



Cabinet

Title	School Funding Report
Date of meeting	16 th January 2024
Report of	Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb (Portfolio Holder for Family Friendly Barnet and Lead Member for Children’s Services)
Wards	All
Status	Public
Key	Key
Urgent	No
Appendices	<p>Appendix 1 – Detailed Breakdown of DSG Schools Block</p> <p>Appendix 2 – Detailed Breakdown of DSG CSS Block</p> <p>Appendix 3 – Detailed Breakdown of Early Years Block</p> <p>Appendix 4 – Detailed Breakdown of High Needs Block</p> <p>Appendix 5 – Funding Rates and Pupil Numbers used to calculate school budgets.</p> <p>Appendix 6 – Indicative School Budget Share Allocations 2024-25</p>
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Summary	

This annual report on school funding arrangements updates Cabinet on the school funding position in relation to Barnet schools. Due to the timing of when the information was released by the DfE the proposal for School Funding 2024-25 was only approved by Schools Forum on 11.01.24 hence why this report is only being circulated now.

The report describes the main features of Barnet’s Schools Budget for 2024/25 and seeks approval for the formula funding to be used in the Authority Proforma Tool submission (which sets out the local funding formula for Barnet primary and secondary schools and thus indicates the level of funding under the formula for each school). This includes a Minimum Funding Guarantee of +0.5%, which means that every primary and secondary school will receive an increase in funding per pupil of at least this percentage in 2024/25 (through the pupil-led element of the schools funding formula) above the amount it received in 2023-24.

For maintained schools this is the case before any adjustments to their budgets, as a result of changes to de-delegation or to the amount deducted for services previously funded from the Education Services Grant.

Recommendations

1. That Cabinet note the annual report on school funding in Barnet.
2. That Cabinet approve the formula funding to be used in the Authority Proforma Tool (which specifies the authority’s funding formula for schools) on the basis of paragraphs 1.18 to 1.24, which includes a Minimum Funding Guarantee of +0.5% and means that every primary and secondary school will receive an increase in funding per pupil of at least this percentage in 2024/25, (through the pupil-led element of the schools funding formula), while any schools gaining from the introduction of the National Funding Formula will not have their gains capped.
3. Authorises the Executive Director for Children’s Services, in consultation with the Lead Member and Executive Director for Resources and Strategy, to approve the final Authority Proforma Tool for submission to the DfE.

1. Reasons for the Recommendations

1.1 This report updates Cabinet on the Barnet Schools Budget for 2024/25 and seeks approval for the formula funding to be used in the Authority Proforma Tool, which specifies the authority’s funding formula for schools.

2023-24 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Forecast Outturn

1.2 At month 9, the reported DSG Forecast Outturn is £1.823m favourable variance against the budget of £265.806m as set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1 – 2023-24 DSG Forecast Outturn

	2022-23 Outturn	2023-24 Budget (Final Allocation)	2023-24 Forecast Outturn after reserves applied	2023-24 Variance

	£m	£m	£m	£m
Expenditure				
Schools Block:				
Individual Schools Budget	152.267	160.196	159.571	(0.625)
ESG Retained Funding	0.700	0.700	0.700	0
Growth fund	0.384	1.761	0.563	(1.198)
Central School Services	2.344	2.369	2.369	0
Sub-total	155.695	165.026	163.203	(1.823)
Early Years Block	29.181	31.390	31.390	0
High Needs Block	60.975	69.390	69.390	0
Sub-total	90.156	100.780	100.780	0
Grand Total	245.851	265.806	263.983	(1.823)
Income				
DSG Income	(250.692)	(265.806)	(265.806)	
DSG Balance	(4.841)	0	(1.823)	(1.823)

1.3 Within the Schools Block, the underspend of £0.625m against individual schools budget is due primarily to timing differences in repayment of cash advances previously paid to a number of schools experiencing cash flow difficulties. The forecast expenditure of £0.700m against the ESG retained funding matches the budget.

1.4 After agreed funding of £0.394m for Hasmorean High School for Boys (additional places required to meet demand, met by opening a satellite in an ex school building in Camden) and £0.169m for Underhill (as a result of the closure of Grasvenor Infant Academy nearby and the transfer of pupils to Underhill), against the budget of £1.761m, the growth fund is forecast to underspend by £1.198m. The underspend is due to an independent school withdrawing its application to be a VA school.

2023-24 DSG Forecast Reserves:

Table 2: DSG Forecast Reserves as at M9

DSG reserves	B/Fwd	Use of Reserve	Top Up Reserve	C/Fwd
	£'000	£ '000	£'000	£ '000
DSG Reserve	(9,711)	2,916	(1,823)	(8,618)

1.5 The DSG reserve brought forward balance into 2023-24 was £9.711m. The Schools' Forum has agreed to use up to £1.000m of reserves to fund the Hong Kong & Afghanistan Refugees and Asylum Seekers from one of the five dedicated hotels, joining our schools in Barnet, of which £0.213m was spent in 2022-23 and the remaining balance of £0.787m is planned to be utilised in 2023-24. The criteria was expanded to include new arrivals from Israel and Gaza in October 2023. In addition, a further £1.000m is earmarked for therapies (High Needs) and £1.129m of Early Years is confirmed and subject to DfE clawback due to a smaller number of children at Early Years.

1.6 The breakdown of the £2.916m use of reserves is summarised as follows.

Charges to Reserves	£'000
Hong Kong & Afghanistan Refugee/Asylum Seeker, Israel/Gaza Support	787
Therapies (High Needs)	1,000
Early Years Clawback	1,129
Total	2,916

The financial position in individual schools

1.7 Schools across the country are facing significant challenges in balancing their budgets. These financial pressures have not spared the schools in Barnet. Some of the key factors contributing to this are:

- Rising staff costs
- Increasing energy bills.
- Post COVID-19 pandemic impact
- Increase in the number of pupils with SEND
- Families moving out of the borough resulting in a drop in pupil numbers

1.8 As a result, more and more schools are using their reserves to stay afloat and, where there is no such cushion, are going into deficit. The table below summarises the number of LA maintained schools that have a surplus or a deficit revenue balance over three years. It needs to be noted that figures for the financial year 2023-24 are from the Quarter 2 budget monitoring projection reports from schools and the situation may improve by year end.

