

REPORT TITLE: Kirklees' School Funding Arrangements for Financial Year 2026/27

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| Meeting: | Cabinet |
| Date: | 10 February 2026 |
| Cabinet Member (if applicable) | Cllr Graham Turner Cllr Jane Rylah Cllr Viv Kendrick |
| Key Decision Eligible for Call In | Yes Yes |
| Purpose of Report: To receive information and seek approval for funding arrangements for the Dedicated Schools Grant for the financial year 2026/27 | |
| Recommendations Cabinet are recommended to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve the proposed local formula factors for the distribution of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), Schools Block funding for 2026/27 as detailed in this report in Appendix A. • To note the decisions made by Schools Forum in terms of central budgets, de-delegated budgets and a fund for significant growth for 2026/27 as detailed in this report and the accompanying appendices. • Approve the submission of the schools' local funding formula to the Department for Education (DfE) for 2026/27. • Note the disapplication request made to the DfE, which has now been agreed. • Note the DfE exceptions application. • Delegate authority to the Executive Director for Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and Portfolio Holder for Education , to take account of the outcomes of the provider consultation, the views of the Early Years and Childcare Reference Group and Schools Forum and make a final decision on the Early Years local funding formula 2026/27 and the value of the Special Education Needs and Disability Inclusion Fund. | |
| Reasons for Recommendations The statutory guidance given by the Secretary of State under s.48(4) and paragraph 2A(2) of Schedule 14 to the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 outlines the requirements for local authorities in England regarding the financing of schools. Here are the key points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication of Schemes- Local authorities must publish schemes that detail the financial relationship between them and the schools they maintain. • Content of Schemes- The guidance specifies the provisions that a local authority's scheme must, should, or may include. While the format of the schemes does not need to follow the guidance exactly, any directed revisions must be included as specified. • Consultation and Approval- When making changes to their schemes (other than directed revisions), local authorities must consult all maintained schools in their area. They also need | |

to obtain approval from the members of their Schools Forum who represent maintained schools.

- Taking Guidance into Account- Local authorities must consider this statutory guidance when revising their schemes, ensuring that the changes are made in consultation with the Schools Forum.

Resource Implications:

This report sets the proposed budget resource allocations for 2026/27 details of which are included in the following pages and appendices.

Date signed off by Strategic Director & name

Rachel Spencer Henshall
Tom Brailsford

Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Finance?

Kevin Mulvaney

Is it also signed off by the Service Director for Legal Governance and Commissioning?

Sam Lawton

Electoral wards affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: None

Public or private: Public

Has GDPR been considered? Yes. This report contains no information that falls within the scope of General Data Protection Regulations.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report outlines the funding arrangements for Kirklees Council's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for the 2026/2027 financial year, including allocations across the four funding blocks, Schools block, High Needs block, Early Years block and Central Schools and Services block (CSSB).
- 1.2 The schools block per pupil funding rates have increased to £5,849 from £5,548 (2025/26) for primary and £7,560 from £7,201 (2025/26) for secondary. Kirklees' schools block allocation has increased to £412.07 million. Schools Forum approved a transfer (disapplication) of £3.6 million to the High Needs block which will continue to support SEND transformation initiatives.
- 1.3 The High Needs block for Kirklees has been allocated £75.1 million for 2026/2027. A £3.6 million transfer from the Schools Block will help support a range of investment measures as part of the broader Kirklees SEND transformation plan and align with Kirklees' ongoing Safety Valve intervention programme.
- 1.4 The Early Years block has received an allocation for 2026/2027 of £80.3 million.

Local consultation on the Early Years Funding Formula and the SEND Inclusion Fund (SENDIF) has taken place between 19 December 2025 and 25 January 2026. Engagement with Schools Forum will follow.

- 1.5 The Central School Services Block (CSSB) for Kirklees has been allocated £57.51 per pupil (up from £43.38 in 2025/2026), totalling £3.7 million.

This increase is due to the inclusion of two grants for Centrally Employed Teachers and Staff, which we received as a separate grant in 2025/26 over and above the DSG allocation.

This block supports statutory and regulatory duties for all pupils across the borough, regardless of the type of school they attend.

- 1.6 The increased funding across the DSG between financial year 2025/26 and 2026/27 is distorted due to the rolling together of grants in the Schools Block and Central School Services Block, which have previously been separate. Alongside this, the High Needs Block, continues to bring challenge. Kirklees welcomes the additional step towards an increased funding allocation, given we are one of the worst funded LA for High Needs per capita in the country. There is further pressure because of growing demand from children with SEND and the need for block transfers resulting from the Safety Valve arrangements. When much of the funding for schools is predicated on pupil numbers, falling rolls in the primary phase are creating funding challenges for several schools. The overall position is one of significant financial challenge for the local school system.
- 1.7 The required consultations for school funding have been undertaken with Schools Forum. Schools Forum has also made the decisions it is responsible for.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 Background

Dedicated Schools Grant

- 2.1.1 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is the funding that is provided to Councils in four blocks to fund:

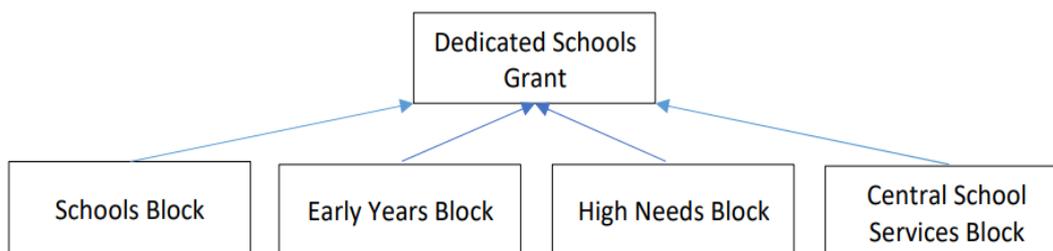
Schools Block - statutory school age mainstream education (4–16-year-olds).

High Needs Block - children and young adults from birth to age 25 having Special Education Needs & Disability (SEND).

Early Years Block - the free entitlement to early education and childcare provision for eligible children aged 9 months to 4 years old.

Central Schools Services Block (CSSB) - to pay for some of the Council's statutory and regulatory duties they have for all pupils educated within the borough.

