

Meeting title: Nottinghamshire Schools Forum
Date and time: 12th December 2019, 2pm to 4pm
Location: Welbeck Hall, West Bridgford NG2 7QW

Membership

'A' denotes absence

A	Mr A Rossington	Maintained Primary Head Teacher
	Mr B Waldram	Maintained Primary Head Teacher
A	Mrs H Atkins	Maintained Primary Head Teacher – (Vice Chair)
A	Ms L Regan	Maintained Primary Head Teacher
	Ms L Toom	Maintained Primary Head Teacher
A	Ms L Corner-Brown	Maintained Primary Head Teacher
A	Mr D Phillips	Maintained Secondary Head Teacher
A	Mr A Seymour	Academy Representative
	Ms A Hall	Academy Representative
	Mr D Bell	Academy Representative
A	Dr Philip Smith	Academy Representative
	Mrs H Angus	Academy Representative
	Mr J MacDonald	Academy Representative
	Mr N Holmes	Academy Representative
A	Mr M Rooney	Special School Head Teacher
A	Ms P Corfield	Academy Special School Head Teacher
	Ms A Williams	Governor Maintained Primary
	Mr C Barnard	Governor Maintained Primary
A	Ms F Jones	Governor Maintained Primary
A	Ms J Smalley	Governor Maintained Special
A	Mr T Colton	Academy Governor
A	Ms L Gapski	PVI - Early Years Group Member
	Mrs K Richards	PVI - Early Years Group Member
	Mr C Cuomo	Diocesan Representative - (Chair)
	Mr J Jefferies	Trades Union Representative
	Ms L Maddison	Trades Union Representative

In attendance:

Mrs S Summerscales	Senior Finance Business Partner, Children & Families Finance
Mr S Hawkins	Finance Business Partner, Children & Families Finance
Ms M Stratford	Early Years Strategic Manager
Mrs T Gardner (Clerk)	Assistant Account, Children & Families Finance

1.	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Carlo welcomed all members to the meeting.</p>													
	<p>Apologies</p> <p>Apologies were received from Andrew Rossington, Helen Atkins, Lynn Corner-Brown, David Philips, Andy Seymour, Dr Philip Smith, Matt Rooney, Pauline Corfield, Fiona Jones, Joan Smalley, Tony Colton, Laura Gapski, Colin Pettigrew, Laurence Jones, and Marion Clay.</p>													
2.	<p>Minutes – 7th November 2019</p> <p><u>School Forum Constitution</u> In the event of a shift from one sector to another when we have full membership in place, Marion Clay advised that we have started a conversation but no resolution yet. There could be a natural change as schools convert and hope to have a further update at our next meeting.</p> <p>Minutes approved as accurate and correct</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>MC</p>												
3.	<p>3a – Schools & Early Years Consultation 2020-21</p> <p>Sue Summerscales presented the paper, and votes were taken.</p> <p><u>Question 5</u> In order to continue with the principle to mirror the NFF the local authority would need to increase the unit values for each factor as detailed in Appendix 1. Are you in agreement with this proposal?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="140 1025 1235 1099"> <thead> <tr> <th>Votes for</th> <th>Votes against</th> <th>Abstentions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Question 6</u> In order to continue with the principle to mirror the NFF as far as possible the local authority would need to set the MFG at 1.84% (subject to affordability). Are you in agreement with this proposal?</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="140 1301 1235 1375"> <thead> <tr> <th>Votes for</th> <th>Votes against</th> <th>Abstentions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Question 7</u> In order to continue with the principle to mirror the NFF as far as possible the gains cap would need to be removed (subject to affordability). Are you in agreement with this proposal?</p> <p>Sue Summerscales advised that if the formula was not affordable, we would need to re-look at the MFG (minimum funding guarantee) and / or the gains cap. The intention is for a forum working group to work with the local authority (LA) to make a collective decision.</p> <p>Halina Angus asked if we would know more for the January meeting? Sue Summerscales advised that we know the unit factors but not the pupil numbers so difficult to work the budgets through, and we won't have the required information for a decision at the January meeting. Carlo Cuomo suggested that we would need further financial modelling to assess the impact of changing either the MFG or the gains cap. It was agreed that if required forum members would be contacted by email to re-view financial modelling and a decision on whether to adjust the MFG or gains cap if affordability looked to be an issue.</p>	Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions	10	0	0	Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions	10	0	0	
Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions												
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Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
10	0	0

Question 8 (Primary section)

As a representative of a maintained primary school, do you agree to the de-delegation of the following in 2020-21:

A. Free school meals eligibility assessment?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
4	0	0

B. Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
4	0	0

C. Contingency for crisis communications?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
4	0	0

D. Trade Union Facilities?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
4	0	0

Question 8 (Secondary section)

As a representative of a maintained secondary school, do you agree to the de-delegation of the following in 2020-21:

There was no maintained secondary school representative present at the forum, Nottinghamshire only have 1 remaining maintained secondary school and they replied to the consultation therefore the votes were taken as the reply to the consultation.

A. Free school meals eligibility assessment?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
1	0	0

B. Support to underperforming ethnic minority groups and bilingual learners?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
1	0	0

C. Trade Union Facilities?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
1	0	0

Early Years consultation votes.

Ben Waldram asked for confirmation on the increase for the early years rate.

