

# Schools Forum

## PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Wednesday, 14th July, 2021  
at 4.00 pm

This meeting is open to the public

LEAD OFFICER  
Derek Wiles

Email: [SchoolsForum.Admin@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolsForum.Admin@southampton.gov.uk)

CONTACT  
Ed Grimshaw

Tel: 023 8083 2390

Email: [ed.grimshaw@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:ed.grimshaw@southampton.gov.uk)

## AGENDA

### 1 **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

### 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

NOTE: Members are reminded that, where applicable, they must complete the appropriate form recording details of any such interests and hand it to the Democratic Support Officer.

### 3 **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** (Pages 1 - 8)

Minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2021

### 4 **FINANCIAL REPORTS REQUESTED BY THE FORUM** (Pages 9 - 14)

Papers outlining responses to Forum to Forum requests for information.

### 5 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **AOB**

Schools Forum dates for the **academic year 2021/22**

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start

### **CLOSING REMARKS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Day and Date:** Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Time:** 3:45pm connectivity check for a 4pm start

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams meeting and live streamed

## **SCHOOLS FORUM**

**PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING**

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
Audio/visual check at 3.45pm, live at 4.00pm

## **Virtual Teams Conference**

This meeting is open to the public

LEAD OFFICER

Derek Wiles

Service Lead, Education

Tel: 023 8083 4731

Email: [SchoolsForum.Admin@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolsForum.Admin@southampton.gov.uk)

CONTACT

Meeting Support

Tel: 023 8083 2557

Email: [SchoolsForum.Admin@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolsForum.Admin@southampton.gov.uk)

Attended:

<b>Chair and Vice Chair</b>	
John Draper	Headteacher, Swaythling Primary School
<b>Primary School Representatives</b>	
Peter Howard	Headteacher, Fairisle Junior School
Mike Adams	Headteacher, Bitterne Manor Primary School
<b>Primary Governors</b>	
Mac McBride	Governor, Banister Primary School
Ross Williams	Governor, Mason Moor Primary School
<b>Secondary School Representatives</b>	
James Henderson	Woodlands Community College
<b>Special Schools Representatives</b>	
Maria Smith	Headteacher, Vermont School
Debbie McKenzie	Headteacher, Compass School
<b>Academy Representatives</b>	
Sean Preston	Chief Financial Officer, Hamwic Trust
<b>Secondary Governor</b>	
Roger Peplow	Governor, St George's Catholic School (observer)
<b>Nursery Representatives</b>	
Anna Wright	Owner - Paint Pots Nursery
<b>Non School Representatives</b>	
Rob Sanders	Diocesan Rep., Diocese of Winchester & Portsmouth
<b>SCC Officers</b>	
Derek Wiles	Chief Executive - Schools Improvement
Nick Persson	Finance Business Partner for Education
Clodagh Freeston	Service Manager – Education Strategy, Planning and Improvement, Children and Families
Áine Rand	Meeting Support (minutes)

## MINUTES

### 1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed both the representatives and external viewers to the March Schools Forum meeting.

### 2 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

**Apologies were noted as follows:**

Cllr Paffey	Councillor, Cabinet Member Aspiration, School and Lifelong learning
Cllr Mitchell	Councillor, Portswood Ward
Colin Grant	Governor, Cedar School
James Rouse	Headteacher, St Anne's Catholic School
Martin Brown	Principal of Oasis Academy Sholing
Harry Kutty	Headteacher, Cantell School

### 3 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 20<sup>th</sup> January 2021

The minutes were generally noted as an accurate reflection of the previous meeting.

Amendment: page 10. SP noted 'growth funding is lagged' should read 'funding is lagged'.

#### **Action review from the previous meeting**

- **Item 3 Consultation:** TM thought the hourly payment of staff supporting SEN students was £10.98, TM will double check and get back to SF. *Action Complete. TM confirmed the hourly payment is £10.98.*
- **Item 7 De-delegated Budgets:** NP to provide a detailed breakdown of how the Trade Union support is being used in year. *Action Ongoing. This item has been deferred to the June meeting giving more time for detailed information to be provided.*
- **Item 7 DSG Funding - Schools Block:** NP to report the proportion of pupils captured in each IDACI band. *Action Complete – emailed to Schools Forum on 17.03.21. NP gave details in Item 5.*

### 4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

NOTE: Members are reminded that, where applicable, they must complete the appropriate form recording details of any such interests and hand it to the Meeting Support Officer.