Allocations to Kirklees for all four funding blocks within the Dedicated Schools Grant are now essentially determined by National Funding Formula (NFF), calculations.



Schools Forum and Council responsibilities for the DSG

2.1.2 Every local authority is required to have a Schools Forum to act as the main consultative group on revenue funding issues affecting local schools and related providers. The Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012 determine the role, powers and responsibilities of the Forum. The local authority proposes and decides upon the shape and effect of the local school funding formula on an annual basis but must consult with the Schools Forum about changes to be made. There is also a requirement to consult annually with the Forum on both High Needs and Early Years funding arrangements.

2.1.3 Whilst Schools Forum has a generally consultative role, there are situations in which they have decision making powers. The areas on which Schools Forums make decisions on local authority proposals include:

- de-delegation from mainstream maintained schools budgets.
- to create a fund for significant pupil growth.
- agreeing other centrally retained budgets, including for local authority statutory responsibilities.

2.1.4 The maintained primary and secondary school representatives to the Forum decide on the arrangements that will apply for their phase (having consulted their constituencies). In cases where the Local Authority and the Forum cannot reach an agreement on central retention and de-delegation issues the Secretary of State for Education would adjudicate.

Formal submissions to the Department for Education

2.1.5 Any exceptions (disapplication) requests seeking permission to make variations to the operation of the schools funding formula were made before the DfE deadline of 17th November 2025 (see Section 2.3 below for more details).

2.1.6 The structure of the local 2026/2027 schools funding formula and factor values used are required to be submitted to the DfE by 22nd January 2026, based upon a pupil dataset provided by the DfE which is derived largely from October 2025 pupil census information. The Authority Pro Forma Tool (APT) return to the DfE is required to show that political approval has been or is expected to be secured for the funding allocations reported. The submission of the funding figures to the DfE by 22nd January 2026 must be regarded as an indicative return until Cabinet approval is achieved. If amendments are required a subsequent submission would have to be made.

Schools revenue funding issues for 2026/2027 discussed with Schools Forum

2.1.7 These included the following:

- The changes made to the National Funding Formula for schools for 2026/2027.
- De-delegation arrangements for mainstream maintained schools
- Central School Services Block (CSSB)
- High Needs Block funding
- Early Years Block funding

These topics are covered in more detail in sections 2.2 to 2.8 below, with the Forum's recommendations to Cabinet shown at section 3 below.

2.2 Direct National Funding Formula (NFF) transition for schools and changes

2.2.1 Local Authorities will be required to bring their own local formulae closer to the schools NFF for 2026/2027.

- Local authorities must move their local formula factor values at least a further 10% closer to the NFF, except where local formulae are already 'mirroring' the NFF. These criteria do not apply to Business Rates, PFI or exceptional circumstances factors.
- School Budget Support Grant and National Insurance Contributions Grant will be brought into the NFF for 2026/2027.
- Local authorities must follow the local formula requirements for growth funding (first introduced in 2024 to 2025), whereby additional classes (driven by basic need) must be funded by at least the minimum funding level set out in the funding calculation. Kirklees Council, in conjunction with Schools Forum, has established a clear, objective criteria for when growth funding is triggered. This ensures transparency and fairness in the allocation of funds. See Appendix B

2.3 Exceptional disapplication request made to the Department for Education:

2.3.1 Local authorities can apply to the DfE to use exceptional circumstances relating to school premises, for example rents, or joint-use sports facilities. Unavoidable rental costs for five schools (Birkenshaw CE (VC)Primary, Denby Dale First & Nursery, Gomersal St Mary's CE (VC) Primary and Wellhouse Junior & Infants) have been submitted for approval based on the latest criteria issued by the DfE.

2.4 De-Delegation Arrangements for Mainstream Maintained Schools (see Appendix C)

2.4.1 Annual proposals on de-delegation are made by the local authority to maintained primary and secondary schools. The DfE only permits de-delegation against a number of specified headings. The maintained primary and secondary schools representatives to the Schools Forum formally decide on de-delegation issues on behalf of their phase.

2.4.2 The de-delegated budget arrangements proposed for 2026/2027 are: -

- Schools contingency

- Historic voluntary early retirements
- Free school meals eligibility checks
- Maternity, paternity and adoptive leave costs
- Trade union facilities time (maintained primary schools only)
- Public duties
- International New Arrivals service
- School Improvement Commissioning

2.4.3 Maintained Schools representatives of Schools Forum considered the de-delegation arrangements for 2026/2027 16 January 2026 and approved the proposals as set out in Appendix C below.

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Funding Settlement 2026/2027

2.5 DSG Schools Block

2.5.1 The 2026/2027 per pupil units of funding for the DSG Schools Block settlement are £5,849 (£5,548 2025/2026) per primary pupil and £7,560 (£7,201 2025/2026) per secondary pupil. The revised rates reflect the rolling of the 2025/2026 School Budget Support Grant and National Insurance Contributions Grant into the NFF. This approach diminishes the significance of comparing annual increases in the NFF rates and is a national funding decision.

2.5.2 Noting the rolling up of separate grants above into the NFF rates, the confirmed Schools Block allocation for Kirklees for 2026/2027 has increased by £14.6 million (£394.1 million in 2025/26 to £408.7 million in 2026/2027). This apparent increase in funding is distorted by the inclusion of the previous grant referred to above. The Table below shows the breakdown of the funding:

| Kirklees Council - Dedicated schools grant (DSG) 2026/2027 | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Total Primary Schools | Total secondary schools | Total Premises factor | Growth funding | Total schools block | School Business Rates DfE deduction | Total schools block |
| £205,444,826 | £199,722,823 | £6,486,626 | £416,431 | £412,070,706 | -£3,399,487 | £408,671,219 |

2.5.3 The Schools Block funding formula factors to be used in the 2026/2027 funding allocation to schools will largely be those prescribed by the National Funding Formula (see Appendix A below for a list of these funding factors and values).

2.5.4 On 10 October 2025 Schools Forum agreed to a Schools Block Transfer of £3.6 million to the High Needs Block to support a range of investment measures as part of the broader Kirklees SEND Transformation plan and as required in the Safety Valve agreement.

