

Schools Forum Meetings Schedule & Work Programme for the 2018/19 Academic Year

Schedule of Meetings

- Wednesday 19 September 2018, 8am
- Wednesday 17 October 2018, 8am
- Wednesday 5 December 2018, 8am
- Wednesday 9 January 2019, 8am
- *Wednesday 16 January 2019, 8am PROVISIONAL MEETING*
- Wednesday 13 March 2019, 8am
- Wednesday 22 May 2019, 8am
- Wednesday 10 July 2019, 8am

Proposed Work Programme

Autumn Term 2018

Key Dates

- Expected confirmed of National Funding Formula arrangements 2019/20.
- 4 October – Schools' October Census.
- Mid December – ESFA publication of pupil numbers & other data from October Census on which 2019/20 allocations will be calculated.
- Mid December – DfE to confirm Authority 2019/20 DSG allocation, including High Needs Block funding.
- Announcement of Pupil Premium and other grants for the 2019/20 financial year.

Planned Business

- High Needs Block affordability, strategic development and management (led by the HNB Steering Group).
- National Funding Formula 2019/20 primary & secondary and 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 2019/20 financial year, with discussions separating the 'structure' from the 'values' of formulae factors.
- Consideration of Early Years places provision and funding matters, including the impact 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 2019/20.
- The delivery of change in alternative provision financing from September 2018.
- 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 2019, including Government directed revisions.
- The review of items to be delegated / centrally managed from April 2019.
- Confirmation 2017/18 DSG final carry forward balances (available one off monies).
- Consideration of wider DSG cost pressures in 2019/20, implications and strategies for supporting these.
- Consideration of the Council's wider budget position 2019/20.
- Consideration of Forum membership. Response to any further Schools Forum Regulations changes.
- Update on 2018/19 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 2018 (impact assessment).
- Update on pupil planning (expansion of provision) and the impact of Academies & Free Schools.

Spring Term 2019

Key Dates

- 17 January – Schools' January Census & Early Years Census.
- 18 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 2019/20.
- 28 February – deadline for publication of 2019/20 budgets for maintained schools (not including Early years Funding).
- 31 March – deadline for publication of 2019/20 EYSFF allocations.
- 30 April – completion of S251 Budget Statement to DfE.

Planned Business

- Final recommendations on all aspects of DSG funding for 2019/20, including school & early years budgets. high needs, contingencies and centrally managed items; Forum exercise of statutory powers.
- Further consideration of the National Funding Formula impact and timing.
- Evaluation of the impact / anticipated impact of 2019/20 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 2019/20 (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.
- Annual report on outcomes for Children Looked After and the impact of our Pupil Premium funding strategy.

Summer Term 2019

Key Dates

- 1 April – closedown of school accounts for the 2018/19 financial year (carry forward balances).
- 15 May – deadline for submission of Governor Approved Budgets (maintained schools) for 2019/20 to the Local Authority.
- 16 May – Schools' May Census.
- Early Years DSG Block updated for January 2019 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. Early discussions on 2020/21 changes (when 'hard' NFF is expected to be introduced).
- Continued detailed work on the High Needs Block funding and provision matters (strategic planning to meet growing need, affordability and sector-led delivery).
- 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 2019 (maintained schools) and Surplus Balances Protocol.
- Update on pupil planning (expansion of provision) and the impact of Academies & Free Schools.