School grants

09/03/2022

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**Details of who has been consulted with on this paper to date:** n/a

**Executive Summary:** Schools Forum review of schools grant administration arrangements.

**Details of recommendations and timescales for decisions:**

Schools Forum is asked to agree the grant administration arrangements explained in section 2, and not the grants currently available.

## Background

* 1. The council are responsible for pass-porting several grants to schools as issued by the government under the Department for Education (DfE), via the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and Teacher Reward and Incentives Division.
  2. The grants are determined using government criteria largely based on data provided by schools, usually via school census’. These are generally agreed at the beginning of each period (either financial or academic year).
  3. The Chief Finance Officer of the Council is primarily responsible for signing the grant claim and providing assurance that the income has been transferred to schools as per the grant conditions, from this point the responsibility for grant compliance usually sits with the schools. For selected grants the responsibility for compliance and associated risk of non-compliance falls to individual schools.
  4. The initial teacher training (ITT) grant is administered by the Teacher Reward and Incentives Division of the Department for Education and is allocated according to a direct contract with the schools receiving the grants. The local authority transfers grant income to the relevant schools only.
  5. This paper does not include reference to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which forms the ‘delegated’ funding available to schools and is subject to other monitoring and control systems.
  6. All grants listed below are ‘devolved’ to schools and have specific funding and reporting requirements, which should be considered when planning expenditure and monitoring income received. At the end of each financial year, schools should ensure accurate reporting of grant income received according to the Consistent Financial Reporting framework (CFR).

## Grant payment arrangements

The local authority will pay the income due to schools for the grants in two ways:

* 1. The school sixth form and pupil premium allocations are paid through the monthly advances, due to the significant values involved. Before confirmation they are paid as estimates, following confirmation the amount is adjusted, reconciled at the end of the financial year to ensure the grant is fully transferred.
  2. Remaining ad-hoc grant payments are made in the quarterly schedule following receipt of the income.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Income received (LA | Income transferred to schools |
| Quarter 1 | April – mid-June | End of June |
| Quarter 2 | Late June to mid-September | End of September |
| Quarter 3 | Late September to mid-December | End of December |
| Quarter 4 | Late December to March | End of March |

* 1. Those grants the local authority anticipate are continuing in 2022-23 are listed below with values to be updated. To assist schools, the terms and conditions for these grants are available on individual gov.uk web pages specific to each grant. All schools can access this information to assist the management of the grant income.
  2. Most continuous grants are allocated on pupil numbers, or pupil-based data. Provided the pupil numbers remain consistent to 2021-22, the grant is likely to have similar value in 2022-23. Should pupil numbers (or the relevant pupil characteristics) vary significantly, schools should take this into account when estimating expected grant income.

Individual grants and arrangements to passport is listed below paragraphs 3 and 4 below. An appendix to this report summarises the main grant information for reference

## Revenue recurring grants – paid through the monthly advances

* 1. [**Pupil Premium**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-allocations-and-conditions-of-grant-2021-to-2022/pupil-premium-conditions-of-grant-2021-to-2022-for-local-authorities)**.** Allocated on a fixed rate on the annual October census, for all statutory school age pupils registering as eligible for free school meals or have ever been in the previous six years in maintained primary, secondary & special schools. The grant is intended to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils of all abilities to reach their potential. All schools should post on their websites, a report on how this grant is used to make a difference to the pupil cohort targeted. Schools also receive funding for post-Looked After Children (LAC) and adopted from care pupils reported in the census.

In December each year, an adjustment is made to remove double funding of pupils, i.e. those funded from the schools census and individual LAC pupils funded by the local authority. This is the only element of the grant that can lead to an in-year change in allocation. The pupil premium individual LAC pupils remain with the responsible local authority and is paid to relevant schools subject to the conditions imposed by the individual authority responsible for the pupil.