	FY 2021-22		FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24 Q2	
	Surplus	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit	Surplus	Deficit
Nursery		2		2		2
PRU	2		2		1	1
Primary	52	21	48	25	33	37
All-through	1		1		1	
Secondary	6		6		4	
Special	3		3		3	
Total	64	23	60	27	42	40

1.9 The primary sector is forecasting a significant increase in the number of schools expecting to post a deficit in 2023-24.

1.10 The table below summarises the total amount of cumulative revenue reserves held over three financial years by types of school. This shows significantly reduced reserves in primary schools which impacts on the projected overall reserve for the end of 23-24, a projected reduction from £11.4m (total reserve) in 21/22 to £1.01m projected at the end of 23/24.

	FY 2021-22 (£'000)	FY 2022-23 (£'000)	FY 2023-24 Q2 (£'000)	Movement (£'000)
Nursery	(181)	(540)	(441)	(260)
PRU	719	604	384	(335)
Primary	6,206	3,916	(1,563)	(7,769)
All-through	1,265	1,222	1,038	(227)
Secondary	1,769	2,359	1,187	(582)
Special	1,653	1,193	406	(1,247)
Total	11,431	8,754	1,011	(10,420)

1.11 The council supports LA maintained schools facing financial difficulties by providing challenge and scrutiny on proposed recovery plans should a school be unable to set a balanced budget, and by agreeing cash advances for schools that have cash flow difficulties, subject to agreement on a recovery plan.

The Barnet Schools Budget for 2024/25

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is paid in support of the LBB schools' budget and is the main source of income for the schools budget.

1.12 Local authorities are responsible for determining the split of the grant between central expenditure and the individual schools budget (ISB) in conjunction with local schools forums. Local authorities are responsible for allocating the ISB through the ESFA Authority Proforma Tool (APT) to individual schools in accordance with the local schools' funding formula.

1.13 The London Borough of Barnet mirrors the National Formula Funding values in its local funding formula and will continue to do so in 2024-25.

1.14 The DSG is made up of four blocks:

- **Schools Block (SB)**
- **Early Years Block (EYB)**
- **High Needs Block (HNB)**
- **Central School Services Block (CSSB)**

1.15 The **Schools Block (SB)** allocates funding for pupils in Reception to Year 11 in state-funded mainstream schools and academies

1.16 The **Early Years block (EYB)** funds early education entitlements for 2-, 3- and 4- year-olds in private, voluntary, and independent settings, maintained nursery schools and school nursery classes. In 2024-25, the 2-year-old funding has been extended beyond disadvantaged families to include 2-year-olds of working parents and new funding for children of 9 months up to 2 years old, of working parents.

1.17 The **High Needs Block (HNB)** supports provision for vulnerable children and young people, mainly those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) from their early years to age 25, enabling both local authorities and institutions to meet their statutory duties under the Children and Families Act 2014.

1.18 The Department for Education (DfE) created a **Central School Services Block (CSSB)** in 2018/19, using the baseline of the schools block in 2017/18. The CSSB covers funding for historic commitments and funding for ongoing and statutory responsibilities.

1.19 The DfE announced allocations of the gross DSG to local authorities on 19th December 2023. The figures confirm the Schools Block and the Central School Services Block. However, the High Needs Block and the Early Years Block are indicative at this stage and will change during 2024.

The net DSG allocation to the local authority shows that there is growth across all four blocks as follows:

- Schools Block - £6.026m (3.7%)
- High Needs Block - £2.077m (3.0%)
- Early Years Block - £13.934m (44.4%)
- Central School Services Block - £0.115m (4.9%)

TOTAL = £22.152m (8.3%)

Table 1 : Dedicated Schools Grant Analysis

	Schools £m	High needs £m	Early Years £m	Central Services £m	Total £m
Final Allocations for 2024-25					
Gross DSG	£333.129	£77.678	£45.324	£2.485	£458.615
Less: Academies Recoupment	-£160.968				-£160.968
Less: NNDR	-£3.478				-£3.478
Less: HN Place Funding		-£6.210			-£6.210
Net DSG	£168.683	£71.468	£45.324	£2.485	£287.960

	Schools £m	High needs £m	Early Years £m	Central Services £m	Total £m
Final Allocations for 2023-24					
Gross DSG	£317.168	£75.339	£31.390	£2.369	£426.267
Less: Academies Recoupment	-£151.611				-£151.611
Less: NNDR	-£2.901				-£2.901
Less: HN Place Funding		-£5.949			-£5.949
Net DSG	£162.657	£69.390	£31.390	£2.369	£265.807

Additional Funding	£6.026	£2.077	£13.934	£0.115	£22.152
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Allocations by block

1.20 **Schools Block** - The 2024/25 SB Income is based on the following rates:

- £5,425 Primary unit of funding based on 29,353.5 primary pupils (October 2023 census)
- £7,129.1 Secondary unit of funding based on 23,635.5 secondary pupils (October 2023 census)
- £5.386m of funding for Pupil Growth and Premises factors

TOTAL = £333.129m (Gross funding – subject to deductions for recoupment and NNDR)

A more detailed breakdown of the Schools Block is shown at [Appendix 1](#)

1.21 **Central School Services Block** – The 2024/25 CSSB for Barnet includes the following:

- £2.333m – allocation for ongoing responsibilities (includes retained duties, admissions, licensing and Schools Forum administration)
- £0.152m – Historic commitments allocation, a 20% reduction from 2023/24.

TOTAL = £2.485m

A more detailed breakdown of the Central Services block is shown at [Appendix 2](#)

Early Years Block – The Early Years Block is estimated using early years numbers taken from the Early Years and Schools census in January 2023. An update to the 2024/25 EYB allocation will be made once the January 2024 Early Years and Schools census numbers are finalised. The allocation will be updated in July 2024 based on the January 2024 census numbers. For 2024 to 2025, the 95% pass-through requirement will apply separately to the entitlements for:

- 9-months-old children up to 2-year-olds of working parents
- 2-year-old children of working parents
- 2-year-old children from disadvantaged families
- 3 and 4-year-olds (universal and additional hours)

1.22 For 3 and 4-year-olds, there is no change, and the pass-through requirement will apply to the universal and additional hours in combination. However, for 2-year-olds and under, the requirement will apply to each of the entitlements individually.

