



**London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham  
SCHOOLS FORUM**

**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

**Lena Gardens Primary Academy Closure 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 - Funding to be allocated.**

**Open**

**Wards Affected: (All Wards); All**

**Accountable Director:** Jacqui McShannon, Director of Children Services

**Report Authors:**

Tony Burton  
Head of Finance for Children's Services  
and Education  
Jill Lecznar  
Interim Head of Finance

**Contact Details:**

**Tel:** 07909 004 710  
**E-mail:** tony.burton@lbhf.gov.uk  
  
Tel: 07776 672 352  
E-mail: jill.lecznar@lbhf.gov.uk

**Purpose of the report**

This report aims to inform discussion and makes proposals to allocate the returned funding for Lena Gardens to the schools which took their pupils.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. The Department for Education confirmed the closure of Lena Gardens at the end of the 2018/19 academic year. Following enquires by the Children's Services and Education finance team, the DfE has also confirmed that the proportion of funding from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 31<sup>st</sup> March will be returned to be allocated to schools who took Lena Gardens pupils.
- 1.2. This report proposes a methodology for the allocation of this funding. DfE has confirmed that £308,027 will be returned in November 2019.
- 1.3. A schools Forum report on 21st May 2019 (item 9) agreed the use £55,458 of maintained schools contingency reserve to support exceptional in year moves to maintained schools in the period October 2018 to March 2019. Contingency funding was proposed to be limited and to cover the Spring and Summer 2019

terms only. Schools Forum representatives queried at that time why no funding was proposed to cover the Autumn Term 2019.

- 1.4. Sufficient funding has been received from the ESFA to fund all pupil moves from Lena Gardens School to all Hammersmith and Fulham Schools from the date of pupil move to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020. It is no longer proposed to draw on maintained schools contingency in this area.

## **2. Recommendation for approval**

- 2.1. Appendix 1 shows the proposed allocation of funding to all the schools who took Lena Gardens pupils. Information received from colleagues in school admissions and schools themselves indicated that 71 pupils had been relocated to other LBHF schools. This proposal seeks to allocate all the returned funding to schools. The funding is broken down into 3 main elements:
  - Funding for 2 remaining terms of the 2019-20 financial year based on 2/3 of the AWPU rate of £3,565.92 and 2/3 of the pupil led factors.
  - Funding for pupils who transferred during the 2018-19 academic year based on the term they transferred giving a proportion of the AWPU rate.
  - Funding for pupils with EHCPs who transferred in September 2019 based on 2/3 of the £6,000 basic funding plus an allowance for 2.5 hours per week additional LSA hours until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.
- 2.2. That the money received from the ESFA is fully allocated to Hammersmith and Fulham Schools who received Lena Gardens pupils and there is no draw on maintained schools contingency reserve as previously agreed at 21st May 2019 Schools Forum.

## **3. Financial Implications**

- 3.1. The cost of these proposals will be fully funded from the returned DSG to a value of £308,027.
- 3.2. £55,458 of maintained contingency reserve will be available to support maintained primary schools in future years.

## **4. Next Steps**

- 4.1. Schools forum to agree the allocation of funding proposed in 2.1 above.
- 4.2. Officers will issue proposed pupil level schedule to schools affected for checking.
- 4.3. Payments to schools will be scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019 payment run subject to schools validating the data.

**END OF REPORT**