For 2022-23 the local authority is not building in an estimated reduction in grant, as the difference in the number of pupils that are eligible and claiming FSM each year does not appear to have reduced since last year. If a pupil was eligible in any phase in October 2018, they will retain the eligibility until they leave that phase of education, thereby protecting numbers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Funding per pupil per phase/characteristics | £ |
| primary phase | £1,345 |
| secondary phase | £955 |
| Looked After Child, post adoption, special guardianship order or a child arrangement order | £2,345 |
| Ever 6 service child | £310 |

* 1. The[**School Sixth form funding**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/16-to-19-funding-how-it-works)allocations are made on basis of a national formula to derive the basic funding for institutions using national funding rates, which depend on the size of their students’ study programmes and as available in school sixth forms. The formula includes weighting for student support, and premiums for high value and advanced maths courses.  
       
     The grant is set up for payment in advance at the beginning of each financial year and is paid through monthly advances. Reconciliation takes place at the end of both the financial year and academic year to make sure schools have received the correct funding per period.

## Revenue recurrent grants – paid through quarterly Ad-hoc transfer

* 1. The **Teachers Pay Grant** and **Teachers Pension Employer Contribution grant** (TPECG) for statutory aged pupils was transferred to the core National Funding Formula in 2020-21. The grants support the teachers’ pay awards that came into effect in September 2018 and September 2019, and additional cost burden for teachers delivering to non-statutory age groups remain allocated as a grant. The pupil numbers used for early years is the January census, and for post 16: a full-time equivalent of the hours attended.
     1. [**Teachers Pay grant (TPG**)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-pay-grant-methodology/teachers-pay-grant-methodologyT) is paid per academic year, announced each October, for all early years pupils in schools and post 16 pupils in sixth forms It is intended to fund the difference between an expected increase of 1 per cent in teacher’s pay, and the actual increase. The grant is allocated to schools on a fixed per pupil basis, weighted for inner London costs

Per pupil rates Sept-Mar April-Aug

Primary (EYS) £32.62 £23.31

Secondary (6th form) £48.03 £34.31

Special and AP £121.44 £86.74

Rates for the 5-month period from April to August have been calculated as five-sevenths of the 7-month rates for September to March.

* + 1. The [**Teachers Pension Employer Contribution grant (TPECG)**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teachers-pension-employer-contribution-grant-tpecg) is also issued on an academic year basis, intended to fund the additional cost to the employer (a school) for the increase in the percentage on-cost of teacher’s pensions. As with the TPG, it is allocated to schools on a per pupil basis.

Per pupil rates Sept-Mar April-Aug

Primary (EYS) £92.20 £65.86

Secondary (6th form) £135.71 £96.94

Special and AP £336.53 £240.38

Rates for the 5-month period from April to August have been calculated as five-sevenths of the 7-month rates for September to March.

* 1. [**PE & Sport premium**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pe-and-sport-premium-conditions-of-grant-2021-to-2022)isawarded to primary schools and primary phase pupils in special schools. It is issued on an academic year basis, confirmed in each October, fixed in value for the year. The grant is calculated on a £16,000 lump sum per school, plus £10 per pupil, using the January census. Income is received in October and April and transferred to schools in the next quarterly transfer. For example, the April 2022 allocation (i.e. the remainder of the 2021-22 academic year), has been confirmed and will be paid in June 2022.

The grant must be used to fund additional and sustainable improvements to the provision of PE and sport, to encourage the development of healthy, active lifestyles. Schools should post a report on how this grant is used on their website

* 1. [**Universal Infant Free School Meals (uifsm)**](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/local-authorities-pre-16-schools-funding#universal-infant-free-school-meals-(uifsm)) Is allocated for infant phase pupils in all schools on an academic year basis. A fixed amount (£444.60) per pupil (or £2.34 per meal) is allocated for the number of pupils that took a meal, less those that are eligible for a free school meal in the same cohort. Schools receive a 12-month allocation in July of each year, which represents an advance estimate of the take up in the academic year, and a retrospective adjustment for actual take up in both the October and January census’.