2.6 High Needs Block Funding 2026/2027

2.6.1 The settlement for 2026/2027 totals £75.1 million, before deductions, as shown in the table below:

Kirklees Council High Needs DSG Block Allocation

| Total high needs block before additional funding and deductions | Additional high needs funding | Total high needs block before deductions | Mainstream Academies Pre-16 special educational needs places funded at £6,000 | Special Academies Pre-16 special educational needs places | Special Academies Post-16 special educational needs places | Alternative provision (AP) academies and free schools | Further education (FE) and independent learning provider (ILP) | Total high needs block after deductions |
|---|-------------------------------|--|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| 75,147,094 | 0 | 75,147,094 | -864,000 | -1,800,000 | -240,000 | -820,000 | 3,282,000 | 68,141,094 |

2.6.2 Ongoing revisions to the national budget for the High Needs National Funding Formula have resulted in Kirklees being allocated £75.1 million for High Needs in 2026/2027 (**before deductions**) a £3.1 million increase on 2025/2026.

2.6.3 Schools Forum agreed on 10 October 2025 to support a funding transfer of £3.6 million to High Needs from the Schools Block for 2026/2027 as required by the Safety Valve Agreement. The intention is that the funding will support a range of investment measures as part of the broader Kirklees SEND Transformation agenda.

2.6.4 The Council is now in the fifth year of the Safety Valve intervention programme, which offers support to Local Authorities with large DSG Deficits. The Safety Valve agreement has been extended until 2029/2030. Monitoring against this is an ongoing process with periodic updates reported to Schools Forum and Cabinet working alongside the DfE.

2.7 Early Years Block Funding 2026/2027

2.7.1 The initial settlement for 2026/2027 totals £80.3 million, as shown in the table below:

| Funding stream | Confirmed rates | 2026/2027 funding allocation |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 3 & 4 yr olds - Universal | £6.20 | £21,103,422 |
| 3 & 4 yr olds - Extended | £6.20 | £9,720,585 |
| 2 yr olds - Disadvantaged | £8.30 | £5,118,705 |
| 2 yr olds - Working parent | £8.30 | £18,125,833 |
| Under 2s | £11.26 | £24,263,813 |
| Total place funding | | £78,332,358 |
| Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) | £1.15 | £1,460,900 |
| Disability Access Funding (DAF) | £975.00 | £336,375 |
| Maintained Nursery School Supplementary Funding (MNSSF) | £5.72 | £190,049 |
| Total Early Years Block | | £80,319,682 |

2.7.2 The Early Years block funding is estimated to increase by 17.7% from £68.3m in 2025-26 to £80.3m in 2026/2027. The main factors underpinning this increase are the final phase of the expansion to the early years entitlements in September 2025 and an increase in the funding rates by around 4.5%. There have also been increases to the Early Year Pupil Premium rate from £1 to £1.15 per hour per eligible child and Disability Access Fund from £938 to £975 per eligible child.

- 2.7.3 The main changes to the funding formula requirements include an increased minimum pass-through requirement for local authorities in 2026-27. The pass-through rate will increase from 96% to 97% meaning that the amount local authorities can retain for administration will reduce to 3% of the entitlement funding, reflecting the significant increase in funding levels in the last 3 years.
- 2.7.4 The DfE has confirmed that from April 2026 they will move from a funding system based on one headcount per year to a termly headcount in January, May and October. This is a welcome move as it will better align how local authorities are funded with the way they are required to fund early years providers.
- 2.7.5 The Early Years National Funding Formulae (EYNFF) are used to determine the hourly funding rates for each of the entitlements:
- an hourly funding rate for 9-months-olds up to 2-years for the working parent entitlement
 - an hourly funding rate for 2-year-olds which will be the same for both criteria; families in receipt of additional support (FRAS) and the working parent entitlement
 - an hourly funding rate for 3 and 4-year-olds for the universal and extended (working parent) hours entitlements
- 2.7.6 Funding provided through the 2025 to 2026 early years national insurance contributions and teachers' pay grant (EYNTPG) has been rolled into the national average funding rate for 3 and 4-year-olds, 2-year-olds and 9 months to 2-years-old. Local authorities will not, therefore, receive a separate EYNTPG allocation in 2026 to 2027.

Early Years Block - Local consultation process and timelines

- 2.7.7 Local Authorities are required to consult with early years providers each year.
- 2.7.8 After receiving initial allocations from the DfE an online consultation was opened on 19 December 2025 and closed 25 January 2026. The consultation document covers:
- The amount of funding retained centrally to support local authority statutory duties around the early years entitlements including administration of the funding.
 - Retaining a contingency fund.
 - Change to the number of funded weeks per term to align with the weeks funded by the DfE
 - Transfer of funds from the Early Years Block to the High Needs Block.
 - The amount of funding allocated to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Inclusion Fund (SENDIF).

Further details can be found in Appendix E.

- 2.7.9 Feedback from the consultation with the early years and childcare sector will be presented at the Early Years and Childcare Reference Group on 4 February 2026, the group's recommendations will be presented to Schools Forum on 6 February 2026. The Early Years and Childcare Reference Group includes provider representation for childminders, pre-schools, day nurseries, out of school provision and schools and academies with nursery provision.

2.8 Central School Services Block (CSSB) 2026/2027

- 2.8.1 Kirklees has been allocated £57.51 for every 4 to 16 year-old pupil attending schools and academies in the borough (an increase from the £43.38 rate received in 2025/2026). The Council has bid for a protected sum of £170,000 to reflect historic annual pension commitments charged to the DSG. This submission has been acknowledged by the DfE.
- 2.8.2 A breakdown of proposed use of the CSSB can be found in Appendix B.
- 2.8.3 The CSSB within the DSG allocates funding to Councils for a range of statutory and regulatory duties relating to all pupils within the authority no matter what type of school they attend. This used to be supported by Education Services Grant that ended in 2017, then was brought into the CSSB.
- 2.8.4 For 2026/27, the CSSB also includes the grants for Centrally Employed Teachers and Staff which were previously received in addition to the DSG, at a value of £974,260. If these had not been included we have actually seen a slight decrease in the amount of CSSB received.
- 2.8.5 Although this funding comes directly to the Council, Schools Forum has the responsibility for making an annual decision about the budget provision in response to local authority proposals. The allocation for 2026/2027, whilst we await the decision to protect the Historic commitments, is shown below:

| Kirklees Council Central School Services Block (CSSB) 2026/2027 | | | |
|---|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| CSSB Unit of funding | Number of pupils | Historic commitments | Total central school services block |
| £57.51 | 62,439 | £136,000 | £3,726,792 |

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Working with People

The scale of the financial challenges facing both maintained schools and academy schools inevitably means there will be implications for staff. The schools have been very successful in managing workforce reductions where this has been required in the past and will continue to work with colleagues and union partners to find satisfactory solutions in the future.