- It has been confirmed that the hourly rate received by Barnet for 3- and 4-year-olds has increased from £6.41 to £6.74.
- The DfE funding rate for 2-year-olds disadvantage entitlement has been increased by £2.67 from £6.92 to £9.59.
- In 2024-25, early years funding was extended to 2-year-olds of working parents and children under 2 year olds. Additionally, £11.079m was allocated for this purpose. These children will also attract early years pupil premium and disability access fund.

TOTAL = £45.324m

A more detailed breakdown of the Early Years block is shown at [Appendix 3](#).

High Needs Block (HNB) - The provisional HNB income for Barnet has been calculated as follows:

- £70.794m - High Needs National Funding Formula allocation
- £4.696m - based on a £5,194.16 per pupil Area Cost Adjustment (ACA) weighted base rate * 904 (pupils in special schools/special academies based on the October 2023 census)
- £1,248m - Import/export adjustment for net 208 imported pupils
- £0.940m – hospital education and teachers’ pay and pension

TOTAL = £77.678m (Gross funding – subject to deductions for high needs place funding)

The final import/ export adjustment data will be amended based on January 2023 School and FE providers’ High Needs pupil census data.

A more detailed breakdown of the High Needs block is shown at [Appendix 4](#)

APT submission to the DfE

1.23 The council is required to submit a completed Authority Proforma Tool (APT) to the DfE annually, which shows all the detailed calculations and assumptions underpinning the proposals for allocating budgets to schools. For Academies and Free Schools, it captures the data required by the Education and Schools Funding Agency (EFSA) to calculate academy budgets and recoupment deductions to the gross DSG.

1.24 The completed APT must be submitted no later than 22 January 2024. The main purpose of APT tool is to:

- allow LAs to model different options for their SBF formulae and to act as the proforma which is submitted to the DfE in January of each year; it is also the mechanism by which the DfE provide the schools block dataset
- capture all of the data the DfE require to calculate academy budgets, including information on the number of occupied high needs places at special units and resourced provision in mainstream academies, to determine the place funding rate
- enable the DfE to check that the formula has been applied reasonably and in compliance with regulations and conditions of grant, and that central budgets are being allocated in line with regulations
- enable the DfE to check that all funding allocated through the schools block element of the dedicated schools grant (DSG) is passed through the funding formula set, or allocated to the growth fund or falling rolls fund
- collect data on maintained schools' schools block budgets for publication
- use the notional allocations for academies for recoupment purposes
- give DfE information about academies and future converters
- to provide data for use by DfE in modelling the national funding formula (NFF) allocations for the following year

Indicative school budget shares for 2024-25

1.25 Appendix 5 shows the funding rates, the pupil numbers and the total funding allocated via each formula factor in calculating the 2024-25 school budget shares. As in the previous year, Barnet continues to mirror the national funding formula rates.

1.26 For 2024-25 financial year the mainstream schools additional grant (MSAG) has been included in the DSG for 2024 to 2025. To ensure schools do not lose funding as a result of this change, additional funding has been added to each school's MFG baseline. The amount added reflects the number of pupils included in the school's MFG baseline.

1.27 The allocation for the Schools Block is based on October 2023 school census data. A proposed Minimum Funding Guarantee of +0.5% means that every Primary or Secondary school will receive at least this percentage increase per pupil through the formula in 2024-25 (through the pupil-led element of the schools funding formula) above the amount it received in 2023-24.

1.28 In addition, each primary school is guaranteed a minimum of £4,610 per pupil and each secondary school is guaranteed to receive at least £5,995 per pupil in 2024-25.

1.29 Appendix 6 shows the indicative school budget shares for 2024-25 for both maintained and academy schools. These may be subject to data corrections and will be verified by the DfE before

final confirmation to schools. The figures do not include Growth, Post-16, Early Years, or SEN funding.

Growth Fund

1.30 Local Authorities (LAs) are responsible for funding the growth needs of all their schools in their area, including new and existing maintained schools and academies. LAs must fund growth needs to all schools on the same criteria. Schools Forum is required to approve the Growth Fund criteria.

1.31 The Growth Fund can only be used only to:

- support growth in pre-16 pupil numbers to meet basic need
- support additional classes needed to meet the infant class size regulation
- meet the costs of new schools (these are new schools identified from the latest census data)
- meet the revenue costs, for schools, of removing or repurposing surplus places

1.32 The growth fund must not be used to support:

- schools in financial difficulty: any such support for maintained schools should be provided from a de-delegated contingency
- general growth in individual schools (due to popularity) where there is no overall pupil number growth in the local area. This is managed through lagged funding. This includes cases where academies have admitted above pupil admission numbers (PAN) by their own choice

1.33 Local Authorities should report any unspent growth funding remaining at the year end to the schools forum. For local authorities that have an overall DSG surplus, funding may be carried forward to the following funding period.

1.34 The costs of new schools will include the lead-in costs and will also include post start up and diseconomy of scale costs. Growth Fund support should be provided where academies are created to meet basic need.

1.35 For 2024-25, the DfE has set minimum per pupil funding (MPPF) amounts for primary schools at £4,610 and for secondary schools at £5,995. In view of this change it is proposed to amend the existing Growth Fund criteria to reflect the MPPF values, where new classes start in September/the autumn term of the financial year 2024-25. This will increase the amounts payable to primary schools from £77,088 to £80,675 and for secondary schools; from £100,013 to £104,912.50 for each new class of 30.

1.36 Schools Forum is also required to approve the size of the Growth Fund, which is estimated to be £1.089m.

1.37 Growth Criteria:

- “Bulge classes opened at the request of the local authority - £10,000 one-off start-up grant plus £80,675 (7/12 x £4,410 x 30) for a primary class of 30 opening in September. £104,912.5 (7/12 x £5,995 x 30) for a secondary class of 30 opening in September.

