

Schools Forum Meetings Schedule & Work Programme for the 2017/18 Academic Year

Schedule of Meetings

- Wednesday 20 September 2017, 8am
- Wednesday 18 October 2017, 8am
- Wednesday 6 December 2017, 8am
- Wednesday 10 January 2018, 8am
- *Wednesday 17 January 2018, 8am PROVISIONAL MEETING*
- Wednesday 14 March 2018, 8am
- Wednesday 16 May 2018, 8am
- Wednesday 11 July 2018, 8am

Proposed Work Programme

Autumn Term 2017

Key Dates

- Expected confirmed of National Funding Formula (September)
- 5 October – Schools' October Census
- Mid December – ESFA publication of pupil numbers & other data from October Census on which 2018/19 allocations will be calculated
- Mid December – DfE to confirm Authority 2018/19 DSG allocation, including High Needs Block funding
- Announcement of Pupil Premium and other grants for the 2018/19 financial year

Planned Business

- The move to the National Funding Formula. Work streams from this.
- Early Years Single Funding Formula review
- 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 2018/19 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.
- Consideration of Growth Funding, especially in the Secondary sector.
- Consideration of planned commissioning of places and top up arrangements relating to High Needs Block provisions 2018/19.
- 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).
- Further information, discussion and consideration of the financial impact of the conversion of maintained schools to academy status.
- Initial discussion on how the DSG is to be allocated from April 2018, including Government directed revisions.
- The review of items to be delegated / centrally managed from April 2018.
- Consideration of wider DSG cost pressures in 2018/19, implications and strategies for supporting these.
- Consideration of the Council's wider budget position 2018/19.
- Consideration of Forum membership. Response to any further Schools Forum Regulations changes.
- Update on 2017/18 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 2017 (impact assessment).
- Update on pupil planning (expansion of provision) and the impact of Academies & Free Schools.

Spring Term 2018

Key Dates

- 18 January – Schools' January Census & Early Years Census
- 19 January – deadline for the submission of the final formula funding pro-forma to ESFA, with values of the formula factors fixed
- March publication of final Post 16 allocations for 2018/19
- 28 February – deadline for publication of 2018/19 budgets for maintained schools (not including Early years Funding)
- 31 March – deadline for publication of 2018/19 EYSFF allocations
- 31 March – completion of S251 Budget Statement to DfE

Planned Business

- Final recommendations on all aspects of DSG funding for 2018/19, 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 2018/19 DSG recommendations.
- 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 2018/19 (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 2018

Key Dates

- 1 April – closedown of school accounts for the 2017/18 financial year (carry forward balances)
- 15 May – deadline for submission of Governor Approved Budgets (maintained schools) for 2018/19 to the Local Authority
- 17 May – Schools' May Census
- Early Years DSG Block updated for January 2018 pupil numbers

Planned Business

- Consideration of Forum membership & election of the Chair & 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 National Funding Formula.
- 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 2018 (maintained schools) and Surplus Balances Protocol.
- Update on pupil planning (expansion of provision) and the impact of Academies & Free Schools.