3.2 Working with Partners

Partnerships with parents, academy trusts, community organisations, business, health services, religious groups are essential to support the education and welfare of children through funding resources, extracurricular programs, health services and shared projects creating a supportive network. Schools Forum are to be recognised for the work they do strategically to ensure that children are well served across the district, and that financial implications are well understood by the wider system.

3.3 Place Based Working

The schools funding allocation recognises that the needs of different communities within Kirklees vary widely. Within the constraints of the national funding formula requirements,

the allocation considers additional need funding factors to target support towards children from particularly disadvantaged backgrounds.

3.4 Climate Change and Air Quality

There are no direct implications for climate change and air quality.

3.5 Improving outcomes for children

Well managed school finances can significantly improve outcomes for children by enabling smaller class sizes, attracting and retaining high-quality teaching staff, and providing enhanced learning resources. It also supports additional services such as counselling and special education, offers a range of extracurricular activities, and ensures a safe and healthy environment. By strategically allocating resources, schools can create an environment that fosters academic achievement and personal growth for all children.

3.6 Financial Implications

The DSG proposals contained within this report have been developed alongside the DfE guidance to ensure that funding is made available in the areas that will allow the schools to further improve the outcomes for individuals and communities as a whole.

3.7 Legal Implications

The Education Act 2002 gives the Secretary of State the power to give financial assistance to (Local Authorities) for purposes related to education – financial assistance may be given in any form including by way of grants and may be given on such terms as the Secretary of State considers appropriate. The Dedicated Schools Grant is the principal way in which the Secretary of State funds local authorities for the provision of pre-16 education in their respective areas. The Schools and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2025 and associated statutory guidance (to which the Council must legally have regard) set out in significant detail how the DSG is to be allocated as discussed in this report.

3.8 Other (eg Risk, Integrated Impact Assessment or Human Resources)

3.9 Consultation

The Education and Learning Partnership Board sits alongside Schools Forum as a consultative group. The two operate together in a complementary approach to work in partnership with our schools and settings. There are representatives from the school sector that sit on both the Education and Learning Partnership Board as well as Schools Forum. The work of each body is supportive of a single strategic oversight of the system.

Schools Forum consults with school groups through Kirklees High School Headteachers, Kirklees Primary Head Teachers groups and School briefings via Heads Up. Non-school members from the early years' private, voluntary, and independent sectors, trade unions, and the Post 16 sector ensure consultation and feedback from their representative groups. All relevant consultation with Schools Forum has now taken place in respect of the local schools funding formula.

A formal consultation with the Early Years Providers about 2026/2027 funding arrangements has concluded. The outcome of which will be shared with the Early Years and Childcare Reference group and Schools Forum.

The Early Years and Childcare Reference group consists of representatives from all sectors of the childcare market. This group consider proposals for the Early Years

Funding Formula and monitors spending of the Early Years Block. The views of this group are reported to Schools Forum.

The Portfolio Holder for Learning chairs the Education and Learning Partnership Board and attends Schools Forum. Updates for the Portfolio Holders for Children's Services and Learning are provided regularly.

3 Engagement

Engagement takes place between Schools Forum members and the school system they represent.

Engagement events are taking place to support Early Years Providers to respond to the formal consultation.

4 Options

4.1 Options considered

The move toward a National Funding formula continues to restrict options for local flexibility. However, options have been considered across the funding arrangement in consultation with Schools Forum. An illustration of the options available for the schools local funding formula are illustrated in Appendix A.

4.2 Reasons for recommended option

The options recommended are compliant with DfE requirements and represent a consensus view established with Schools Forum.

5 Next steps and timelines

Based on the DfE funding timeline, it is expected that the local authority will inform maintained schools of their 2026/2027 budget shares by 28th February 2026. The DfE will inform academies of their budget allocations for the academic year 2026/2027 by the 31st March 2026.

In order to provide schools with nursery classes with the full picture of their budget by the 28th February decisions about the Early Years funding formula and SENDIF value must be made by mid-February. Delegate authority to the Strategic Director for Children's Services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services and Portfolio Holder for Education, to take account of the outcomes of the provider consultation, the views of the Early Years and Childcare Reference Group and Schools Forum and make a final decision on the Early Years local funding formula 2026/2027 and the value of the Special Education Needs and Disability Inclusion Fund.

6 Contact officer

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7 Background Papers and History of Decisions

Kirklees Schools Forum papers can be found at the following link:

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=158&Year=0>

8 Appendices

Appendix A: 2026/27 DfE APT December 2025 National Funding Formula Funding Rates and Proposed Local Funding Formula Factors

Appendix B: Dedicated School Grant: Central Budget Retention 2026/2027 [for mainstream maintained schools and academies]

Appendix C: De-Delegation 2026/2027 - Maintained Schools Only

Appendix D: Meeting schedule

Appendix E: Consultation on the Kirklees Early Years Funding Formula

9 Service Director responsible

Kevin Mulvaney, Service Director – Finance.
Jo-Anne Sanders – Learning & Early Support