- Permanent expansions approved by the local authority - £77,088 (7/12 x £4,405 x 30) for a primary class of 30 opening in September, £100,013 (7/12 x £5,715 x 30) for a secondary class of 30 opening in September.
- Temporary accommodation costs incurred as a direct result of LA approved expansions.
- Independent schools transferring to VA status - Allocation based on funding formula pro-rata for months open, based on previous actual pupils on roll, plus permanent expansion funding if appropriate.
- Newly established schools for which the LA is responsible to provide start-up up funding - Start-up funding of £220,000 primary / £300,000 secondary in LA financial year of opening.
- New school phases (expansions to all-through status): New phase start-up funding of £50,000 primary / £90,000 secondary in LA financial year of opening.
- Diseconomies of scale funding will be available to new basic needs academies and maintained schools opening new phases until there are pupils in every year group. No diseconomies of scale funding will be available to independent schools which become maintained. Diseconomies of scale per empty year group, paid from year after opening until pupils in all year groups. Academies are paid these rates in the current financial year with a further 5/12ths payment to cover the full academic year.”

Falling Rolls

- 1.38 For the first time in 2024 to 2025 the department will allocate funding based on falling rolls.
- 1.39 Funding will be allocated based on the reduction in pupil numbers that Medium Super Output Areas (MSOA) within each local authorities experience for each year. It is based on the observed differences between the primary and secondary number on roll in each MSOA in a local authority between the most recent October pupil census and the census in the previous October.
- 1.40 The falling rolls allocation for each local authority will be £140,000 per MSOA which sees a 10% or greater reduction in the number of pupils on roll between the 2 census years. These allocations will be subject to an ACA.
- 1.41 Local authorities have the discretion over whether to operate a falling rolls fund. For a school to be eligible for falling role fund 2022 SCAP must shows that school places will be required in the subsequent 3 to 5 years. This is a mandatory requirement. Currently, there are no Barnet schools with falling role that meet the SCAP requirement.

Split site funding:

- 1.42 In 2024 to 2025 ESFA introduced a national formulaic approach to split sites funding, which replaces the previous local authority-led approach. The new split sites factor is compulsory for all local authorities, ensuring that split sites funding will be allocated consistently and fairly across the country.

The factor is made up of 2 parts, both of which are compulsory:

- basic eligibility funding: a lump sum payment for each of their additional eligible sites
- distance funding: additional funding on top of the basic eligibility lump sum for schools whose eligible sites are separated by more than 100 metres (by road distance) from the main site

The basic eligibility criteria for split sites funding requires additional sites to:

- be part of the main school, that is, to share the same unique reference number (URN) with the school's main site
- be separated from the school's main site by a public road or railway
- have a building on them which is maintained by the school and which is primarily used for the education of 5 to 16- year-old pupils in mainstream education. This excludes playing fields, 'ancillary buildings' and buildings leased out full time by the school to another entity.

1.43 Split sites funding is by default included in the baseline calculation within the APT. As such, any loss in funding for schools which have previously benefited from their local split site factor is automatically protected through the MFG.

Schools Block				
	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Change	Percentage
Primary unit of funding	£5,149.5	£5,425.0	£275.5	5.4%
NOR Primary	29,671.5	29,353.5	-318.0	-1.1%
Primary schools allocation	£152,793,686	£159,243,032	£6,449,346	4.2%
Secondary unit of funding	£6,786.2	£7,129.1	£342.9	5.1%
NOR Secondary	23,383.5	23,635.5	252.0	1.1%
Secondary schools allocation	£158,684,874	£168,499,371	£9,814,497	6.2%
Premises Factor (inc. NNDR)	£3,161,735	£3,817,084	£655,349	20.7%
Growth Factor	£2,528,127	£1,569,074	-£959,053	-37.9%
Schools Block (before deductions)	£317,168,422	£333,128,561	£15,960,139	5.0%
Deductions				
Academies Recoupment	-£151,610,676	-£160,967,599	-£9,356,923	6.2%
NNDR Allocation	-£2,900,580	-£3,477,701	-£577,121	19.9%
Schools Block (post deductions)	£162,657,166	£168,683,261	£6,026,095	3.7%

Appendix 2 Detailed Breakdown of DSG Central Services Block

Central School Services Block				
	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Change	Percentage
CSSB unit of funding	£41.1	£44.0	£2.9	7.2%
CSSB pupil count	53,055.0	52,989.0	-66.0	-0.1%
CSSB allocation	£2,179,500	£2,332,576	£153,076	7.0%
Historic Funding Commitments	£189,928	£151,943	-£37,985	-20.0%
Total CSSB	£2,369,428	£2,484,519	£115,091	4.9%

Appendix 3 Detailed Breakdown of DSG Early Years Block

Early Years				
	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Change	Percentage
Hourly Rate for 3 and 4 Year Olds EYNFF	£6.41	£6.74	£0.33	5%
NOR and 4 Year Olds Universal Entitlement	5,588.10	5,588.10	£0.00	0%
Allocation for 3 and 4 year Olds (15 hours)	£20,417,241	£21,468,363	£1,051,122	5%
NOR 3 and 4 Year Old additional 15 hours	1,963.91	1,963.91	0.00	0%
Allocation for 3 and 4 Year Olds (30 Hours)	£7,175,538	£7,544,949	£369,411	5%
Hourly Rate for 2 Year Olds	£6.92	£9.59	£2.67	39%
NOR 2 Year Olds Disadvantage entitlement	716	716	0.00	0%
Allocation 2 Year Olds Disadvantage entitlement	£2,824,822	£3,914,746	£1,089,924	39%
NOR 2 Year Olds working parents entitlement		1,199	1,199	
Allocation 2 Year Olds working parents (new entitlement)		£6,556,171	£6,556,171	
Hourly rate for Under 2s entitlement		£13.06	£13.06	
NOR for Under 2s entitlement		607.67	£607.67	
Allocation under 2s entitlement (new entitlement)		£4,523,618	£4,523,618	
Initial Allocation for 2 Olds	£2,824,822	£14,994,535	£12,169,713	431%
Pupil Premium	£162,423	£280,646	£118,223	73%
Disability Access Fund	£150,696	£230,230	£79,534	53%
Hours Rate for Nursery Schools Funding	£3.80	£4.64	£0.84	22%
NOR for Nursery School Funding	304.5	304.5	£0	0%
Indicative Funding for Nursery Schools	£659,547	£805,342	£145,795	22%
Total Early Years Block	£31,390,267	£45,324,066	£13,933,799	44%

