

BRIEFING PAPER

SUBJECT: Pupils with Statements

DATE: 6th March 2013

RECIPIENT: Schools Forum

THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

SUMMARY:

1. This paper outlines the proposals for allocations to schools from the Pupils with Statements budget in the High Needs Block for 2013/14.

BACKGROUND and BRIEFING DETAILS:

2. At January's Forum proposals for funding pupils with statements were discussed:
 - Notional SEN Budget - mainstream schools will be responsible for the first **£6,000** (plus per pupil funding) of a pupil's educational support costs before additional allocations are made from the High Needs Block. This is in line with the DfE recommendation and their aim to provide consistency between authorities to improve the experience of pupils with SEN who transfer between areas.
 - Pupils with Statements - schools will be reimbursed for both low and high incidence pupils where additional educational costs exceed £6,000. It is assumed that 12 hours of LSA time per week equate to the £6,000 cost, although it should be noted that the funding will not necessarily be spent on one to one LSA hours.
 - Schools will be reimbursed for support of more than £6,000, or the equivalent of 12 hours per week one to one support to be paid term time only at a rate of £10.98 per hour.
3. Modelling has now been carried out on the basis of 2012-13 data as shown in Appendix A. Three scenarios have been modelled:
 - Option 1 – schools pay for the first 12 hours of LSA support (£6,000 per pupil) with the balance held as a contingency.
 - Option 2 – schools pay for the first 12 hours of LSA support (£6,000 per pupil) with balance allocated on the basis of SEN low attainment factor.
 - Option 3 - schools pay for the first 8 hours of LSA support (£4,000 per pupil)
4. Option 1 allocates about two thirds of the 13/14 budget for Pupils with Statements. Any remaining funds could be used as a contingency budget for schools in particular financial difficulty allocated taking into account the numbers of children with additional educational need, the school's Notional SEN budget and its overall financial position.

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5. Recommendations

Schools Forum are asked to recommend a preferred option:

- Option 1 – schools pay for the first 12 hours of LSA support (£6,000 per pupil). Any remaining funds will be used as a contingency budget in 13/14 and delegated to schools in 14/15.
- Option 2 - schools pay for the first 12 hours of LSA support (£6,000 per pupil) with balance allocated on the basis of the SEN low attainment factor.
- Option 3 - schools pay for the first 8 hours of LSA support (£4,000 per pupil)

Appendices/Supporting Information:

Appendix 1 - Indicative allocations for pupils with statements

Further Information Available From:

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