2026/27 DfE APT December 2025 National Funding Formula Funding Rates and Proposed Local Funding Formula Factors

| Factor | 25-26 NFF including ACA | 25-26 APT | Difference between 25-26 APT and 25-26 NFF | 26-27 NFF including ACA | 26-27 APT minimum | 26-27 APT maximum | Difference between 26-27 APT and 26-27 NFF | Rate Used |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|-----------|
| Primary basic entitlement | £3,847.65 | £3,847.65 | £0.00 | £4,064.69 | £3,963.07 | £4,166.31 | £0.00 | |
| KS3 basic entitlement | £5,422.92 | £5,287.35 | -£135.57 | £5,686.97 | £5,544.79 | £5,829.14 | -£135.89 | £5,551.08 |
| KS4 basic entitlement | £6,114.04 | £5,961.19 | -£152.85 | £6,411.09 | £6,250.81 | £6,571.37 | -£160.28 | |
| Primary FSM | £495.08 | £482.71 | -£12.37 | £505.09 | £492.46 | £517.71 | £0.00 | |
| Secondary FSM | £495.08 | £482.71 | -£12.37 | £505.09 | £492.46 | £517.71 | £0.00 | |
| Primary FSM6 | £1,060.18 | £1,033.68 | -£26.50 | £1,210.21 | £1,179.95 | £1,240.46 | £0.00 | |
| Secondary FSM6 | £1,555.26 | £1,516.38 | -£38.88 | £1,725.29 | £1,682.16 | £1,768.43 | £0.00 | |
| Primary IDACI F | £235.04 | £192.98 | -£42.06 | £240.04 | £202.19 | £246.04 | £0.00 | |
| Primary IDACI E | £285.05 | £231.22 | -£53.83 | £290.05 | £241.60 | £297.30 | £0.00 | |
| Primary IDACI D | £445.08 | £364.59 | -£80.49 | £455.08 | £382.64 | £466.45 | £0.00 | |
| Primary IDACI C | £490.08 | £399.64 | -£90.44 | £500.09 | £418.69 | £512.59 | £0.00 | |
| Primary IDACI B | £520.09 | £424.20 | -£95.89 | £530.09 | £443.79 | £543.34 | £0.00 | |
| Primary IDACI A | £685.12 | £559.87 | -£125.25 | £700.12 | £587.40 | £717.62 | £0.00 | |
| Secondary IDACI F | £340.06 | £277.43 | -£62.63 | £345.06 | £288.69 | £353.69 | -£56.37 | |
| Secondary IDACI E | £450.08 | £368.69 | -£81.39 | £460.08 | £386.83 | £471.58 | -£73.25 | |
| Secondary IDACI D | £635.11 | £520.46 | -£114.65 | £650.11 | £546.93 | £666.36 | -£103.18 | |
| Secondary IDACI C | £695.12 | £568.05 | -£127.07 | £710.12 | £595.76 | £727.87 | -£114.36 | |
| Secondary IDACI B | £745.13 | £609.01 | -£136.12 | £760.13 | £637.62 | £779.13 | -£122.51 | |
| Secondary IDACI A | £950.16 | £777.41 | -£172.75 | £970.16 | £814.69 | £994.42 | -£155.47 | |
| Primary EAL | £595.10 | £580.22 | -£14.88 | £610.10 | £594.85 | £625.36 | -£15.25 | |
| Secondary EAL | £1,595.27 | £1,555.39 | -£39.88 | £1,630.28 | £1,589.52 | £1,671.03 | -£40.76 | |
| Primary LPA | £1,175.20 | £1,145.82 | -£29.38 | £1,200.20 | £1,170.20 | £1,230.21 | -£30.00 | |
| Secondary LPA | £1,785.30 | £1,740.67 | -£44.63 | £1,825.31 | £1,779.68 | £1,870.94 | -£45.63 | |
| Primary mobility | £965.16 | £941.03 | -£24.13 | £985.17 | £960.54 | £1,009.80 | -£24.63 | |
| Secondary mobility | £1,385.24 | £1,350.60 | -£34.64 | £1,415.24 | £1,379.86 | £1,450.62 | -£35.38 | |
| Primary lump sum | £145,124.67 | £145,124.67 | £0.00 | £152,725.96 | £148,907.81 | £156,544.11 | £0.00 | |
| Secondary lump sum | £145,124.67 | £145,124.67 | £0.00 | £152,725.96 | £148,907.81 | £156,544.11 | £0.00 | |
| Primary sparsity | £57,409.76 | £55,974.51 | -£1,435.25 | £58,609.96 | £57,144.71 | £60,075.21 | -£1,465.25 | |
| Secondary sparsity | £83,414.18 | £81,328.82 | -£2,085.36 | £85,214.48 | £83,084.12 | £87,344.85 | -£2,130.36 | |
| Middle-school sparsity | £83,414.18 | £17,064.57 | -£66,349.61 | £85,214.48 | £25,499.84 | £87,344.85 | £59,714.64 | - |
| All-through sparsity | £83,414.18 | £17,064.57 | -£66,349.61 | £85,214.48 | £25,499.84 | £87,344.85 | £59,714.64 | - |
| Split sites basic eligibility funding | £54,009.18 | £54,009.18 | £0.00 | £55,109.37 | £53,731.63 | £56,487.10 | £0.00 | |
| Split sites distance funding | £27,004.59 | £27,004.59 | £0.00 | £27,604.69 | £26,914.57 | £28,294.81 | £0.00 | |
| London fringe | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | |

The boxes highlighted in pink represent the proposed local funding formula which are supported by Schools forum. Subject to Cabinet approval these will be submitted in the APT to the DfE.

Dedicated School Grant: Central Budget Retention 2026/2027
[for mainstream maintained schools and academies]

1. Growth Funding Within the Schools Block

| Budget provision | £ | Notes |
|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Pupil Growth Fund | 600,000 | Supports mid-year basic need pupil growth of sufficient scale to trigger a new class arrangement. Also supports schools struggling to meet the KS1 class size regulation. Pupil Growth Fund is only allocated where a school cannot address the issue from its own budget resources |
| Future Pupil Growth | 300,000 | The Schools Block allocation includes an element of funding towards the cost of future pupil growth within the system. e.g., new schools growing by one year group per annum, schools asked to vary their admission number to take in additional pupils in a 'bulge' class arrangement. |
| Total | £900,000 | |

As the population peak associated with the Year 7 cohort entering secondary schools eases the need for Future Pupil Growth element is reducing. The £300K budget for 2026/2027 has been agreed by Schools Forum to be half of the value of 2025/2026 (£600K).