## Non-recurring and / or application grants

* 1. [**16-19 Bursary fund**](https://towerhamlets2.sharepoint.com/sites/Team_FinanceService/Shared%20Documents/Strategic%20Finance%20-%20Children%20and%20Culture/School%20Forum/2021/f%201st%20December%202021%20-%20CANCELLED/5.%20School%20Grants/16-19%20Bursary%20fund) All schools with sixth forms can also apply on behalf of vulnerable pupils for additional bursary grant, in addition to the programme and discretionary bursary funding in the main grant.
  2. The **Schools Direct Salary** [**Initial teacher Training grant (ITT)**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/funding-initial-teacher-training-itt-academic-year-2019-to-2020) grant allocations depend on individual agreements made between the DFE, a teaching school and a sponsoring university. Candidates recruited can be employed by a single school or a wider partnership of schools. It is administered by the ITT Funding Team, with income received on an academic year basis. Schools must arrange for an independent audit each autumn before the new allocations are confirmed. Currently one school is funded under this scheme.
  3. The [**Summer schools**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-schools-programme)  programme is to deliver a short summer school with a blend of academic education and enrichment activities. This funding must be used for provision delivered during the school summer holidays. The funding allocates £597 per two week place secondary schools, and £1,791 per 2-week place for pupils in special schools.

Schools must keep a record of attendance, and must read the conditions, as they will be held accountable for the use of funds. Should the programme not take place or a school not comply with the conditions, funding can be withdrawn

* 1. [**Digital Education Platforms**](https://get-help-with-tech.education.gov.uk/digital-platforms#about-the-programme) Schools can apply for support to get set up on one of two free-to-use digital education platforms, provided they do not have one in place. Either:
* Google Workspace for Education Fundamentals (formerly G Suite for Education)
* Microsoft 365 Education (formerly Office 365 Education).

Grants support the establishment of online virtual classrooms, up to a value of £1,500 and are purpose-built for remote learning in a way that a school or college website is not.

Grants seeking to support schools dealing with the effects the national Covid-19 pandemic are time limited and issued as one-off targeted support. They are listed due to the possibility of extension depending on circumstances. Current main sources of support income are:

* 1. The [**Covid- workforce fund**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-workforce-fund-for-schools) grant initially ran for a limited period in the winter of 2020, and has been resurrected for a similar period in 2021 to support schools facing significant staff absences and financial pressures with the costs of staff cover for the period from 22 November 2021 to 18 February 2022. It contains a financial reserves criteria, limiting applications to schools with a less than 4 per cent surplus balance.
  2. [**Covid-19 National testing**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-national-testing-programme-conditions-of-grant-from-august-2021) Schools are able to claim exceptional costs related to coronavirus (COVID-19) mass testing direct to the DfE, provided these costs exceed other formulaic allocations made. Claims for exceptional costs related to coronavirus (COVID-19) mass testing can be made up until 12 May 2021. It will not be possible to grant any extensions to the deadline.
  3. The [**Covid Catch-up-premium**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-catch-up-premium-provisional-allocations) grant is allocated for 2020-21 academic year only and allocated to all schools on a head count basis (from the Oct 2020 census). Similar to the [pupil premium](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium/pupil-premium#use-of-the-pupil-premium), schools should use the sum available to them as a single total.
  4. [**Covid-19 Recovery Premium Funding**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-recovery-premium-funding-allocations) was announced in Feb 2021 as a one-off package of funding to support education recovery. The grants runs for the 2021-2022 academic year

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Funding per pupil per phase/characteristics | £ |
| primary & secondary mainstream | £145 |
| Special unit/school | £290 |

Schools should spend this premium on evidence-based approaches to support pupils. In line with the [Education Endowment Foundation’s pupil premium guide](https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/pupil-premium-guide/). The grant builds on the [pupil premium](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/pupil-premium-effective-use-and-accountability) principles, which should be used as a guide.