- No new declarations were noted

**5 STANDING ITEM: LA UPDATE ON DFE/EFA FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENTS (NP)**

- Papers for information and discussion

NP referred to the funding paper emailed on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021 and screen shared the document.

**Analysis of the proportion of pupils captured in each IDACI band:**

This followed the DfE update of data moving from the 2015 data to 2019 data where there was interest in how that affected the pupils in the different bandings. The IDACI Review table on page 1 shows primary schools split from secondary schools. The top part looks at 2020/21 using the old 2015 banding ranges whereas the 2021/22 uses the new 2019 ranges.

Explaining the table NP advised that the change has affected pupils in the different bands in primary schools and secondary schools as follows;

- A high proportion of pupils are centralised in Band C.
- Band F shows the least deprived and also showed an increase.
- The areas with the highest deprivation are in Band A and B. The number of pupils in these categories have reduced.
- Band D and E have reduced.
- Band F has increased.

The DfE have approached the new rankings by grouping each lowest super output area (LSOA) into one of six Bands of decreasing deprivation with Band A being the highest deprived area through to Band F the least deprived area. Areas above Band F are not defined as areas of deprivation and do not attract any pupils in those ranges.

When asked whether there were fewer children for next year NP confirmed there were fewer although it was unclear if this was due to the model change or the number of children in the city. It seems that the children are being presented in different Bands rather than the difference in numbers being captured.

When asked to clarify the meaning of 821 in Band A, NP noted that the DfE presented the table to the LA. SP clarified that in Band A, the 1 to 821 was a numeric rank from top to bottom; from the 1<sup>st</sup> highest to 821<sup>st</sup> highest. JD added that the Bands were ranked nationally by post code, the 821 are the 2.5% most deprived in the country and some of those pupils are in Southampton.

SP referred to previous Schools Forum meetings minutes and noting the numbers of students on role for 2021/22 is 31,414 compared to 31,251 last year. This indicates a reduction in the number of IDACI funding year on year due to the way the DfE have reviewed it. The number of students captured in the IDACI Bands is going down and they are being pushed further down the IDACI Bands. There were more students in Bands A

and B last year and they will be pushed down to Band C. Those in Band D and E are being pushed down to Band F. SP thanked NP for providing the context around the IDACI bandings.

### **APT Update (2021/22) Surplus transfer to the High Needs Block**

NP recalled the vote in January's Schools Forum meeting when the Forum voted and agreed to transfer the £400K surplus to the High Needs Block. Since that meeting an adjustment has been put through the model to include EAL funding to the schools over three years rather than one year. This additional money for EAL was taken from the surplus funding going to the High Needs Block, they will now receive £228K. The schools are still funded at full NFF with the 2% MFG guarantee. Although it is not £400K, the £228K will be used to contribute to the High Needs overspend.

### **Covid-19 Grants Update:**

#### Covid-19 ESFA Emergency Schools Support Payments

Schools submitted claims for additional premises, cleaning and free school meals costs through July 2020 when the schools were closed. The claims were made direct from the schools to the DfE, the DfE paid the LA for the approved claims and the LA passed the money back to the schools. Up to February 2021 the LA have refunded £270K for the emergency payments.

#### Covid-19 Catch Up Premiums

This provides funding to help schools to support students for lost learning due to schools closures. This is being paid in three tranches; two tranches in this academic year and one tranche in the summer totalling £0.96M. The calculation is £80 per pupil for years R to 11 and £240 per pupil for Special schools. The first two tranches have been paid to the schools and the third tranche will be forwarded to the schools once it has been received by the LA.

#### Covid-19 Winter Grant Scheme

This £900,866 covers December 2020 and Easter school holidays in 2021. This mainly supports vulnerable families and individuals, 80% of the grant goes to families with children and 20% goes to adults. The funding is being allocated to families by way of Edenred vouchers. The LA have received £450K funding, £313K will arrive in April and the balance will arrive early next year.

#### New £700M Education Recovery Package for Children and Young People

The timetable for the funding has not yet been confirmed and covers a new one-off £302M Recovery Premium for state primary and secondary schools, building on the Pupil Premium to support pupils who are most in need. The funding to primary schools will be £6K and secondary schools £22K approx. A further £200M will be used to expand the tutoring programmes and £200M will be available to secondary schools only to deliver face to face summer schools. Once more information is to hand it will be sent out to the schools.