2. The Central School Services Block (CSSB)

| Budget Heading | Revised Allocation 2025/2026 £ | Proposed Allocation 2026/2027 £ |
|--|---|--|
| Servicing of Schools Forum | 8,016 | 8,297 |
| Strategic Learning | 34,000 | 35,190 |
| Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) | 46,800 | 48,438 |
| Pupil Admissions Service | 433,264 | 448,428 |
| School Organisation & Planning | 150,592 | 155,863 |
| Finance Support Costs | 13,208 | 13,670 |
| Payroll Support Costs | 16,016 | 16,577 |
| Personnel Costs | 9,152 | 9,472 |
| School Reorganisation Support | 335,608 | 347,354 |
| Historic DSG pension commitments | 170,000 | 136,000 |
| Former Teachers Pay & Pension Grant funding in respect of centrally employed teachers – <i>Specialist Provision Coordination</i> | 21,008 | 21,743 |
| Former Teachers Pay & Pension Grant funding in respect of centrally employed teachers – <i>Portex ICAN EYSEN</i> | 14,248 | 14,747 |
| Kirklees Business Solutions (KBS) | 80,000 | 80,000 |
| Centrally Employed Staff NICS (National Insurance Contributions) | | 559,892 |
| Centrally Employed Staff SBSG (School Budget Support Grant) | | 414,368 |
| National Copyright Licence charge | 453,775 | 453,775 |
| Per pupil allocation to the Council in respect of statutory and regulatory duties for all children in Kirklees | 1,092,917 | 911,582 |
| TOTAL | £2,878,604 | £3,675,396 |

3. Funding Retained within Early Years Block

| Budget area | 2025-26 | Additional resources for 2026-27 | Total | 3.5% increase | Final total 2026-27 | Description |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|---|
| Early Learning and Childcare | £837,205 | £43,300 | £880,505 | £30,818 | £911,323 | Free Early Education Funding, Childcare Sufficiency and Early Years Outcomes Teams – funding to providers, free entitlement place sufficiency, supporting standards of delivery |
| Back office / management costs | £81,682 | £0 | £81,682 | £2,859 | £84,541 | Finance, payroll, HR, Legal, IT etc |
| Inclusion Support | £254,301 | £0 | £254,301 | £8,901 | £263,202 | Contribution to the Early Years SEND team |
| Miscellaneous | £13,759 | £0 | £13,759 | £482 | £14,241 | Contribution to admissions, maternity, union duties etc. |
| Total | £1,186,947 | £43,300 | £1,230,247 | £43,059 | £1,273,306 | |

De-Delegation 2026/2027 - Maintained Schools Only

| De-Delegation Description | Primary per pupil rate 2025/2026 | Proposed Primary per pupil rate 2026/2027 | Secondary per pupil rate 2025/2026 | Proposed Secondary per pupil rate 2026/2027 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|---|
| School Contingency | £13.44 | £20.16 | £16.85 | £25.28 |
| Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) | £3.05 | £3.22 | £3.82 | £4.03 |
| Free school meals eligibility checks | £1.28 | £1.35 | £1.60 | £1.69 |
| Maternity, paternity & adoptive leave | £43.61 | £47.97 | £43.61 | £47.97 |
| Trade union facilities time | £7.10 | £8.52 | £0.00 | £0.00 |
| Public duties | £0.20 | £0.21 | £0.24 | £0.25 |
| International new arrivals | £1.96 | £2.07 | £2.46 | £2.60 |
| School Improvement Commissioning | £5.59 | £5.90 | £14.91 | £15.73 |
| Total | £76.23 | £89.40 | £83.49 | £97.55 |

Meeting Schedule

| Consultation focus | Meetings | Meeting date | DfE Response Date |
|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Schools Block, High Needs Block and Central Schools Services Block Implications of National Funding Formula for the Council and schools from 2025/2026 | Consultation & Engagement with schools | Block Transfer (Safety Valve) reviewed and agreed 10 October 2025 De-delegations engagement 12 December 2025 | 22 January 2025 |
| | Schools Forum | 16 January 2026 | |
| | Schools Funding paper to Cabinet | 10 February 2026 | |
| Early Years Block | Online survey | 19 December 2025 to 25 January 2026 | 28 February 2025 |
| | Virtual briefing sessions | 12, 14 and 15 January 2026 | |
| | Early Years and Childcare Reference group | 4 February 2026 | |
| | Schools Forum | 6 February 2026 | |

Consultation on the Kirklees Early Years Funding Formula

Introduction

The Department for Education (DfE) published details of the Early Years Funding Formula 2026-27 and the local authority hourly funding rates on 15 December 2025 followed by the local authority dedicated schools grant (DSG) initial allocations on 17 December 2025. The rates include a national average increase between 4.3% for under 2-year-olds to 4.9% for 3 and 4-year-olds which is above the rate of inflation.

The funding rate for the Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) will increase from £1 to £1.15 per hour per eligible child, and the Disability Access Fund (DAF) will increase from £938 to £975 per eligible child per year.

Full details can be found here: [Early years funding: 2026 to 2027 - GOV.UK](#)

Although this adds further investment to early years, Kirklees along with one third of other local authorities will still receive the lowest funding base rate in the country for three-and four-year olds from April 2026.

The proposals included in this consultation are based on the information published by the DfE. Further clarification is required regarding some of the information published which may impact the final decision on the funding formula.

Kirklees Early Years Block Funding 2026-27

The figures in the table below represent the initial allocation received from the DfE based on the estimated take-up of places, the allocations will be updated following each termly census submission during the year.

Table 1: Initial funding allocation for 2026-27

| Funding stream | 2026-27 Initial funding allocation |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 3- & 4-year-olds - Universal | £21,103,422 |
| 3- & 4-year-olds - Extended | £9,720,585 |
| 2-year-olds - Disadvantaged | £5,118,705 |
| 2-year-olds - Working parent | £18,125,833 |
| Under 2-year-olds - Working parent | £24,263,813 |
| Total place funding | £78,332,358 |
| Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) | £1,460,900 |
| Disability Access Funding (DAF) | £336,375 |
| Maintained Nursery School Supplementary Funding (MNSSF) | £190,049 |
| Total Early Years Block | £80,319,682 |

Changes for 2026-27

The main changes to the national funding formula system are:

- an increased minimum pass-through requirement for local authorities in 2026-27. The pass-through rate will increase from 96% to 97% meaning that the amount local authorities can retain for administration will reduce to 3% of the entitlement funding.
- confirmation that local authorities must announce their funding rates to childcare providers by 28 February 2026.
- move to a termly funding system from April 2026, this means that there will be an early years census return to submit to the DfE each term based on child headcounts in January, May and October.

