	£381,000
Highfield Littleport Academy	£786,000	£851,000
Meadowgate Academy	£491,000	£593,000
Spring Common Academy	£628,000	£627,000
Riverside Meadows Academy	£181,000	£525,000
The Cavendish School (1)	£0	£247,000
The Harbour School	£498,000	£683,000
The Martin Bacon Academy	£187,000	£402,000
Total Academy Special Schools	£3,092,000	£4,309,000
Overall Academy Total	£31,245,000	£34,381,000

Please note:

*(1) - New School or Recent Academy Convertor

The following schools are part of multi-academy trusts where individual school level balances have not been shown against the BNCH44001 Revenue Reserve heading in the 2021-22 Academy Accounting Returns (AARs):

Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust (DEMAT)

Babraham CofE (VC) Primary School
Bury CofE Primary School
Elm CofE Primary School
Ely St Mary's CofE Junior School
Ermine Street Church Academy
Farcet CofE (C) Primary School
Guilden Morden CofE Primary Academy
Guyhirn CofE VC Primary School
Holme CofE Primary School
Mepal and Witcham Church of England Primary School
Milton Church of England Primary School
Oakington CofE Primary School
Orchards Church of England Primary School
St Andrew's CofE Primary School
St John's CofE Primary School
St Luke's CofE Primary School
St Mary's Church of England Primary School St Neots
St Peter's CofE Aided Junior School
Stilton Church of England Primary Academy
Swaffham Bulbeck Church of England Primary School
Swaffham Prior Church of England Academy
Thriplow CofE VA Primary School
William de Yaxley Church of England Academy
Wisbech St Mary CofE Academy

Cambridge Academic Partnership

The Galfrid Academy
Cambridge Academy for Science and Technology
Coleridge Community College
Parkside Community College
Trumpington Community College

Astrea Academy Trust

Cottenham Village College
Ernulf Academy
Longsands Academy
St Ivo Academy
The Centre School

Unity Schools Partnership

Ditton Lodge Primary School

Early Years and Childcare Entitlement Changes 2023-2025

To: Schools Forum

Meeting Date: 14 July 2023

From: Jonathan Lewis – Service Director: Education

Recommendation: Schools Forum are asked to note and comment on changes to early years and childcare entitlement as outlined in the Spring Budget 2023.

Schools Forum are asked to note changes in consultation requirements for September 2023 early years hourly uplift.

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1. Background

- 1.1 Local Authorities retain several statutory duties to secure early childhood services, including but not limited to:
- Securing sufficient childcare for working parents.
 - Securing early years provision free of charge, 570 hours of funded childcare per year for the most disadvantaged two-year-olds, 570 hours of funded childcare per year for parents of three- and four-year-olds (the universal entitlement), an additional 570 hours of funded childcare per year for working parents of three- and four-year-olds (the extended entitlement)
 - Providing information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents.
 - Providing information, advice, and training to childcare providers.
 - Improving the well-being of children under five and reduce inequalities.
- 1.2 The Spring Budget 2023, increases activity in the work surrounding the local authorities' statutory duties. The Spring Budget creates the requirement to develop a phased programme of enhanced early years entitlement and the introduction of an entitlement for wraparound childcare for primary aged children shown in the table below –

Date	Group Impacted	Required Change
April 2024	2-year-olds of working parents	15hours a week funded, termtime only or as a stretch claim over the whole year.
September 2024	9 months to 3 years of working parents	15hours a week funded, termtime only or as a stretch claim over the whole year.
September 2024	Primary aged children	Before and after school childcare (8-6) termtime only- paid by parent/carers
September 2025	9 months to 3 years of working parents	30hours a week funded, termtime only or as a stretch claim over the whole year.

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 In addition, the government has announced an uplift to the early years hourly rate to deliver existing funded hours in September 2023. This will be allocated as a grant so will not require consultation. At the time of writing this paper, the final rate is not known but the latest position will be shared in the meeting.
- 2.2 The government will also provide start-up grants for new childminders. Childminders who register with Ofsted will receive a start-up grant of £600, whereas those who register with a childminder agency will receive £1,200.
- 2.3 In addition, Universal Credit childcare support will be paid up-front rather than in arrears and Universal Credit childcare cap will increase to £951 for one child (up from £646) and £1,630 for two children (up from £1,108).
- 2.4 The total national allocation for early years places equates £204m of additional funding 2023-2024, increasing to £288m by 2024-25. This funding is additional to the £4.1 billion that the government will provide by 2027-28 to facilitate the expansion of the new free

hours. The local authority will be passport most of the early years allocation, but the amount does also include LA implementation costs in line with grant conditions that are currently in place for centrally retained element of EY DSG.