#### (Covid-19) Workforce Fund Online form for Schools and Colleges

The LA recently sent an email to schools about claims information, the schools were provided with an online link to complete and send to the DfE, and on acceptance the DfE will pass the funding back to the schools via the LA in the new year. The fund covers

workforce absences experienced from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2020 to the end of the 2020 autumn term. Both schools and academy trusts can claim for costs eligible for reimbursement through this fund in spring 2021. The LA have sent on the claims process detailed guidance published by the DfE. The LA are keeping a keen eye out for other grants and they are supporting schools with claims as they are received. Once received, the LA will distribute both information and refunds to the schools.

When asked for clarity around the Holiday Activity fund being part of the £901K Covid-19 Winter Grant Scheme, DW advised that this was a separate fund of £1.2M for Southampton.

When asked if the Education Recovery Package applied to Special schools, NP referred to the information provided to the LA suggesting it was for state primary and secondary schools. DW thought it would fall foul of discrimination legislation if it did not include special schools. **ACTION:** NP to check this and give an update in the June meeting. MM checked with the DfE and found that eligibility includes Special schools.

JH sought clarification around the date the Education Recovery Package money would be received by the schools. NP advised that it will be in the new financial year although the timetable has not yet been communicated to the LA.

## 6 **PROPOSED SCHOOLS FORUM DATES FOR NEXT ACADEMIC YEAR** (JD)

The members accepted the proposed virtual meeting dates for the **academic year 2021/22**.

- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2022, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2022, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022, meet at 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start

## ..7 **ACTION LIST**

- NP to find out whether the new £700M Education Recovery Package for children and young people also applies to the Special schools, to be brought back to the June meeting.

## 8 **AOB**

JD advised the Forum that this was NP's last Schools Forum meeting and extended a huge thank you to NP for all the hard work he has done with schools finance and noted that this is a uniquely complex beast and an incredible amount of work goes on behind the scenes to ensure things run smoothly. NP has worked hard at both getting information to the DfE and answering all the questions posed by the Forum. It has been a pleasure working in partnership with NP. JD noted that Schools Forum is now in a much better state. The Forum may not always like the answer they receive from the LA although he acknowledged that NP works hard to ensure every penny is distributed to the schools



where it benefits all the children in the city. On behalf of all Schools Forum NP was wholeheartedly thanked and wished well for the future.

Dates for **academic year 2020/21**

- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

**CLOSING REMARKS AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

JD brought the meeting to a close and noted that the efficiency of the meeting was due to the work of NP and others to get Southampton on track with the NFF. Funding is allocated in a clear and transparent system, the meetings are not restricted by technicalities and that is a positive sign moving forward. JD wished NP well for the future and thanked everyone for joining the Schools Forum meeting.

**Day and Date:** Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

**Time:** 3:45pm to check connectivity before going live for a  
4:00pm meeting start

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams meeting and live streamed

This page is intentionally left blank

## SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

### Schools Forum – 14th July 2021

Report from: Keith Petty, Senior Finance Business Partner;

Virginia Newsom, Interim School Business Partner.

#### **STANDING ITEM: LA UPDATE ON DFE/ESFA FUNDING**

Further details of the £700m Education Recovery Programme were published by the Government in June 2021. In response to queries from the March meeting we can confirm the funding does apply to Special schools. The Recovery Programme is split into various elements. Firstly, a Recovery Premium similar to pupil premium for which details will be issued in Dec 2021. Secondly funding for secondary Summer schools. Several SCC maintained schools submitted applications in June 2021. Thirdly the recovery programme includes several packages for training and development for teachers.

The ESFA have recently issued a consultation on the National Funding Formula. Responses are due by 30 September. Schools forum with the Local Authority will be working on a reply and further discussion will be held at the Schools Forum on 15 September.

[Fair school funding for all: completing our reforms to the National Funding Formula \(education.gov.uk\)](https://www.education.gov.uk)

De-delegation of trade union dues – paper to be carried forward to next meeting.