Appendix 4 Detailed Breakdown of High Needs Block

High Need Block				
	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Change	Percentage
Total high needs elements in the funding floor and gains calculations	£65,334,166	£70,794,226	£5,460,060	8.4%
Basic Entitlement Unit of Funding	£5,200.81	£5,194.16	-£6.65	-0.1%
Number of pupils (in special schools and academies)	867	904	37	4.3%
Basic entitlement (area cost adjusted)	£4,509,103	£4,695,521	£186,418	4.1%
Import and Export Adjustment	£1,248,000	£1,248,000	£0	0.0%
Additional Funding for Special Free Schools	£330,000	£0	-£330,000	-100.0%
Pay and Pension / Supplementary Funding	£918,286	£939,974	£21,688	2.4%
Additional High Needs Allocation	£2,999,718	£0	£2,999,718	-100.0%

Total High Needs Block (before Deductions)	£75,339,273	£77,677,721	£2,338,448	3.1%
High Needs Block Deductions				
Mainstream				
pre 16 SEN Places at £6,000	£685,500	£678,000	-£7,500	-1.1%
Pre 16 SEN Place at £10,000	£73,334	£90,000	£16,666	22.7%
Post 16 SEN Places at £6,000	£30,000	£30,000	£0	0.0%
Special Academies				
Pre 16 SEN Places at £10,000	£1,776,667	£1,810,000	£33,333	1.9%
Post 16 SEN Places at £10,000	£810,000	£810,000	£0	0.0%
Special Free Schools				
Pre 16 SEN Places at £10,000	£580,000	£780,000	£200,000	34.5%
Post 16 SEN Places at £10,000	£140,000	£140,000	£0	0.0%
AP Academies and Free Schools				
SEN Places at £4,169				
Alternative provision (AP) academies and free schools				
Pre-16 AP Places	£17,500	£30,000	£12,500	71.4%
16-19 Academies and Free Schools				
SEN Place at £6,000	£36,000	£42,000	£6,000	16.7%
FE Colleges and ILP's				
SEN Places at £6,000	£1,800,000	£1,800,000	£0	0.0%
Total High Needs Block Deductions	£5,949,001	£6,210,000	£260,999	4.4%
High Needs Summary				
Total High Needs Block (before Deductions)	£75,339,273	£77,677,721	£2,338,448	3.1%
Less: Total High Needs Block Deductions	£5,949,001	£6,210,000	£260,999	4.4%
Total High Needs Block (after deductions)	£69,390,272	£71,467,721	£2,077,449	3.0%

Appendix 5 Funding Rates and Pupil Numbers used to calculate school budgets.

