


## Agenda Item 4

	<b>London Borough of Hammersmith &amp; Fulham</b> <b>SCHOOLS FORUM</b> <b>Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023</b>
<b>High Needs Block funding 2024/25 – Special Provision</b>	
<b>Open</b>	
<b>Wards Affected: (All Wards); All</b>	
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Jacqui Mc Shannon, Strategic Director of Children’s Services	
<b>Report Authors:</b> Peter Haylock Operational Director of Education and SEND  Tony Burton Head of Finance for Children’s and Education	<b>Contact Details:</b> E-mail:  <a href="mailto:Peter.Haylock@lbhf.gov.uk">Peter.Haylock@lbhf.gov.uk</a>  <a href="mailto:Tony.burton@lbhf.gov.uk">Tony.burton@lbhf.gov.uk</a>
<b>Purpose of the report</b>  This report updates forum on the final High Needs Block allocation for the financial year 2024/25 and updates on changes to the Dedicated Schools Grant conditions prescribed by the Education and Standards Funding Agency in relation to the High Needs Block.  The report provides confirmation of proposed commissioned places for 2024/25 and indicative funding for special provision in Hammersmith and Fulham.	

## Introduction

1. High needs funding supports provision for pupils and students with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) who require additional resources to participate in education and learning. This extends from their early years to age 25 in schools and colleges (excluding students aged 19 to 25 who do not have an Education Health Care plan (EHCP) or students who are over the age of 25) and pre-16 pupils in Alternative Provision (AP) who because of exclusion, illness or other reasons, cannot receive their education in mainstream schools.
2. High needs funding is provided to local authorities (LA) through the high needs block (HNB) of the Dedicated Schools Grant, enabling Local Authorities to meet their statutory duties under the Children and Families Act 2014.
3. The financial allocations from the HNB provides local authorities with resources for place and top-up funding for schools and colleges and funding for high needs services delivered directly by the LA.

## 2024/25 provisional HNB allocations

4. The national increase in high needs funding between 2023/24 and 2024/25 will be £430m or 4.3%.
5. The provisional allocation for Hammersmith and Fulham shows a 4.28% increase on the formula funding factors. This decreases to 3.77% when other cash adjustments are taken into account.

	<b>2024/25 Provisional HNB allocation £m</b>	<b>2023/24 HNB allocation £m</b>	<b>Cash increase/ decrease £</b>	<b>Percentage increase %</b>
Funding factors	35.721	34.254	1.467	4.28
Other adjustments – import/export, special free schools and additional funding	1.932	2.030	(0.098)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>37.653</b>	<b>36.284</b>	<b>1.369</b>	<b>3.77</b>

## Funding for Special Provision 2024/25

### Place Funding

6. Hammersmith and Fulham is responsible for ensuring sufficient local provision for children and young people with SEND. This includes ensuring that there is suitable provision and sufficient numbers and types of placements to meet local and regional needs.

7. There are no proposals to amend the number of commissioned places at H&F special provision in 2024/25.

<b>Special Provision</b>	<b>Number of places April 2024 AY 2023/24</b>	<b>Number of places September 2024 AY 2024/25</b>	<b>Funding per place £</b>	<b>FY 2023/24 Total Place Funding £</b>
Cambridge Special School	129	129	10,000	1,290,000
Wood Lane High School	100	100	10,000	1,000,000
Jack Tizard Special School	70	70	10,000	700,000
Queensmill School	246	246	10,000	2,460,000
Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College	300	300	6,000	1,800,000
Ormiston Academy Trust – The Bridge/Courtyard AP	64	64	10,000	640,000
William Morris Sixth Form	50	50	6,000	300,000
Miles Coverdale Special Resource Unit *	20	20	6,000/10,000	120,000
Queens Manor Resource Unit *	20	20	6,000/10,000	160,000
<b>Total Place Funding</b>	<b>999</b>	<b>999</b>		<b>8,470,000</b>

\*The place funding value is dependent on the number of occupied places with the Resource Unit. Therefore, the funding value may change.

### **Special Schools Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG)**

8. The MFG protection for maintained special schools and special academies in 2024/25 is again set by a condition of grant that applies to local authorities DSG.
9. The LA in deciding on top-up funding rates for the pupils to be placed in its maintained special schools or special academies must set a minimum percentage by which the budget of any special school or special academy would change from the 2023/24 to 2024/25 financial years.
10. The percentage must be at least 0% and within the range 0% to 0.5%. This is consistent with the MFG range that has been applied to mainstream schools in

2024/25. The MFG was introduced as a condition of grant for the first time in 2023/24 and was set as 3% over a 2 year period, 2021/22 to 2023/24. Each setting received a 2023/24 top-up increase to reflect this requirement.

11. By applying a 0% MFG to Special Schools, the top-up value per pupil for 2024/25 will remain the same as 2023/24. A **recommended** 0.5% MFG increase will give the increases per the table below.

