

### Schools Forum 20th January 2025 – Summary of Recommendations - Appendix 3

1. Herefordshire's school funding proposals for 2025/26 to adopt the national funding formula values (as per **Option C**) be recommended to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People as listed below:

- a) subject to a gains cap of 2.00% to ensure affordability, the statutory minimum total funding per pupil for primary and secondary schools, and including the Minimum Funding Guarantee at 0.0% (maximum allowed for 2025/26)
- b) NFF values used for 2025/26 (in bold) are as follows (with TPAG, TPECG and CBGG rolled into the second column):

	2024 to 2025 NFF values	Additions to baselines from grants	CSBG uplift (full year cost of the 2024 teachers' pay award)	2025 to 2026 NFF values
<b>Basic per pupil funding</b>				
<b><u>Basic entitlement</u></b>				
Primary basic entitlement	£3,562	£213	£51	£3,847 at 100%  <b>(£3,791 at 98.5% Option C)</b>
Key stage 3 basic entitlement	£5,022	£300	£71	£5,422 at 100%  <b>(£5,342 at 98.5% Option C)</b>
Key stage 4 basic entitlement	£5,661	£339	£80	£6,113 at 100%  <b>(£6,023 at 98.5% Option C)</b>

<b><u>Additional needs funding</u></b>	<b>2024 to 2025 NFF values</b>	<b>Additions to baselines from grants</b>	<b>CSBG uplift (full year cost of the 2024 teachers' pay award)</b>	<b>2025 to 2026 NFF values</b>
<b>Deprivation</b>				
Primary free school meals (FSM)	£490	£0	£0	<b>£495</b>
Secondary FSM	£490	£0	£0	<b>£495</b>
Primary free school meals Ever 6 (FSM6)	£820	£188	£45	<b>£1,060</b>
Secondary FSM6	£1,200	£277	£68	<b>£1,555</b>
Primary income deprivation affecting children index (IDACI) A	£680	£0	£0	<b>£685</b>
Primary IDACI B	£515	£0	£0	<b>£520</b>
Primary IDACI C	£485	£0	£0	<b>£490</b>
Primary IDACI D	£445	£0	£0	<b>£445</b>
Primary IDACI E	£285	£0	£0	<b>£285</b>

	2024 to 2025 NFF values	Additions to baselines from grants	CSBG uplift (full year cost of the 2024 teachers' pay award)	2025 to 2026 NFF values
Primary IDACI F	£235	£0	£0	£235
Secondary IDACI A	£945	£0	£0	£950
Secondary IDACI B	£740	£0	£0	£745
Secondary IDACI C	£690	£0	£0	£695
Secondary IDACI D	£630	£0	£0	£635
Secondary IDACI E	£450	£0	£0	£450
Secondary IDACI F	£340	£0	£0	£340
<b>Low prior attainment (LPA)</b>				
Primary LPA	£1,170	£0	£0	£1,175
Secondary LPA	£1,775	£0	£0	£1,785

	2024 to 2025 NFF values	Additions to baselines from grants	CSBG uplift (full year cost of the 2024 teachers' pay award)	2025 to 2026 NFF values
<b>English as an additional language (EAL</b>				
Primary EAL	£590	£0	£0	<b>£595</b>
Secondary EAL	£1,585	£0	£0	<b>£1,595</b>
<b>Mobility</b>				
Primary mobility	£960	£0	£0	<b>£965</b>
Secondary mobility	£1,380	£0	£0	<b>£1,385</b>
<b><u>School-led Funding</u></b>				
<b>Lump sum</b>				
Primary & Secondary lump sum	£134,400	£8,006	£1,915	<b>£145,100</b>
<b>Sparsity</b>				

	2024 to 2025 NFF values	Additions to baselines from grants	CSBG uplift (full year cost of the 2024 teachers' pay award)	2025 to 2026 NFF values
Primary sparsity (average year groups size of 21.4)	£57,100	£0	£0	<b>£57,400</b>
Secondary sparsity (average year group size of 120 pupil)	£83,000	£0	£0	<b>£83,400</b>
<b>Premises</b>				
Split sites (autism resource base at Hampton Dene Primary School complies with the DfE's new national split site factor criteria.)	£80,600	£0	£0	<b>£81,000</b>

