

10. 2021-22 De-delegation

1.1 The Local Authority (LA) is required to consult the primary and secondary maintained school representatives on the Schools Forum every year about de-delegation of many centrally-held budgets. De-delegated funds are a deduction from maintained schools' budget shares, after calculation of Schools Block allocations. De-delegation can only apply to maintained primary and secondary school budgets. Academies, free schools, special schools, PRUs and nurseries cannot de-delegate. However, they can choose to buy into the same de-delegated services on a traded arrangement, at an agreed per pupil rate or in the case of special schools and PRUs by a per place amount.

1.2 Decisions on De-delegation must be taken at the Schools Forum by primary and secondary sector representatives separately, every financial year. It requires the agreement of a simple majority of the maintained representatives for the relevant phase on the Schools Forum on a recommended per pupil basis.

1.3 De-delegated budgets can change within the financial year, decreasing when schools convert to academies, but rising if maintained schools expand, or independent schools join the maintained sector.

1.4 For the 2021-22 financial year, the LA is requesting the same de-delegation items as 2020-21, with indicative rates matching those of last year:

1. Behaviour Support Services (currently de-delegated by primaries but not secondary schools)
2. Support to UPEG (underperforming ethnic groups) and bilingual learners ("Narrowing the Gap")
3. Staff costs – supply cover for (trade union) facility time
4. Schools Contingency
5. Additional School Improvement Service

1. The **Behaviour Support** budget funds part of the work of the Inclusion Advisory Team's (previously called the high incidence support team or HIST) work with maintained primary schools and the de-delegation rate is proposed to remain unchanged at **£3.08 per pupil**

2. Work on **narrowing the gap** with maintained schools is funded by the de-delegation from maintained primary and secondary schools. The de-delegation rates are proposed to remain unchanged at **£11.35 (Primary) and £10.69 (Secondary) per pupil**, based on FSM Ever 6 pupil numbers.

3. Staff costs for **trade union duties** funds the salaries of officials of the various unions representing staff in maintained schools. The budget is supplemented by income from a traded service that enables academies to contribute to these costs. The de-delegation rates are proposed to remain unchanged at **£1.59 (Primary) and £1.50 (Secondary) per pupil**.

4. The centrally held **School contingency** is held for circumstances which were unforeseen when the school's budget share was initially determined; an example of the use of contingencies would be the funding of additional **NDR (business rate) costs** following a re-valuation. It is proposed that the de-delegation rates for 2021-22 remain at **£8.59 per pupil for both Primary and Secondary schools**.

5. For **Additional School Improvement Service**, it is proposed to retain rates of **£3.96 per Primary pupil and £3.73 per Secondary pupil**. This funding will be used to support the Learning Network Inspector Team to carry out the following core statutory functions:

- Monitoring maintained schools to identify those that may require intervention
- Intervening in underperforming maintained schools
- Commissioning of support for schools subject to intervention

However, it should be noted that there remains some uncertainty around the School Improvement grant. In 2019-20 an extra £200k was requested from schools in order to guard against the possibility that this grant would be discontinued. As this did not happen, and the grant did continue, this £200k remains within the DSG reserve to guard against the discontinuation of the grant in the current year, 2020-21. As it stands, this grant has only been confirmed from April 2020 until August 2020. Should the grant continue again to March 2021, the £200k will roll over to next year. If the grant is discontinued at the end of March 2021, the £200k will be utilised in its place in 2021-22, but it would then be necessary to ask for de-delegation of funding to make up the shortfall and the rates for this line of de-delegation may be raised to the 2019-20 level of £11.28 for primary schools and £5.83 for secondary schools.

Recommendation – The Schools Forum is asked to approve:

- The continuation of de-delegation of the following items on the same basis as 2020-21 for 2021-22.

De-delegation	£ per pupil	Primary	Secondary
Behaviour Support	£3.08	yes/no/abstain	
Narrowing the Gap	£11.35 (primary) £10.69 (secondary)	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain
Trade Union Duties	£1.59 (primary) £1.50 (secondary)	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain
School Contingency	£8.59	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain
Additional School Improvement Services	£3.96 (primary) £3.73 (secondary)	yes/no/abstain	yes/no/abstain

Primary and secondary representatives of maintained mainstream schools are required to vote separately on each budget.