* 1. The[**National Tutoring Programme (NTP)**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-tutoring-programme-ntp) programme was initially a two year intervention intended to provide additional, targeted support for those children and young people in schools who have been most affected by disruption to their education as a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

In June 2021, it was announced the programme would be extend for a further 3 years, and the programme was widened in 2021-22 (academic year) to include:

* Tuition Partners (Match funded: Grant 70 per cent / School 30 per cent - Apply on NTP web site)
* Academic Mentors (Match funded Grant 95 per cent, School 5 per cent - Apply on NTP web site)

and

* School led Tutoring (Match funded Grant 75 per cent, School 25 per cent) an match fund from ISB or PPG)

The school led tutoring is allocated on a per pupil formula, and paid in 3 instalments over the academic year. It is a ringfenced grant to be spend in the 2021-22 academic year; cannot reallocate to other priorities; spend on staff costs only. The match funding cannot include elements 1 & 2 of the same grant, but can include pupil premium as well as the core schools budget.

Expenditure should include the match funding, and be reported on schools census’, and online form at academic year end. It could be recovered if not fully spent and in accordance with the grant conditions.

* 1. The [**Covid 2021 qualifications funding**](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfe-exam-support-service-claiming-costs/coronavirus-covid-19-dfe-2021-qualifications-funding-form-guidance)is to help eligible schools claim financial support through the 2021 qualifications funding claim service online form. This form allows you to claim for any or all these grants:
* [private candidate support grant](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/private-candidate-support-grant-information-for-exam-centres/private-candidate-support-grant)
* [priority appeals](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-appeals-centre-payments/priority-appeals-centre-payments)
* [autumn 2021 exam series](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/responsibility-for-autumn-gcse-as-and-a-level-exam-series/dfe-exam-support-service-autumn-exam-fees-sites-and-invigilators)

Eligibility for each grant is detailed in the guidance links above.

* 1. **Devolved Formula Capital Grant**

Devolved formula capital (DFC) is allocated for individual schools and other eligible institutions to spend on capital projects that meet their own priorities.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Funding per pupil / school | £ |
| All schools – per school | £4,000 |
| All pupils – per pupil | £11.25 |
| VA schools' per-pupil and per-school rates are 8 per cent higher | |

## New grants for 2022-21

* 1. The [**COVID 12 to 15 vaccination programme**](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1052221/COVID-19_12_to_15_vaccination_programme_funding_for_schools_conditions_of_funding.pdf) is awarded to all schools with a 12 -15 cohort (secondary phase), in April 2022. Participating schools that engage with the School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS) or local health teams will receive the funding, which will be monitored by NHS England and the DFE.  All relevant schools will receive £1,000 lump sum + £1.14 per pupil of relevant age in the January 2022 census.
  2. The [**schools supplementary grant**](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.uk%2Fgovernment%2Fpublications%2Fschools-supplementary-grant-2022-to-2023%2Fschools-supplementary-grant-2022-to-2023-methodology&data=04%7C01%7CSara.Walsingham%40towerhamlets.gov.uk%7C8eef5b8710f84c1b8fe408d9efd8984b%7C3c0aec87f983418fb3dcd35db83fb5d2%7C0%7C0%7C637804535804378557%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=tP5txnANj4L5%2BCPaz0dliW5CsUk7%2FH%2BlJqHkKWQ1%2FqA%3D&reserved=0)has been introduced to provide support for the costs of the Health and Social Care Levy and wider costs, (i.e. funding to meet the National Insurance uplift due next year). It is due to be transferred to the core school budget in 2023-24, but for early years and post schools, could continue as a grant (see TPG & TPECG). The use of this grant is flexible, to be prioritised by schools.

The formula values are subject to an area cost adjustment (ACA) uplift of 1.18623 (consistent with the DSG and other relevant grants).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Formula values (including ACA) | Per pupil  £ | Per FSM  £ | Lump sum per school |
| Early Years | £28 |  |  |
| Primary | £115 | £100 | £4,365 |
| Secondary |  | £147 | £4,365 |
| Secondary (KS3) | £162 |  |  |
| Secondary (KS4) | £184 |  |  |
| Post 16 | £41 |  |  |

Funding has been added to the High Needs block to include the Health and Social Care Levy. The rate of transfer is to be agreed with special schools and other specialist providers.

## Impact on academies and free schools

All academies and free schools are equally eligible for the grants referred to in this report, provided they fit the criteria. The non-maintained schools receive the funding direct from the government department responsible.

Appendix A, Summary of Grants for schools for information.