#### **SCHOOLS OUTTURN STATEMENT FOR 2020-21**

The schools outturn statement for 2020-21 is shown below for schools' revenue accounts. These are maintained schools only. From the table the overall movement in balances is an increase of £2,743k from the previous year. Of this, Primary school balances increased by £1,295k, secondary schools increased their balances by £1,436k and special schools increased by £12k. Covid funding, reduced costs on staff, educational supplies, catering and trips, due to school closures led to these increases.

Many refurbishment projects were delayed to 2021-22 which resulted in some schools with an excess surplus. These schools are in the process or have prepared plans to show how they intend to use their excess surplus in accordance with the surplus policy. Plans received so far fit the excess surplus policy and spend will be monitored by SCC.

In general schools with deficits have managed to reduce their deficits and are following deficit recovery plans. Three schools have successfully returned to a balanced budget. Two schools have been issued with a Notice of Concern.

**Detail position by school. Please note maintained schools only**

School Revenue Budgets	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	Movement £
------------------------	--------------	--------------	---------------

**PRIMARY SCHOOLS:**

Hardmoor EYC	280,322	510,981	230,659
Bassett Green Primary	145,068	355,898	210,830
Valentine Primary	775,947	670,515	(105,431)
St Monica Primary	326,182	59,675	(266,507)
Mansbridge Primary	(14,770)	37,076	51,846
Townhill Junior	(92,505)	146,868	239,372
Shirley Warren Primary	(15,340)	56,551	71,890
St Patricks Primary	348,340	238,846	(109,493)
	<b>1,753,244</b>	<b>2,076,410</b>	<b>323,166</b>

Newlands Primary	(212,655)	(248,342)	(35,687)
Sinclair Primary School	(104,937)	(217,011)	(112,075)
Mansel Primary	(163,796)	(230,854)	(67,058)
Bevois Town Primary	(30,844)	(102,689)	(71,845)
Bitterne Manor Primary	(104,231)	(40,150)	64,082
Bitterne Park Primary	(252,872)	(330,109)	(77,238)
Mount Pleasant Junior	(116,166)	(111,105)	5,061
Maytree Infant	(124,336)	(213,159)	(88,823)
St Denys Primary	(60,122)	(108,677)	(48,555)
St Johns Primary and Nursery	(64,892)	(125,680)	(60,789)
Swaythling Primary	(79,734)	(69,777)	9,958
Woolston Infant	(83,310)	(130,683)	(47,373)
Banister Infant	(138,028)	(179,162)	(41,134)
Redbridge Primary	(54,073)	(68,139)	(14,066)
Moorlands Primary	19,604	(148,287)	(167,891)
Oakwood Primary	(32,950)	(62,545)	(29,595)
Fairisle Infant	(22,935)	(117,464)	(94,528)
Fairisle Junior	(297,307)	(376,422)	(79,115)
Foundry Lane Primary	(142,497)	(304,916)	(162,419)
Mason Moor Primary	(90,443)	(110,797)	(20,353)
Bitterne CofE Primary	(21,424)	(38,504)	(17,080)
St Marks Primary	(87,017)	(94,672)	(7,654)
St Marys Primary	(756,617)	(899,899)	(143,281)
Highfield Primary	(56,712)	(149,596)	(92,884)
Holy Family Primary	(163,852)	(381,725)	(217,872)
	<b>(3,242,148)</b>	<b>(4,860,362)</b>	<b>(1,618,214)</b>

Total	<b>(1,488,904)</b>	<b>(2,783,952)</b>	<b>(1,295,049)</b>
-------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------

**SECONDARY SCHOOLS:**

Woodlands Secondary	406,668	260,636	(146,032)
Chamberlayne college for the Arts	988,145	980,163	(7,982)
	<b>1,394,814</b>	<b>1,240,800</b>	<b>(154,014)</b>

10%

Regents Park Community College	166,418	(175,251)	(341,670)
Bitterne Park Secondary	411,295	(88,528)	(499,823)
Redbridge Secondary	(995,998)	(961,508)	34,490
Cantell Secondary	(254,656)	(487,726)	(233,070)
St George Catholic V.A. College	(546,124)	(788,329)	(242,206)
	<b>(1,219,064)</b>	<b>(2,501,343)</b>	<b>(1,282,278)</b>

Total	<b>175,749</b>	<b>(1,260,543)</b>	<b>(1,436,292)</b>
-------	----------------	--------------------	--------------------