Appendix 6 – Indicative School Budget Share Allocations 2024-25

LAESTAB	School Name	2023/24 Pupils	23-24 Post MFG Budget	Minimum per pupil funding: post MFG minimum funding per pupil rate	2024/25 Pupils	24-25 Post MFG Budget	Minimum per pupil funding: post MFG minimum funding per pupil rate	Change in Pupils	Change in Post MFG Budet	% Change in Post MFG Budet	Change in Per Pupil MFG
3023520	Akiva School	421	£1,866,673	£4,405	421	£1,955,412	£4,610	0	£88,739	5%	£205
3023317	All Saints' CofE Primary School N20	211	£1,102,039	£5,204	206	£1,149,370	£5,557	-5	£47,331	4%	£352
3023300	All Saints' CofE Primary School NW2	162	£1,036,291	£6,378	161	£1,091,888	£6,759	-1	£55,597	5%	£381
3022020	Alma Primary	200	£959,281	£4,779	193	£993,804	£5,128	-7	£34,523	4%	£349
3024013	Ark Pioneer Academy	824	£5,737,446	£6,902	901	£6,678,624	£7,346	77	£941,178	16%	£444
3025406	Ashmole Academy	1304	£8,173,014	£6,200	1302	£8,586,569	£6,514	-2	£413,555	5%	£314
3022050	Ashmole Primary School	422	£1,967,111	£4,491	421	£2,079,699	£4,735	-1	£112,588	6%	£244
3022002	Barnfield Primary School	419	£2,328,107	£5,484	415	£2,393,496	£5,680	-4	£65,389	3%	£196
3022079	Beis Yaakov Primary School	414	£1,855,801	£4,413	414	£1,943,014	£4,610	0	£87,212	5%	£197
3023524	Beit Shvidler Primary School	205	£1,017,705	£4,925	207	£1,074,207	£5,143	2	£56,502	6%	£218
3022003	Bell Lane Primary School	346	£1,934,888	£5,529	374	£2,191,135	£5,789	28	£256,247	13%	£260
3025408	Bishop Douglass School Finchley	734	£5,651,409	£7,668	754	£6,033,259	£7,965	20	£381,850	7%	£297
3023511	Blessed Dominic Catholic Primary School	411	£2,178,662	£5,291	414	£2,274,410	£5,482	3	£95,748	4%	£191
3023519	Broadfields Primary School	643	£3,341,073	£5,160	643	£3,610,746	£5,572	0	£269,672	8%	£412
3022008	Brookland Infant and Nursery School	270	£1,456,856	£5,321	260	£1,468,747	£5,556	-10	£11,890	1%	£235
3022007	Brookland Junior School	359	£1,758,699	£4,843	353	£1,815,251	£5,074	-6	£56,553	3%	£231
3022009	Brunswick Park Primary and Nursery School	423	£2,186,421	£5,075	419	£2,255,031	£5,268	-4	£68,610	3%	£193
3022067	Chalgrove Primary School	219	£1,216,224	£5,418	218	£1,260,893	£5,620	-1	£44,669	4%	£202
3022010	Childs Hill Primary School	418	£2,317,339	£5,472	412	£2,416,457	£5,778	-6	£99,117	4%	£306
3023302	Christ Church Primary School	210	£1,043,816	£4,948	203	£1,077,174	£5,278	-7	£33,357	3%	£330
3024211	Christ's College Finchley	822	£5,735,272	£6,932	847	£6,203,821	£7,272	25	£468,549	8%	£340
3022011	Church Hill School	211	£1,113,703	£5,179	205	£1,135,156	£5,414	-6	£21,454	2%	£236
3023522	Claremont Primary School	302	£1,778,166	£5,866	268	£1,673,473	£6,215	-34	£104,693	-6%	£349
3022014	Colindale Primary School	626	£3,338,286	£5,154	627	£3,537,731	£5,428	1	£199,446	6%	£274
3022015	Coppetts Wood Primary School	221	£1,313,762	£5,785	193	£1,219,753	£6,101	-28	£94,009	-7%	£316
3024210	Copthall School	770	£5,598,526	£7,246	798	£6,186,188	£7,724	28	£587,662	10%	£477
3022016	Courtland School	210	£1,069,712	£4,995	211	£1,150,479	£5,334	1	£80,767	8%	£339
3022017	Cromer Road Primary School	415	£2,060,892	£4,872	415	£2,157,869	£5,087	0	£96,977	5%	£215
3022073	Danegrove Primary School	626	£3,217,014	£5,004	631	£3,484,036	£5,307	5	£267,021	8%	£304
3022019	Deansbrook Infant School	209	£1,216,834	£5,738	169	£1,061,816	£6,158	-40	£155,017	-13%	£420
3022018	Deansbrook Junior School	298	£1,567,692	£5,240	293	£1,626,132	£5,525	-5	£58,441	4%	£285
3022021	Dollis Primary School	397	£2,216,485	£5,437	372	£2,178,653	£5,669	-25	£37,832	-2%	£232
3024212	East Barnet School	1119	£7,323,410	£6,482	1104	£7,669,841	£6,871	-15	£346,431	5%	£389
3022023	Edgware Primary School	425	£2,342,884	£5,456	411	£2,363,355	£5,680	-14	£20,471	1%	£224
3022001	Etz Chaim Jewish Primary School	159	£811,451	£4,979	166	£894,520	£5,246	7	£83,070	10%	£267
3022024	Fairway Primary School and Children's Centre	202	£1,196,959	£5,674	206	£1,290,140	£5,967	4	£93,181	8%	£293
3025405	Finchley Catholic High School	895	£5,741,720	£6,386	891	£6,016,051	£6,717	-4	£274,331	5%	£331
3022025	Foulds School	321	£1,514,546	£4,612	313	£1,559,962	£4,853	-8	£45,416	3%	£241
3024003	Friern Barnet School	740	£5,597,154	£7,482	724	£5,793,388	£7,901	-16	£196,234	4%	£420
3022026	Frith Manor Primary School	453	£2,277,490	£4,933	440	£2,320,494	£5,157	-13	£43,004	2%	£224
3022028	Garden Suburb Infant School	239	£1,355,680	£5,591	219	£1,352,902	£6,071	-20	£-2,778	0%	£480
3022027	Garden Suburb Junior School	336	£1,724,221	£5,073	329	£1,774,426	£5,322	-7	£50,205	3%	£249
3022029	Goldbeaters Primary School	418	£2,367,917	£5,604	421	£2,478,422	£5,814	3	£110,505	5%	£210
3025409	Hasmonean High School for Boys	537	£3,424,193	£6,298	575	£3,852,857	£6,613	38	£428,664	13%	£315
3024014	Hasmonean High School for Girls	426	£2,745,527	£6,346	425	£2,855,186	£6,599	-1	£109,659	4%	£253
3023516	Hasmonean Primary School	199	£1,022,604	£5,055	194	£1,049,832	£5,309	-5	£27,227	3%	£254
3025400	Hendon School	1048	£7,724,926	£7,342	1035	£7,999,805	£7,694	-13	£274,880	4%	£352
3022031	Hollickwood Primary School	187	£1,135,833	£5,969	190	£1,225,351	£6,325	3	£89,518	8%	£356
3022032	Holly Park Primary School	422	£2,108,114	£4,933	432	£2,278,584	£5,202	10	£170,470	8%	£268
3023304	Holy Trinity CofE Primary School	199	£1,068,832	£5,353	202	£1,161,017	£5,726	3	£92,185	9%	£373
3023515	Independent Jewish Day School	201	£966,930	£4,726	204	£1,026,960	£4,934	3	£60,030	6%	£208
3025427	JCoSS	993	£6,913,388	£6,908	987	£7,125,093	£7,154	-6	£211,705	3%	£246
3022036	Livingstone Primary and Nursery School	215	£1,315,855	£6,011	208	£1,329,317	£6,255	-7	£13,461	1%	£244
3026905	London Academy	1379	£9,297,262	£6,676	1404	£9,881,561	£6,960	25	£584,300	6%	£284
3022037	Manorside Primary School	205	£1,111,534	£5,287	210	£1,195,586	£5,535	5	£84,052	8%	£248