Consultation

As stated in the **Early years entitlements: local authority funding operational guide 2026 to 2027**;

“Local authorities must determine their funding formulae before the beginning of the financial year. Where a local authority proposes to make changes to the funding formula it used during the previous financial year that will affect early years providers, it must first consult its schools forum, maintained schools, and early years providers. Local authorities must also seek approval from their schools forum to agree any entitlements funding they intend to retain to fund central functions. *Local authorities are not permitted to amend their funding formulae after the financial year has started*”.

The Council are not proposing to make any significant changes to the current funding formula used in 2025-26, this document sets out the proposals for 2026-27.

Key areas for consultation in 2026-27

The Council is seeking providers views on the following elements:

- A. The amount of funding retained centrally to support local authority statutory duties around the early years entitlements including administration of the funding.
- B. Retaining a contingency fund for each of the five entitlement funding streams.
- C. Change to the number of funded weeks in the summer and spring terms.
- D. Transfer of funds from the Early Years Block to the High Needs Block.
- E. The amount of funding allocated to the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Inclusion Fund (SENDIF).

Consultation timeline

Table 2: Consultation timeline

| Event | Dates |
|---|--|
| Online survey | 19 December 2025 to 25 January 2026 |
| Virtual briefing sessions | 12, 14 and 15 January 2026 |
| Early Years and Childcare Reference group includes provider representation for childminders, pre-schools, day nurseries, out of school provision and schools and academies with nursery provision. | 4 February 2026 |
| Schools Forum | 6 February 2026 |
| Funding formula and rates communicated to providers | Before 28 February 2026 |

Section A: Centrally retained funds

From 2026-27 local authorities are required to pass through 97% of the early years funding to providers, for the following formula elements for each of the entitlement funding streams:

- base rate funding for all providers
- supplements for all providers
- the funding paid directly to providers from the special educational needs and disabilities inclusion fund (SENDIF)
- contingency funding

These funds contribute to the cost of the Free Early Education Funding, Childcare Sufficiency, Early Years Outcomes and Early Years SEND Teams to support funding distribution, free entitlement place sufficiency, standards of delivery and inclusion. See table below for details.

The Council proposes a small increase of £86,359; this includes £43,059 to reflect the anticipated impact of the local authority pay award (3.5%) for each of the local authority support teams and £43,300 to increase resources in the Free Early Education Funding Team to support changes in the early years funding system and associated local authority duties, these include;

- From January 2026, providers will be required to publish their fee structures and provide clear invoices to parents, the Council must monitor compliance with these requirements.
- From April 2026, termly Early Years Census returns will be implemented which is a significant increase to the current annual return.

This is equivalent to 0.1% of the total Early Years Block which is a very small increase when compared with an increase of 17.7% to the total Early Years Block Funding this year.

After considering the proposed amounts to be retained centrally, the average funding pass through rates will exceed the requirement of 97%. This demonstrates that the Council continues to maximise the available funding for providers whilst being realistic about administration and the affordability of important services.

Table 3: Proposed amounts to be retained centrally

| Budget area | 2025-26 | Additional Resources | 3.5% increase | 2026-27 | Description |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|---|
| Early Learning and Childcare | £837,205 | £43,300 | £30,818 | £911,323 | Free Early Education Funding, Childcare Sufficiency and Early Years Outcomes Teams – funding to providers, free entitlement place sufficiency, supporting standards of delivery |
| Back office / management costs | £81,682 | | £2,859 | £84,541 | Finance, payroll, HR, Legal, IT etc |
| Inclusion Support | £254,301 | | £8,901 | £263,202 | Contribution to the Early Years SEND team |
| Miscellaneous | £13,759 | | £482 | £14,241 | Contribution to admissions, maternity, union duties etc. |
| Total | £1,186,947 | £43,300 | £43,059 | £1,273,306 | |

Section B: Contingency fund

In 2024-25 it was agreed to establish a contingency fund of 0.8% due to the increasing value of the Early Years block and the significant expansion of the entitlements up to September 2025. In 2025-26 it was agreed to retain the contingency fund of 0.8% as a full year of the new entitlements will not be realised until 2026-27 and it could take another year or two for the new entitlements to be fully embedded and for take-up to stabilise.

From April 2026, termly national Early Years Census returns will be implemented which means that the way funding is distributed to local authorities will change for the established entitlements, i.e. the universal and extended entitlements for 3- and 4-year-olds and the entitlement for 2-year-olds whose families receive additional support. This change will mean that in this first year of implementation local authorities will receive less funding for the 3- and 4-year-old entitlements due to the overall number of funded hours being less. To maintain the status quo the DfE have adjusted for this in the 3- and 4-year-old funding rates by adding an average of 2.94% to local authority base rates prior to applying the national funding formula and increases for inflation etc.

In Kirklees the change to a termly funding system will mean a further reduction in funding because the national termly census headcounts are set early in the term i.e. the third Thursday in January, the third Thursday in May and the first Thursday in October whereas Kirklees currently funds children starting at a provider until 2 weeks before each school term ends hence is much later. As a guide the estimated cost to the Kirklees Early Years Block Budget of children starting after the national termly census dates is £662,000 for the year, this is based on funding claims received in 2025. One option to reduce the cost of this shortfall in funding would be to bring forward the deadline for accepting funding claims for children starting later in the term however in the interests of balancing costs against, children's learning and meeting the needs of working parents and sustainable providers the Council is not proposing to make any changes at this time.

There is also a risk of a shortfall of funding associated with children who stretch their entitlement and move from one funding stream to another after the summer term. For example, children aged 2 in the summer term that become aged 3 on or before 31 August will move to the 3- and

4-year-old funding stream and could exceed their maximum entitlement hours due to limitations of the IT system. The same situation will apply to 9-month-old children that become aged 2 on or before 31 August.

Taking into account the change in the national funding system from April 2026 and to ensure there is sufficient funding available so that no provider loses out in a situation where a child is stretching their entitlement, it is proposed that a contingency fund of 1% from each funding stream is retained until such risks are fully mitigated. The contingency fund is set aside to reduce risk of an overspend and will be paid to providers in the final term of the financial year if sufficient funds are available.