- 2.5 The total allocation for wraparound childcare is £289m. This is not permitted to be used to fund places with the funding focused on the development of paid for childcare. The local authority awaits instruction, but it is understood local authorities will be required to enact current duties in the wraparound space and oversee grant allocations to childcare providers which will include schools and those provided by the PVI sector.

3. Resource Implications

- 3.1 The Department of Education has published a local data set that shows the predicted number of required early years places for Cambridgeshire. The market is already under pressure faced with a recruitment crisis and rising operating costs, we are working to secure current provision currently.

May 2023:GP Registered 0-4s	May 2023:Est. children using formal childcare	Anticipated new demand from April 2024	Anticipated new demand from September 2024
35200	19000	700	1700

- 3.2 The Department of Education has provided data that indicates that approximately 100 schools in Cambridgeshire have no wraparound in their local area or on school site. Of the remaining schools most only offer one type of wraparound provision. Demand for places has yet to be determined.
- 3.3 Demand estimates for the new entitlement and wraparound are uncertain. They are currently underpinned by judgement-based assumptions. We therefore have limited confidence in the data provided and are conducting a local forecasting exercise, this will be completed mid-August.
- 3.4 It is necessary to note that an inability to meet the needs of working parents of early years and primary aged children means Cambridgeshire would be in breach of statutory duties and impact on parent/carers ability to work or train and impacts negatively on children's outcomes.
- 3.5 It is unclear what local authority funding will be available to support capital and Officer time to support both programme of works.

4. Actions

- 4.1 As the policy and guidance emerges, the key actions the LA will be undertaking will be the following –

- Supply and demand survey / review planned with stakeholder engagement planned.
- Complete an updated forecasting model with a tool developed by Sheffield City Council
This has been used previously used to predict local early years and childcare forecasts.
- Cambridgeshire is represented at three DfE new policy development and co-design groups. This is enabling our voice around delivering this policy in a large rural authority to be delivered.
- Developing our workforce to meet the demand for new provision. Recruitment and retention support is available with a funded qualifications pathway.
- The impact of SEND and additional children requiring Early Support is underway.
- Support for breakfast clubs and out of school clubs is established.
- The pseud dynamic purchasing system (PDPS) is established for new early years providers and consideration of replicating this for wraparound providers is being considered.

4.2 It is proposed that progress is reported via the Service Director, Education at Children and Young Peoples Committee, to ensure teams are accountable and risks understood. Schools Forum views will be added to this report.

Cambridgeshire Schools Forum – Forward Agenda Plan

All meetings will be held at 10.00am unless otherwise specified. Some of the dates below may be retained as workshops / training sessions if a formal meeting of Forum is not required.

Date of meeting	Agenda Item	Report author	Reports due to reach Democratic Services by:
Friday 14 July 2023	Review of Proportionality and Membership	Jonathan Lewis/Democratic Services	Wednesday 5 July 2023
	Annual Schools and DSG financial health paper	Jonathan Lewis/Martin Wade	
	Early Years Funding Update	Jonathan Lewis	
Friday 3 November 2023 (2-5pm)	Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair (Annual)	Jonathan Lewis/Democratic Services	
	Update on Membership	Jonathan Lewis/Democratic Services	Wednesday 25 October 2023
	Budget Setting	Jonathan Lewis/Martin Wade	
Friday 24 November 2023 - Additional reserve date			

Wednesday 13 December 2023	Budget Setting	Jonathan Lewis/Martin Wade	Monday 4 December 2023
Friday 12 January 2024	Schools Forum meeting dates 2024-25	Democratic Services	
	Budget Setting	Jonathan Lewis/Martin Wade	
Friday 16 February 2024 (Reserve or workshop date)			
Friday 22 March 2024			
Wednesday 22 May 2024 (Reserve or workshop date)			
Friday 12 July 2024			

To be scheduled: