

Schools Forum Decision Sheet

Thursday, 17 October 2019

4.30pm – 6.30pm

Rushey Green Primary School,
Culverley Road,
Catford SE6 2LA

For more information contact: Vaughan Williams tel. 020 83148467
Email: Vaughan.williams@lewisham.gov.uk

Item	Pages
1. Decisions of Forum Meeting 17 October 2019	1

Summary of key decisions made.

Dates of Future Meetings

12 December 2019

16 January 2020

All meetings 4.30 to 6.30pm

Report Reference	Page reference	Report Title	Purpose of Document	Recommendation	Schools Forum Decision
Item 1		Apologies and Acceptance of Apologies	Note any apologies		
Item 2		Declaration of interests	Request for any declaration		
Item 3	1 to 10	Draft Minutes of the Meeting	For accuracy		
Item 4	1 to 10	Matters arising	Discussion of actions not on agenda		Secondary Heads to consider
		Secondary Head Reps			
Additional Item	Papers tabled and presentation	Verble update from Schools Funding 2020/21	Upate forum following the intial funding announcements	Schools Forum to note the headline information and the potential implications arising related to teachers pay grant	Noted.
Item 5	11 to 15	DSG 2019-20 update	This report provides a regular update on the DSG to Schools Forum. The report proposes a more formulaic approach the application of the Early Years 3 & 4 year old funding to better support clarity.	2.1.1. Note the contents of this report and to agree the formalisation of the formulaic approach to the three and four year old funding entitlement. 2.1.2. Agree the application of the final settlement for 2018/19 of £186k to the deprivation factor within the three and four year old entitlement funding to provide transitional support 2.1.3. Support a review of the Deprivation Factor (2020/21) for consideration by the Schools Forum. 2.1.4. Agree that the Head of Early Years brings an annual report to Schools Forum.	Noted. Agreed. Agreed. Agreed.
Item 6	16 to25	Schools Financial Health Check	1.1 This report provides Schools Forum with a schools' financial health check based on the 2019/20 Governing Body Approved Budget Plans. 1.2 The report also includes the local authority's response to the Department for Education' summer consultation "Financial Transparency of Local Authority Maintained Schools and Academy Trusts" 1.3 There is also an update on the changes progressed by Schools Finance team to support schools.	a. The overall position for Lewisham schools based on budget plans supplied suggests an extremely challenging landscape over the 3 year budget cycle. b. Review of previous year's data notes large volatility between budget plan position and outturn and for this reason the information must be treated with caution. The key goal is to work with schools so that a more reflective positon is presented at budget planning compared with outturn. c. Within budget plans there are assumptions. With regards to Pupil Premium there is an estimated reduction in pupil premium funding of net £702k, being a reduction of £932k offset with increases of £230k. This will further frustrate schools' ability to set a balanced budget.	Noted. Noted. Noted.
Item 7	26-29	Committed Funds Scheme	The purpose of this report is to provide Schools Forum with proposed process for considering the implementation of the Committed Funds Scheme as discussed at the last Schools Forum meeting. For clarification, this is a voluntary scheme and funds will continue to remain as part of the schools balances. It merely assists the schools to decipher between committed and non-committed funds for the benefit of budgeting.	2.1.1 Note the contents of this report 2.1.2 Recognise that the scheme is voluntary and is intended to support schools with established budgets for specific allowable commitments, to distinguish these from "business as usual funds". 2.1.3 Approve the operation of the scheme as set out in Appendix A	Noted. Noted. Ageed.
Item 8	30-102	Revised Scheme for Financing Schools	The purpose of this report is to provide Schools Forum with a revised Scheme for Financing Schools	2.1.1 Note the revisions stated, noting that DFE directives do not require consultation however local variations do require consultation. 2.1.2 Approve the consultation paper as attached for wider consultation with maintained schools 2.1.3 Agree the duration of the consultation to take place from 1st November to the 15th December with outcomes of the consultation to be presented to Schools Forum in January 2020.	Noted. Agreed. Agreed.
Item 9	103-108	High Needs Funding Update	Feedback from High Needs working group meeting	Feedback from High needs working group meeting	Noted.