Sue Summerscales confirmed the following: -

10p for 19-20 will come from the 19-20 allocation. For 20-21 the 10p will come from the 20-21 allocation and the 8p is the general increase for Early Years that Nottinghamshire received.

Question 5

Do you agree with an increase in the hourly rate for funded 3 & 4 year old children from £4.17 to £4.35 (£0.08 + £0.10 per hour) given that this may be reduced in coming years?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
10	0	0

Question 6

Do you agree with the proposal to extend the existing criteria for the Deprivation Fund to include all 3 and 4 year old Looked After Children (LAC) as well as those identified as a Child in Need (CiN) and those on a Child Protection Plan (CPP)?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
10	0	0

Question 7

Do you agree with the proposal to extend the criteria of the Deprivation Fund to 3 & 4 year olds eligible for Early Years Pupil Premium at an hourly rate of £0.10 per hour?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
10	0	0

Question 8

Do you agree to increase the hourly rate for all eligible 2 year olds from £5.23 to £5.31 to reflect the increased funding to be received by NCC?

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
10	0	0

Question 9

After a discussion it was established that question 9 and 10 should have been an either or, as FSM's eligibility does not come into effect until a child is 3, forum members decided to void question 10 and only vote on question 9.

Mandy Stratford advised that the criteria for 2-year-old funding and free school meal (FSM) funding are the same. 2-year-old funded children go onto receive FSM funding.

Karen Richards suggested that the wording to question 10 was incorrect, Anne Hall agreed and suggested that it should have read 'meet the eligibility of FSM'

Do you agree with the proposal to extend the existing criteria for the Deprivation Fund to include 2-year-olds who are LAC/CIN/ CPP? This would be funded from the forecast 3-&4-year olds underspend.

Votes for	Votes against	Abstentions
10	0	0

Question 10

Do you agree to increase the hourly rate for 2-year-olds who are eligible for Free School Meals by a further £0.05? This would be funded from the forecast 3-&4-year-olds underspend.

Question void, no vote was taken.

<p>RECOMMENDATION/S</p> <p>That the Schools Forum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the content of the report – report noted 2. Undertakes the votes required to recommend the school and early years local funding formula for 2020-21 for approval by the County Council Policy Committee (date to be confirmed) and for submission to the ESFA on 21 January 2020 – votes were taken 3. Consider and agree the approach to be taken to ensure affordability of the 2020-21 formula – forum members decided that further discussion would be carried out via email communication if required. 	
<p>3b. DSG – Budget Monitoring</p> <p>Steve Hawkins presented the paper and confirmed that Appendix A, HNB, was showing a £1.5m overspend and Appendix B, Early Years Block, with autumn 19 data a £1.3m underspend.</p> <p>The 3 & 4 year old autumn data is showing a large dip in numbers as previous years, this is not the same for 2 year olds which is forecasting an overspend.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION/S</p> <p>That the Schools Forum</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Notes the content of the report – report noted 	
<p>3c. Funding Presumption for Free Schools</p> <p>Steve Hawkins presented the paper and explained that a ‘presumption’ free school is not run by the Local Authority (LA), but by a trust.</p> <p>The process is by tender after the LA have identified basic need. Nottinghamshire already have Hucknall Flying Primary which opened September 2019, we have Rosecliffe (Sharp Hill) opening September 2020 with another 3 in the next few years.</p> <p>Table 2 was explained, and members were informed that the schools would have a guaranteed number of funding, regardless of numbers admitted for the first 7 years which would come from the growth fund allocation.</p> <p>Halina Angus asked where the other three schools were expected to open and were, they all primaries.</p> <p>Areas that are being looked at are Netherfield, Bingham and East Leake, Steve Hawkins confirmed these were all primary schools.</p> <p>Ben Waldram asked why new schools were being built instead of current schools being extended and has the effect on other schools been considered.</p> <p>Karen Richards asked if the school should open with all year groups, with guaranteed funding as shown in table 2, and will other schools be compensated?</p> <p>Steve Hawkins will take this back to the Place Planning team, schools would need all year groups to accommodate all ages moving into the area.</p>	

	<p>Ly Toom asked if funding would be adjusted once known numbers are confirmed? Steve Hawkins confirmed this was guaranteed pupil funding and there would be no adjustment based on actual pupil numbers.</p> <p>Forum members would like to discuss and see evidence that all these schools are needed and requested that Mike Sharp attend the next meeting. Item to be placed back on the agenda for the February meeting.</p>	TG			
4.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Members agreed that the January meeting was no longer required, and this was to be cancelled</p> <p>Amanda Williams asked if Nottinghamshire has a falling roll policy and if not would the Local Authority (LA) investigate this as there are schools in Stapleford struggling due to a fall in pupil numbers. Albany Infants, schools in Trowell are also seeing a drop in pupil numbers.</p> <p>Karen Richards informed members that the early years sector was also seeing a fall in numbers, with around 8.6% fewer children. Birth rates are falling, and we need to be mindful of this especially as the Local Authority (LA) are looking at opening new free schools.</p>	TG			
5.	<p>Confidentiality</p> <p>No item marked confidential</p>				
6.	<p>Date and time of next meeting</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="145 1167 1153 1205"> <tr> <td>Thursday 18 June 2020</td> <td>2-4pm</td> <td>Welbeck Hall, West Bridgford NG2 7QW</td> </tr> </table>	Thursday 18 June 2020	2-4pm	Welbeck Hall, West Bridgford NG2 7QW	
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