

Report Reference	Page Reference	Report Title	Purpose of Document	Recommendation	Schools Forum Decision
Item 1		Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies/Welcome New Members	Apologies from Michael Sullivan (Forest Hill), Nikki Oldhams (Chelwood Nursery) and Asfa Sohail (Lewisham Southwark College). Term of office expiration Rosamund Clarke (Primary Governor). New appointment Jacqueline Noakes, Primary Headteacher).		Apologies accepted & noted, thank you to Rosamund Clarke. Noted new appointee Jacqueline Noakes.
Item 2		Declaration of interests			None.
Item 3		Election of Chair and Vice-Chair	Nomination of Chair and Vice-Chair. Detail expressions of interests and vote.		Chair appointed - Matthew Ringham. Vice-Chair appointed effective January 2022 - Manda George.
Item 4	1-6	Minutes of the Meeting - 21 October 2021	To agree on minutes of previous meeting	Noted and agreed as accurate	Agreed as accurate.
Item 5		Matters Arising			
Item 6	7-15	Term Time Only	To provide Schools Forum with an update regarding the Term Time Only settlement and to define the timelines for the next steps.	<p><b>To note the following:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. <b>working towards</b> cash transfers in February for actuals.</li> <li>. Holdback to support leavers and individuals requiring personal calculations.</li> <li>. Prior year Growth Fund underspend - to reimburse schools with financial difficulties in June 2022/23 in line with Forum agreed criteria as part of this report.</li> <li>. Any remaining funds to be presented to Forum for deliberation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Schools forum is asked to consider and approve:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a.</b> School is engaging in an active Deficit Recovery Plan with Finance Service. Clear commitment from the school towards setting a 3 year balanced budget position.</li> <li><b>b.</b> Deficit is greater than 10% of their delegated budget share.</li> <li><b>c.</b> Extra factor has contributed to the schools financial position e.g. falling numbers in more than 2 consecutive years (but not a consequence of bulge class completion).</li> <li><b>d.</b> Overall view of Lewisham, is that the funding would support the school towards longer term financial stability.</li> </ul>	Noted. a, b, c, and d - Approved.
Item 7	16-22	Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2020-21 Outturn and 2021-22 Provisional Outturn Position	Report to update Schools Forum with regards to the final 2020/21 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) position in respect of Early Years Funding, and to provide an updated position on the 2021/22 DSG.	<p><b>To note the final 2020/21 Outturn position (Early Years) and to agree the application of funding as defined in this report.</b></p> <p><b>To note the ongoing pressure on the High Needs Block and the mitigation plan.</b></p> <p>Leaves a net balance of circa £721k to be redistributed amongst all providers. Due to the late notification of the final figures, it has not been possible to undertake a detailed review of data verses funding. However it is considered the fairest view would be to consider the total number of hours (pupils) supported by each provider and allocate this funding as a one off reimbursement. <b>Schools Forum is asked to agree the distribution on this basis.</b></p>	Noted. Noted. Distribution agreed.
Item 8	23-36	2022/23 Dedicated Schools Grant Mandate	For Schools Forum to consider and agree the main components of the funding formula that will enable Lewisham Council to provide a draft funding formula (known as the APT tool), to the Department for Education (DfE), in January.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1.</b> Agree continuation with the National Funding Formula in the deployment of the Schools Block. (Primary and Secondary)</li> <li><b>2.</b> Agree to any growth funding to be included on the APT tool, with a minimal amount in the Growth Fund Budget to fund incremental support for bulge class and potentially any unplanned in-year growth/bulges.</li> <li><b>3.</b> De-delegation in line with the current basis plus inflation. With regards school improvement - forum is asked to consider increasing the de-delegation to meet the shortfall or to agree to the reduction in service.</li> <li><b>4.</b> De-delegation – agree to receive a detailed report for consideration on functions previously supported by the Education Services Grant. Schools Contingency - Schools Forum to agree (Primary and Secondary).</li> <li><b>5.</b> Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) – consider two options for MFG:-  <b>A)</b> MFG set at max 2% (estimate), with any residue to support pressures in HNB. (Primary and Secondary)  <b>B)</b> potential 0.5% transfer from Schools Block to High Needs 2022/23, followed by MFG set at affordability.</li> </ol> <p>Forum is asked to agree that Lewisham undertakes a brief consultation with schools to be considered alongside the holistic DSG funding issue. Schools Forum to agree (Primary and Secondary)</p> <p><b>Schools forum is also asked to note</b> the continuation of financial risk associated with High Needs (demand led) and Early Years Funding (lack of clarity arising from COVID-related estimations, in payment terms and funding receivable).</p> <p><b>Schools forum is also asked to note and agree</b> to receive further updates as more information is made available at the January meeting and the Summer meeting.</p> <p><b>Schools forum is further asked to approve</b> the application of the increase in funding for EY as detailed in the report.</p> <p><b>Note</b> Finance will provide various models potentially 2 or 3 to facilitate the discussion on the 20th January including option for max. MFG and also option for allowing 0.5% transfer to high needs.</p>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (a) & (b) agreed. Noted. Noted and agreed. Application of the increase in funding for early years - approved. Finance to provide various models potentially 2 or 3 to facilitate the discussion on the 20th January including option for max. MFG and also option for allowing 0.5% transfer to high needs - noted. With regards pressure on school improvement, Schools Forum has requested supplementary information on the value add of Lewisham Learning to enable consideration of funding support for fall out of the school improvement and brokerage grant
Item 9		Any Other Business	Schools Forum papers for the 20th January meeting, will have a reduced dispatch period of potentially 3 days.	Schools Forum to note. Forum request for more qualitative information from Lewisham Learning.	Noted. Agreed - Sandra Roberts to provide qualitative information.

Agreed by

Angela Scattergood  
Matthew RinghamDirector Education Services  
Chair of Schools Forum