Further information/approvals needed by School's Forum:

c) Business Rates – funded at estimated cost of £1,305,765.38

d) The council will continue to participate in the DfE's scheme for business rates payments to be paid centrally by the DfE in Whitehall.

e) Exceptional premises factor – an additional allowance for the lease of additional space to £17,000 to meet rent costs for Eastnor Primary School subject to DfE approval. A disapplication approval is required from the ESFA for this item following approval by schools forum.

f) PFI factor – increased to £363,156.82 to comply with PFI contract which uses the RPI(X) at 2.3% (annual increase specified by the DfE)

2. Additional growth funding of 30 KS3 (yr7) pupils at Aylestone School (September 2025 onwards). Growth has been represented as implicit growth and hence included as part of the funding formula in line with all other pupils in the Oct24 census. (Explicit growth = outside of the funding formula). This is in line with clarification from the ESFA on how to treat this pupil growth. The growth has been recommended and approved by the Council services.

3. Transfer to high needs block to support the SEN protection scheme, £690,827, to be approved by the Schools Forum.

4. That the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People be advised for information, that Schools Forum approved central support services funding for 2025/26, and advise the Cabinet member for Children and Young People for information, as follows:

- (a) Statutory retained duties £390,000
- (b) Schools Forum administration costs £20,000
- (c) School admission costs £100,000
- (d) National licences for schools £157,000
- (e) Additional funding for statutory duties for SEN casework team £0 (to be absorbed into Council budgets for 2025/26)
- (f) SACRE funding for statutory duties £10,000
- (g) Transfer to the high needs block £256,855

Any FTEs within these numbers will attract a salary cost + a share of corporate recharges (the cost of running the Council) which are apportioned by the Council across all cost centres by FTE number.

5. That, subject to the views of the Budget Working group, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People be advised for information, that local authority maintained school members, approve an increase of 2.36% in the de-delegation of funding & Education Management Function for 2025/26, and advise the Cabinet member for Children and Young People for information, as follows:

- (a) Trade union facilities for primary schools only be approved at £2.76 per pupil (2024/25 £2.70)
- (b) Trade union facilities for secondary schools only be provided for through a Service Level Agreement at £2.76 per pupil
- (c) School budgeting software licence at £441 per school (2024/25 £431/school)
- (d) Ethnic minority support at £1.22 per pupil plus £7.23 per Ever-6 Free school meals and £37.55 per English as an Additional Language three years (EAL3) (2024/25 £1.19, £7.06 and £37.19 respectively)
- (e) School meals entitlement assessment at £1.36 per primary pupil and £1.03 per secondary pupil (for local authority schools) (2024/25 £1.33 & £1.01 respectively)
- (f) Behaviour support service at £4.25 per primary pupil (2024/25 £4.15)
- (g) School improvement services at £6.25 per pupil (2024/25 £6.11)
- (h) Contingencies at £1.04 per pupil (2024/25 £1.02)
- (i) The statutory education services for non-academy schools be charged at £13.04 per pupil (2024/25 £12.74)

6. The early years funding formula for Herefordshire providers from April 2025 be increased as follows:

- (a) Two year olds – Families Receiving Additional Support: £7.47/hr (£7.34/hr 2024/25)
- (b) Two year olds – working families: £6.98/hr (£6.85/hr 2024/25)
- (c) Under two year olds - £9.71/hr (£9.51/hr 2024/25)
- (d) Three and four year olds: £5.47/hr with rurality now built into rate (£5/hr 2024/25)
- (e) Central retention at 2.7% (in line with 2024/25)
- (f) SEN inclusion fund (SENIF) £150,000 (in line with 2024/25) – to be funded across all rates and paid back out to providers based on SEN number.
- (g) Deprivation funding taken from all rates, and then paid back out to providers based on EYPP number. (Under 2s £0.76/EYPP pupil, 2 year old £0.53/EYPP pupil, 3&4 year old £0.44/EYPP pupil, in line with DfE 2025/26 Early Years output tables)