**SPECIAL SCHOOLS:**

Polygon	564,639	474,062	(90,577)
Vermont	191,485	99,131	(92,355)
Compass	(50,947)	222,310	273,258
	<b>705,177</b>	<b>795,503</b>	<b>90,326</b>
Springwell	(173,021)	(164,873)	8,149
Cedar	529	(109,785)	(110,314)
	<b>(172,492)</b>	<b>(274,658)</b>	<b>(102,165)</b>
Total	<b>532,685</b>	<b>520,845</b>	<b>(11,839)</b>
Grand Total	<b>(780,469)</b>	<b>(3,523,650)</b>	<b>(2,743,181)</b>

### **DSG OVERSPEND UPDATE**

The cumulative DSG overspend is £8.9m. This includes a brought forward deficit of £7.4m of which £6.4m was from the High Needs budget. The table below shows the key variances contributing to the over spend within the DSG in 2020-21.

As noted in the December 2020 report of the High Needs working Group, the demand for High Needs support is under huge pressure from increasing demand and higher levels of complex cases.

The DSG variance is 6.2% (of the total SCC DSG grant of £143m) and a recovery plan over 3 years is required. Some of the recovery has been helped with the 17% increase in the High Needs allocation for 2020/21 which amounted to £4.2m, and the deficit will be further helped by the transfer of the schools block surplus of £228k agreed in March 2021 Schools Forum. Local capacity is increasing by around 150 special school places from Sept 2020 to Sept 2021. This should start to reduce the need for expensive out of city placements.

The variance on the Early Years budget has arisen due to the known ongoing pressures on Govt. funded hours and loss of income from Covid closures.

#### Key variances:2020-21

	Description	£'000
AC0752	DSG - Early years	267
AC0840	Early Years & Childcare Plan	97
AC0620	Start Point Sholing	349
AC0630	Start Point Northam	144
	Early years - other	43
AC0650	Pupils with Statements	329
AC0500	Children Looked After Packages	(166)
AC0790	Inclusion Management and Admin	(178)
AC0800	MARP - Education Placements	301
AC0810	Special School Funding	599
	High Needs other	(140)

Schools ISB/ CSSB	(131)
	<hr/>
	1,514
b/f from 2019/20 – of which £6.4m was High Needs.	<hr/>
	7,420
<b>Pressure</b>	<b><u><u>8,934</u></u></b>

### SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

#### Schools Forum – 14th July 2021

Report from: Virginia Newsom, Interim School Business Partner.

#### **CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY AS AT APRIL 2021.**

Description	2021/22 Budget £'000	2022/23 Budget £'000	2023/24 Budget £'000	Total Scheme Budget £'000
Primary Review P2 - Fairisle Junior	50	0	0	50
Springwell School - Main Expansion 15/16	197	0	0	197
Springhill Primary Academy School - one modular building	0	39	0	39
PSBP St Denys	4	0	0	4
R&M Programme for School	3,844	2,000	1,361	7,205
Early Years Expansion Programme	421	200	0	621
St Mark's School	21,005	6,500	507	28,012
Bitterne Park Autism Resource Base	14	0	0	14
Sholing Technical College Renovation	760	0	0	760
Regent Park Expansion	207	0	0	207
St George's Expansion	665	1,555	50	2,270
Cantell Secondary Expansion	440	0	0	440
Chamberlayne Refurbishment – An EFSA contribution is expected towards some of this project.	7,528	0	0	7,528
Healthy Pupils Capital Fund	22	0	0	22
Sure Start Sholing Year R Springwell	67	0	0	67
Regent Park Sports Facility - under review	1,349	0	0	1,349
Mount pleasant Health & Safety	258	0	0	258
Newlands Hearing Centre	650	430	29	1,109
SEND Review	4,500	36,500	0	41,000
Childrens Services - Residential Unit - not part of Education budget	998	665	0	1,663
Childrens Services - Assessment Unit - not part of Education budget	649	0	0	649
Maytree School Playground Fence	50	0	0	50
Surestart - not part of Education budget	67	0	0	67
Modular relocation & purchase from Springwell to Vermont	203	0	0	203
Making good land at Springwell	10	0	0	10
Reconfiguration of Compass School Green Lane	484	10	0	494
			Total	94,288
			Funded by Council	
			Borrowing	64,200
			Grants	30,088
				94,288