LAESTAB	School Name	2023/24 Pupils	23-24 Post MFG Budget	Minimum per pupil funding: post MFG minimum funding per pupil rate	2024/25 Pupils	24-25 Post MFG Budget	Minimum per pupil funding: post MFG minimum funding per pupil rate	Change in Pupils	Change in Post MFG Budet	% Change in Post MFG Budet	Change in Per Pupil MFG
3023523	Martin Primary School	619	£3,154,036	£5,003	621	£3,398,062	£5,362	2	£244,027	8%	£359
3025948	Mathilda Marks-Kennedy Jewish Primary School	206	£975,890	£4,669	193	£980,922	£4,995	-13	£5,032	1%	£326
3025949	Menorah Foundation School	343	£1,573,981	£4,496	315	£1,538,404	£4,762	-28	£-35,577	-2%	£266
3024004	Menorah High School for Girls	311	£1,965,331	£6,296	314	£2,115,206	£6,709	3	£149,874	8%	£413
3023513	Menorah Primary School for Girls	378	£1,688,591	£4,454	377	£1,927,494	£5,113	-1	£238,902	14%	£658
3025402	Mill Hill County High School	1247	£7,952,083	£6,355	1248	£8,430,639	£6,729	1	£478,556	6%	£374
3022048	Millbrook Park Primary School	392	£2,008,969	£5,070	404	£2,202,441	£5,388	12	£193,471	10%	£318
3023305	Monken Hadley CofE Primary School	148	£778,485	£5,249	149	£834,114	£5,585	1	£55,629	7%	£336
3022042	Monkfrith Primary School	420	£1,939,842	£4,546	419	£2,035,554	£4,771	-1	£95,712	5%	£225
3022044	Moss Hall Infant School	355	£1,841,077	£5,141	315	£1,759,545	£5,525	-40	£-81,533	-4%	£384
3022043	Moss Hall Junior School	434	£2,107,397	£4,819	450	£2,287,735	£5,041	16	£180,338	9%	£222
3022045	Northside Primary School	210	£1,190,590	£5,524	210	£1,238,557	£5,724	0	£47,968	4%	£199
3025201	Osidge Primary School	404	£2,089,156	£5,154	386	£2,120,908	£5,473	-18	£31,752	2%	£319
3023501	Our Lady of Lourdes RC School	208	£1,066,430	£5,109	199	£1,110,774	£5,559	-9	£44,343	4%	£450
3022078	Pardes House Primary School	356	£1,938,874	£5,070	356	£1,711,480	£4,743	0	£75,606	5%	£202
3022038	Parkfield Primary School	377	£2,104,625	£5,546	402	£2,317,433	£5,723	25	£212,808	10%	£178
3024208	Queen Elizabeth's Girls' School	1007	£6,618,690	£6,544	1016	£7,038,088	£6,893	9	£419,398	6%	£349
3025401	Queen Elizabeth's School, Barnet	959	£5,726,911	£5,937	958	£5,960,032	£6,179	-1	£233,121	4%	£243
3022073	Queenswell Infant & Nursery School	166	£1,032,161	£6,030	165	£1,098,386	£6,430	-1	£66,225	6%	£400
3022072	Queenswell Junior School	270	£1,484,582	£5,441	261	£1,567,982	£5,936	-9	£83,400	6%	£495
3022004	Rimon Jewish Primary School	198	£973,682	£4,876	206	£1,070,629	£5,149	8	£96,947	10%	£273
3023512	Rosh Pinah Primary School	342	£1,552,139	£4,500	360	£1,704,542	£4,692	18	£152,403	10%	£191
3023041	Sacks Morasha Jewish Primary School	207	£969,278	£4,671	204	£1,011,722	£4,946	-3	£42,444	4%	£274
3023510	Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Primary School	409	£1,901,591	£4,637	407	£2,019,079	£4,947	-2	£117,488	6%	£309
3024011	Saracens High School	849	£6,252,103	£7,355	871	£6,834,754	£7,836	22	£582,651	9%	£481
3022053	Shalom Noam Primary School	209	£1,035,184	£4,931	207	£1,064,690	£5,117	-2	£29,506	3%	£186
3023502	St Agnes' Catholic Primary School	402	£2,133,607	£5,292	403	£2,223,506	£5,499	1	£89,899	4%	£207
3024000	St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox School	585	£4,043,002	£6,851	526	£3,907,225	£7,348	-59	£-135,777	-3%	£497
3023315	St Andrew's CofE Voluntary Aided Primary School	208	£1,032,178	£4,946	202	£1,068,565	£5,269	-6	£36,388	4%	£324
3023504	St Catherine's RC School	421	£1,988,195	£4,707	421	£2,063,799	£4,883	0	£75,604	4%	£176
3025407	St James' Catholic High School	1075	£7,444,203	£6,891	1081	£7,941,880	£7,306	6	£497,677	7%	£415
3023307	St John's CofE Junior Mixed and Infant School	210	£1,061,863	£5,037	211	£1,149,606	£5,425	1	£87,743	8%	£388
3023309	St John's CofE Primary and Nursery School	210	£1,053,144	£4,992	206	£1,091,128	£5,269	-4	£37,985	4%	£277
3023509	St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	453	£2,287,805	£5,024	443	£2,398,171	£5,381	-10	£110,365	5%	£357
3023521	St Mary's and St John's CofE School	1485	£9,169,026	£6,050	1492	£9,761,433	£6,390	7	£592,407	6%	£341
3023311	St Mary's CofE Primary School	409	£2,015,114	£4,868	410	£2,125,628	£5,113	1	£110,514	5%	£246
3023312	St Mary's CofE Primary School, East Barnet	216	£1,079,165	£4,979	209	£1,107,591	£5,279	-7	£28,425	3%	£299
3025404	St Michael's Catholic Grammar School	606	£3,826,043	£6,286	639	£4,189,490	£6,525	33	£363,447	9%	£239
3023313	St Paul's CofE Primary School N11	191	£1,085,226	£5,664	193	£1,176,044	£6,073	2	£90,818	8%	£408
3023314	St Paul's CofE Primary School NW7	209	£1,064,827	£5,080	206	£1,107,571	£5,359	-3	£42,744	4%	£279
3023507	St Theresa's Catholic Primary School	175	£963,942	£5,486	160	£939,467	£5,843	-15	£-24,475	-3%	£357
3023506	St Vincent's Catholic Primary School	281	£1,371,463	£4,868	281	£1,471,589	£5,222	0	£100,126	7%	£354
3022051	Summerside Primary Academy	408	£2,206,351	£5,387	398	£2,303,337	£5,761	-10	£96,985	4%	£375
3022070	Sunnyfields Primary School	208	£1,217,813	£5,734	211	£1,285,087	£5,947	3	£67,274	6%	£213
3023500	The Annunciation Catholic Infant School	144	£861,272	£5,964	162	£1,018,287	£6,267	18	£157,016	18%	£304
3023514	The Annunciation RC Junior School	181	£1,002,563	£5,515	182	£1,059,506	£5,792	1	£56,943	6%	£278
3024001	The Archer Academy	818	£5,396,780	£6,375	810	£5,600,817	£6,716	-8	£204,038	4%	£342
3024215	The Compton School	1045	£7,048,333	£6,726	1048	£7,542,538	£7,174	3	£494,206	7%	£448
3024752	The Henrietta Barnett School	520	£3,160,085	£6,047	520	£3,344,027	£6,395	0	£183,942	6%	£348
3022047	The Hyde School	412	£2,205,226	£5,337	420	£2,327,565	£5,523	8	£122,339	6%	£187
3022077	The Orion Primary School	839	£5,045,971	£5,998	840	£5,240,482	£6,220	1	£194,511	4%	£221
3024010	The Totteridge Academy	829	£6,192,913	£7,440	853	£6,617,117	£7,722	24	£424,204	7%	£282
3023316	Trent CofE Primary School	209	£1,049,088	£5,000	208	£1,086,447	£5,199	-1	£37,360	4%	£200
3022055	Tudor Primary School	222	£1,277,299	£5,632	196	£1,195,010	£5,931	-26	£-82,288	-6%	£300
3022057	Underhill School	504	£2,810,141	£5,471	455	£2,717,289	£5,832	-49	£-92,852	-3%	£362
3022049	Watling Park School	380	£2,203,679	£5,760	406	£2,503,650	£6,123	26	£299,971	14%	£363
3022076	Wessex Gardens Primary School	322	£1,813,922	£5,536	262	£1,611,380	£6,007	-60	£-202,542	-11%	£471
3024012	Whitefield School	598	£4,826,226	£8,029	579	£4,878,644	£8,374	-19	£52,418	1%	£345
3022060	Whitings Hill Primary School	422	£2,520,542	£5,752	418	£2,603,704	£5,962	-4	£83,163	3%	£209
3023518	Woodcroft Primary School	385	£2,201,727	£5,629	398	£2,375,039	£5,863	13	£173,311	8%	£234
3022054	Woodridge Primary School	204	£1,028,904	£4,950	204	£1,098,121	£5,271	0	£69,216	7%	£321
3026906	Wren Academy Finchley	1334	£7,654,571	£5,717	1330	£8,070,868	£6,043	-4	£416,297	5%	£326

