

NCC-038992-19 School clothing grants- ADDITIONAL DATA

Dear Requester,

Further to the below School Admissions has supplied me with the amounts that NCC has spent on School Grants since 2014/15.

Year	Total Payments
2014-15	£ 160.00
2015-16	£ 225.00
2016-17	£ 200.00
2017-18	£ 250.00
2018-19	£ 334.00

The extract from the annual report to Policy committee suggests that the maximum grant we would give is £50 but each case is considered individually.

Exceptional payments for school clothing and footwear 2019/20

13. School clothing allowances are discretionary and any allowance scheme must be funded by the County Council. Discretionary school clothing allowance has not been available since 2010/2011 for families living in Nottinghamshire. However, the County Council retains discretion to consider requests from families for support with clothing and footwear under exceptional circumstances. Discretionary payments of £334.00 were made during the 2018/2019 financial year (correct as at 7 December 2018).
14. In order not to fetter its discretion, the County Council must consider, under Section 510 of the Education Act 1996 and Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2002, requests for assistance from families in exceptional circumstances. This applies to all school age children and to families living outside the County if their children attend County schools.
15. Exceptional circumstances are defined as “families who have experienced and can demonstrate severe hardship which has resulted in the family being unable to afford the cost of school uniform and where this affects the ability of the children attending school”. Included in this category would be families who have lost clothes in a fire, a flood, theft, have been made homeless or are fleeing domestic violence.
16. In order to ensure that there is consistency and fairness in the amounts paid out under the category of exceptional circumstances, it is proposed to continue to adopt, as a guide only, a scale of payments up to a maximum allowance of £50 per qualifying pupil:
 - 25% of the full allowance to infant school children
 - 50% of the full allowance to junior school and year 11 children
 - 75% of the full allowance to other secondary school children.
17. This is a guide only, as the County Council must consider the circumstances of individual cases in order not to fetter its discretion.