

Schools Forum Meetings Schedule & Work Programme for the 2016/17 Academic Year

Schedule of Meetings

- Wednesday 21 September 2016, 8am
- Wednesday 19 October 2016, 8am
- Wednesday 7 December 2016, 8am
- Wednesday 11 January 2017, 8am
- *Wednesday 18 January 2017, 8am PROVISIONAL MEETING*
- Wednesday 15 March 2017, 8am
- Wednesday 17 May 2017, 8am
- Wednesday 5 July 2017, 8am

Proposed Work Programme

Autumn Term 2016

Key Dates

- Expected 2nd stage consultation on National Funding Formula (date as yet unknown)
- 6 October – Schools' October Census
- Mid December – EFA publication of pupil numbers & other data from October Census on which 2017/18 allocations will be calculated
- Mid December – DfE to confirm Authority 2017/18 DSG allocation, including additional HNB funding
- Announcement of Pupil Premium and other grants for the 2017/18 financial year

Planned Business

- Election of the Chair of the Schools Forum.
- Consideration of, and formal response to, the expected 2nd stage consultation on the move to the National Funding Formula. Work streams from this. *
- Bradford District's Primary, Secondary, Early Years and High Needs funding consultations & consideration of responses. The Schools Forum to agree the funding formulae for the 2017/18 financial year, with discussions separating the 'structure' from the 'values' of formulae factors.
- Consideration of Early Years places provision and funding matters, including the implementation of the 30 hours free entitlement from September 2017 (and Bradford as an 'early innovator'). *
- Consideration of Growth Funding in the Secondary sector.
- Consideration of planned commissioning of places and top up arrangements relating to High Needs Block provisions 2017/18. *
- Further detailed work on the High Needs Block funding and provision matters (strategic planning of places and new schools to meet growing need, affordability and sector-led delivery). *
- The outcomes and further work from the District's Post 16 review and further national Post-16 funding announcements.
- Further information, discussion and consideration of the financial impact of the conversion of maintained schools to academy status. *
- Further consideration of the implementation of the Government's Apprenticeship Levy in 2017/18.
- Initial discussion on how the DSG is to be allocated from April 2017, including Government directed revisions e.g. the transfer of the ESG into the DSG.
- The review of items to be delegated / centrally managed from April 2017
- Consideration of wider DSG cost pressures in 2017/18, implications and strategies for supporting these. *
- Consideration of the Council's wider budget position 2017/18. *
- Consideration of Forum membership. Response to any further Schools Forum Regulations changes.
- Update on 2016/17 DSG contingencies and central funds spending (view on one off monies available).
- Update on the delivery of the Education Improvement Strategy and attainment results Summer 2016 (impact assessment). *
- Update on pupil planning (expansion of provision) and the impact of Academies & Free Schools *
- Further consideration, including impact assessment, of the work of the Bradford Education Improvement Commissioning Board and the allocation of the Joint Improvement Investment Fund.

* identifying key discussion items that will be present across all meetings in the 2016/17 academic year.

Spring Term 2017

Key Dates

- 19 January – Schools' January Census & Early Years Census
- 20 January – deadline for the submission of the final formula funding pro-forma to EFA, with values of the formula factors fixed
- March publication of final Post 16 allocations for 2017/18
- 28 February – deadline for publication of 2017/18 budgets for maintained schools (not including Early years Funding)
- 31 March – deadline for publication of 2017/18 EYSFF allocations
- 31 March – completion of S251 Budget Statement to DfE
- Expected final announcements on National Funding Formula 'early in the new year'

Planned Business

- Final recommendations on all aspects of DSG funding for 2017/18, including school & early years budgets, high needs, contingencies and centrally managed items; Forum exercise of statutory powers.
- Further consideration of the expected final announcement of the National Funding Formula.
- Evaluation of the impact / anticipated impact of 2017/18 DSG recommendations.
- Discussion on the 3 year review of the West Yorkshire Pension Fund financial position and charging costs to schools from April 2017.
- Further consideration, including impact assessment, of the work of the Bradford Education Improvement Commissioning Board and the allocation of the Joint Improvement Investment Fund.
- Continued consideration of the implementation of the 30 hours early years free entitlement from September 2017.
- Continued detailed work on the High Needs Block funding and provision matters (strategic planning to meet growing need, affordability and sector-led delivery).
- Review of Scheme for Financing Schools for 2017/18 (and directed revisions).
- Review of Schools Forum membership (review of interim arrangements).
- Further information, discussion and consideration of the financial impact of the conversion of maintained schools to academy status.
- Further consideration of the financial position of schools and academies (responding to tighter financial times).
- Update on pupil planning (expansion of provision) and the impact of Academies & Free Schools.

Summer Term 2017

Key Dates

- 1 April – closedown of school accounts for the 2016/17 financial year (carry forward balances)
- 15 May – deadline for submission of Governor Approved Budgets for 2017/18 to the Local Authority
- 18 May – Schools' May Census
- Early Years DSG Block updated for January 2017 pupil numbers

Planned Business

- Consideration of Forum membership & election of the Vice Chair of the Schools Forum.
- Discussion on review of key Authority protocols relating to the financial management of schools e.g. the Financial Classification.
- Continued consideration of the final announcement of the National Funding Formula.
- Start of our consultation on Early Years Formula Funding Arrangements for 2018/19
- Continued consideration of the implementation of the 30 hours early years free entitlement from September 2017.
- Continued detailed work on the High Needs Block funding and provision matters (strategic planning to meet growing need, affordability and sector-led delivery).
- Report on the impact of the Looked After Children Pupil Premium funding.
- Update on compliance of maintained schools with the Schools Financial Value Standard.
- Further information, discussion and consideration of the financial impact of the conversion of maintained schools to academy status.
- Review of school balances held at 31 March 2017 and Surplus Balances Protocol.
- Further consideration, including impact assessment, of the work of the Bradford Education Improvement Commissioning Board and the allocation of the Joint Improvement Investment Fund.
- Update on pupil planning (expansion of provision) and the impact of Academies & Free Schools.