Section C: Change to the number of funded weeks in the summer and spring terms

From 2026-27 the DfE will provide funding as follows; 13 weeks in the summer term 2026, 14 weeks in the autumn term 2026 and 11 weeks in the spring term 2027. Currently and for a number of years Kirklees Council has funded providers as follows; 12 weeks in the summer term, 14 weeks in the autumn term and 12 weeks in the spring term. To avoid further complications and a mismatch of the funding received from the DfE and the funding distributed to providers the Council is proposing to change the funded weeks to match the DfE funded weeks from April 2026. Without this change further increases in the contingency fund would be required.

Sometimes the number of weeks in the term does not match the number of funded weeks due to the timing of Easter, the above proposal does not change the current requirement for term-time only providers to deliver 38 weeks of free early learning and childcare over the academic year.

Section D: Transfer of funds from the Early Years Block to the High Needs Block

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) consists of the following funding blocks:

- Early years block
- High needs block
- Schools block
- Central school services block

The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Inclusion Fund (SENDIF) has historically been funded from the Council's General Fund Budgets. DfE guidance states that SENDIF should be funded from the High Needs (HN) Block and/or the Early Years (EY) Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). A decision was taken by the Council in the financial year 2022-23 to transfer the funding of SENDIF to the HN Block from April 2023 onwards.

For the past two years (2024-25 and 2025-26), in consultation with the early years sector, it was agreed that £0.5 million would be transferred from the EY Block to the HN Block to help fund the costs relating to SENDIF.

As a result of overspending on the whole HN Block, the Council is working with the DfE under an agreement, referred to as the Safety Valve agreement, which is expected to run until the financial year 2029-30. Whilst this will bring additional funding, the Council have agreed in principle with the DfE for an EY Block Transfer and for this to continue for the duration of the Safety Valve agreement to support financial sustainability, but this will be subject to review and

consultation each year. This will be particularly important when the details of the governments promised SEND reforms have been fully announced and the full impact is understood.

It is therefore proposed, to transfer £0.5 million in 2026-27 from the EY Block to the HN Block to continue to support costs relating to SENDIF.

For context, the Council have also agreed in principle with the DfE for a Block Transfer from the Schools Block of the DSG which is expected to be £3.6 million in 2026-27.

Section E: The special educational needs and disabilities inclusion fund (SENDIF)

In Kirklees, the special educational needs inclusion fund (SENIF) is referred to as 'SENDIF'.

Following consultation last year, the SENDIF budget for 2025-26 was set at a total of £3 million with £2 million from the Early Years Block and £1 million agreed from the High Needs Block. This was a consequence of the increase in demand in Summer 2024, with more SENDIF claims being received than expected.

Following regular budget reviews and cautious analysis of projected possible demand, based on the entitlement expansions, expenditure is predicted to be within the set £3 million budget.

It is recognised that there is a desire for consistency in the hourly SENDIF rate and so far, this financial year the rate has been maintained at £6.20 for both the Summer and Autumn term. For the Spring Term 2026 it is anticipated that the rate can be increased to £6.96.

To maintain a similar SENDIF offer in 2026-27, the Council proposes an inflationary uplift to the budget and anticipates that a rate around £6.96 could be maintained throughout the year assuming demand remains as predicted.

Therefore, the proposed value of SENDIF in 2026-27 is £3 million (plus an amount for inflation costs), £1 million from the High Needs block funding plus £2 million from the Early Years block funding.

Appendix A: Illustration of the proposed Early Years Funding Formula for 2026-27

The table below shows the 2026-27 proposed formula values compared with the current formula values in 2025-26. These figures are for illustrative purposes only; the final formula funding values and the provider base rates will be confirmed after this consultation.

Table 4: 2026-27 proposed formula values compared with the 2025-26 formula values

| | 2025-26 | Proposed 2026-27 | Difference £ | Difference % |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Deprivation allocation | £320,000 | £320,000 | £0 | 0% |
| Central retention | £1,186,947 | £1,273,306 | +£86,359 | +7.3% |
| Contingency (1%) | £532,542 | £783,324 | +£250,782 | +47.1% |
| Transfer to High Needs Block | £500,000 | £500,000 | £0 | 0% |
| SENDIF (£2m from Early Years Block and £1m from High Needs Block, plus 3.5% increase for inflation costs) | £3,000,000 | £3,105,000 | +£105,000 | +3.5% |
| Total Early Years Block * | £66,567,740 | £78,332,358 | £11,764,619 | +17.7% |

* Excludes Early Years Pupil Premium, Disability Access Funding and Maintained Nursery School Supplementary Funding.

Appendix B: Current Early Years Funding Formula (2025-26)

Base rates

- £10.23 for under two-year-olds
- £7.52 for two-year olds
- £5.38 for three- and four-year olds (universal and extended hours)

Deprivation

The allocation is £320,000. Funding is allocated using the current metric IDACI (Income deprivation affecting children index) the rates are:

- Band A: £0.27
- Band B: £0.21
- Band C: £0.20
- Band D: £0.18
- Band E: £0.11
- Band F: £0.09

Special educational needs and disabilities inclusion fund (SENDIF)

The allocation is £3 million for low level and emerging needs to support providers from all sectors delivering the free entitlements. £1 million contribution from the High Needs block funding and £2 million contribution from the Early Years block funding.

Central retention

£1,186,947 is retained to fund local authority statutory duties around the early years entitlements including administration of the funding, quality improvement, sufficient places and SEN support.

Table 5 Central retention budget breakdown

| Budget area | Budget | Description |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Early Learning and Childcare | £837,205 | Free Early Education, Childcare Sufficiency and Early Years Outcomes Teams – funding to providers, free entitlement place sufficiency, supporting standards of delivery |
| Back office / management costs | £81,682 | Finance, payroll, HR, Legal, IT etc |
| Inclusion Support | £254,301 | Contribution to the Inclusion Officer team |
| Miscellaneous | £13,759 | Contribution to admissions, maternity, union duties etc |
| TOTAL | £1,186,947 | |

Additional funding

100% of additional funding is passed directly onto providers.

- a) Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP), the hourly rate is £1. EYPP is only payable for the first 15 hours used by children taking up the eligible working parents entitlements for 3 and 4-year-olds and 2-year-olds and under. The EYPP is not payable on the additional 15 hours for these entitlements.
- b) Disability Access Funding (DAF), a lump sum payment of £938 available each year to funded children in receipt of Disability Living Allowance (DLA)