2. Alternative Options Considered and Not Recommended

- 2.1 The timetable for decision making and submission of the APT is set down by the DfE. The Council is obligated to make a decision on its school funding formula.

3. Post Decision Implementation

- 3.1 Funding will be distributed to schools in accordance with the arrangements set out in the report.

4. Corporate Priorities, Performance and Other Considerations

Corporate Plan

- 4.1 The quality of the education offer in Barnet is at the heart of Barnet's continuing success as a place where people want to live, work and study. It plays a crucial part in making Barnet a popular and desirable place with many families attracted to the area by the good reputation of Barnet's schools.
- 4.2 This supports the council's corporate priorities as expressed through Our Plan for Barnet 2023-2026 which sets out our vision and strategy for the borough. This includes the outcomes we want to achieve for the borough, the priorities we will focus limited resources on and, our approach for how we will deliver this.
- 4.3 The report specifically supports the corporate plan's aim of being a Family Friendly borough where children and young people have the best start in life with the right support and safeguarding when they need it, and the right tools to live their lives successfully into adulthood.

Corporate Performance / Outcome Measures

- 4.4 Outcome measures are identified in Barnet's Education Strategy and sub strategies: Schools and Settings Improvement Strategy, SEND Strategy, Pupil Places Strategy, Post 16 Strategy

Sustainability

- 4.5 Not applicable for this report

Corporate Parenting

- 4.6 The proposed APT submission does not impact on the funding of the Virtual School; nor does it affect High Needs funding, which is a significant factor for looked after children, as a significant number are supported through funding from the High Needs Block

Risk Management

- 4.4 The annual submission of school funding information to the Department for Education is governed by a strict timetable to ensure that schools are allocated budgets in good time for each new financial year.

Insight

- 4.5 None

Social Value

- 4.6 The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2013 requires people who commission public services to think about how they can also secure wider social, economic and environmental benefits. Before

commencing a procurement process, commissioners should think about whether the services they are going to buy, or the way they are going to buy them, could secure these benefits for their area or stakeholders

5. Resource Implications (Finance and Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT and Property)

5.1 The financial implications for the council are set out in the paragraphs above.

6. Legal Implications and Constitution References

6.1 Under the Council's Constitution, Part 2D the terms of reference states that Cabinet is responsible for the following functions:

- Development of proposals for the budget (including the capital and revenue budgets, the fixing of the Council Tax Base, and the level of Council Tax) and the financial strategy for the Council;
- Monitoring the implementation of the budget and financial strategy;
- Recommending major new policies (and amendments to existing policies) to the Council for approval as part of the Council's Policy Framework and implementing those approved by Council;
- Approving policies that are not part of the policy framework;
- Management of the Council's Capital Programme

6.2 The composition, constitution and procedures of Schools Forums are set out in the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 2012/2261). They set out the respective roles and responsibilities of the local authority and the Schools Forum.

6.3 The legislation governing the current school system is the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and associated regulations. In addition, there are detailed regulations covering decision-making and consultation requirements with the Schools Forum and individual schools and early years settings.

6.4 For 2024/25 the dedicated schools grant will be split into four blocks, namely schools' block, high needs block, early years block and central schools block. From 2022/23 the distribution of the schools' block directly to schools has been based on a national funding formula. Under these arrangements, the government has calculated the schools' block based on the national funding formula. The funding is calculated on a notional per school funding basis, plus funding for premises and growth.

6.5 Current regulations require that the local authority consult its Schools Forum on any proposed changes to its funding formula and make an annual submission to the Department for Education. The local authority is also required to consult early years providers and the Schools Forum on any proposed changes to the Early Years Funding Formula.

6.6 The DfE's School Revenue Funding Guidance indicates that any DSG underspend brought forward from the previous year can be used to support the growth fund in the schools block, the central school services block, the high needs block, or the early years block. The local authority needs to consult its Schools Forum on the use of carried forward underspend and Schools Forum's

approval is required for any proposed allocations from the underspend to any central budgets, where amounts have to be approved by the forum.

7. Consultation

7.1 There is no need to consult on the local funding formula, as there are no proposals to change the current approach. The Schools Forum has agreed to continue to use the National Funding Formula with protection through the Minimum Funding Guarantee for 2024/25.

Decisions on the use of carried forward underspend from the Dedicated Schools Grant rest with the Schools Forum.

8. Equalities and Diversity

8.1 A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- b) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- c) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- a) Remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- b) Take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- c) Encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:

- a) Tackle prejudice, and
- b) Promote understanding.

Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act. The relevant protected characteristics are:

- a) Age
- b) Disability
- c) Gender reassignment
- d) Pregnancy and maternity
- e) Race

- f) Religion or belief
- g) Sex
- h) Sexual orientation
- i) Marriage and civil partnership

The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality into day-to-day business and to keep them under review in decision making, the design of policies and the delivery of services. School improvement monitoring, supporting and challenging arrangements ensure that the quality of education in Barnet is maintained and improved. Outcomes for all groups of children and young people are monitored including children with special educational needs and disabilities and disadvantaged children (those in receipt of free school meals and children looked after). Barnet's Children and Young People Plan, the Education Strategy 2021-2024 and the School and Settings Improvement Strategy 2021 to 2024 all have a strong focus on improving outcomes for disadvantaged groups of children and young people.

9. Background Papers

[Children and Families Act 2014.](#)