School	2024/25 Places	Top-up increase per pupil 2024/25 £	Proposed top-up to meet 0.5% MFG £	Total estimated top-up annual increase 2024/25 £
<b>Cambridge Special School</b>	<b>129</b>			<b>48,513</b>
Basic rate	129	123	14,764	15,893
Higher rate	40	815	24,015	32,619
<b>Woodlane High School</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>11,738</b>	<b>10,815</b>
<b>Jack Tizard Special School</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>32,698</b>	<b>14,870</b>
<b>Queensmill School</b>	<b>246</b>			<b>34,021</b>
Queensmill Main	169	146	19,335	24,665
Queensmill at FP	60	116	13,291	3,476
Queensmill at FS	47	125	15,146	5,880
<b>Total</b>				<b>108,219</b>

### Additional High Needs Funding 2024/25

12. In the 2022 autumn statement, there was an announcement of extra funding for special schools. A proportion of this funding was required to be passed on to schools and equated to approximately a 3.4% increase on each special provision's budget.
13. This additional funding has been included in the 2023/24 baseline which has been used to inform the 2024/25 high needs block funding allocations. A DSG condition of grant is in place to ensure that LA's pass on the same level of additional funding to the schools.
14. The ESFA have specified that for maintained special schools, special academies and free schools, the same amount per place must be allocated in 2024/25 as for 2023/24.

15. For AP academies and free schools, the ESFA will provide 2021/22 income data of which a payment of 3.4% of the income total should be allocated to this provision type.

<b>Special Provision</b>	<b>Number of places</b>	<b>2023/24 funding per place £</b>	<b>Additional funding 2024/25 provisional £</b>	<b>Increase on 2023/24 allocation £</b>
Cambridge Special School	129	1,111.46	143,378	0
Wood Lane High School	100	786.82	78,682	0
Jack Tizard Special School	70	1,428.74	100,012	0
Queensmill School	246	953.65	234,599	0
Ormiston Bridge Academy	50	-	64,374	25,598
Ormiston Courtyard Academy	14	-	13,064	568
Westside School	54	-	53,960	-7,512
<b>Total</b>			<b>688,069</b>	<b>18,654</b>

#### **Teachers Pay Grants 2024/25**

16. There will be a separate teachers' pay additional grant (TPAG) for 2024/25 which is intended to reflect the additional cost of the 2023 teachers' pay award. TPAG was introduced in 2023/24 from September 2023 and will continue in 2024/25.

<b>School</b>	<b>Places</b>	<b>Provisional 2024/25 TPAG grant allocation £</b>	<b>Provisional 2024/25 Historic Teachers Pay and Pensions grant £</b>
Cambridge Special School	129	69,789	103,360
Wood Lane High School	100	54,100	80,124
Jack Tizard Special School	70	37,870	56,086
Queensmill School	246	133,087	197,105
Ormiston Bridge Academy	50	27,050	40,062
Ormiston Courtyard Academy	14	7,574	32,050
Westside School	54	29,214	48,074
Parayhouse School	56	30,296	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>388,980</b>	<b>556,861</b>

17. This new separate grant should not be confused with the historical teachers' pay and pensions grant. This historic grant was incorporated into the high needs LA allocations from 2021/22 but has still been allocated to schools on the same basis as the former grant. This allocation will continue.

18. The provisional funding rate for 2024/25 will be £541 per commissioned place.

### Summary of provisional budget allocation for maintained Special Schools and Special Academy

19. The table below gives an indicative indication of the 2024/25 budget that H&F special schools can expect to receive.
20. The calculation for top-up has been based on place numbers rather than actual pupil numbers and therefore will differ from the final allocation.

Provisional 2024/25 allocation compared to equivalent 2023/24 allocation for comparison purposes.

School	2024/25 provisional budget £m	2023/24 equivalent budget for comparison £m	Variance £m	Percentage increase %
Cambridge Special School	4.470	4.388	0.082	1.87
Wood Lane High School	2.386	2.352	0.034	1.45
Jack Tizard Special School	3.167	3.152	0.015	0.48
Queensmill School	7.403	7.314	0.089	1.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.426</b>	<b>17.206</b>	<b>0.220</b>	

Detailed breakdown of the provisional 2024/25 allocation compared to equivalent 2023/24 allocation for comparison purposes.

School	Place funding £m	24/25 Top-up based on places (0.5% MFG) £m	24/25 Additional High needs funding £m	TPAG £m	Historic Teachers P&P grant £m	24/25 Total indicative funding £m
Cambridge Special School	1.290	2.865	0.143	0.069	0.103	<b>4.470</b>
Wood Lane High School	1.000	1.174	0.078	0.054	0.080	<b>2.386</b>
Jack Tizard Special School	0.700	2.274	0.100	0.037	0.056	<b>3.167</b>
Queensmill School	2.460	4.378	0.235	0.133	0.197	<b>7.403</b>
<b>24/25 Total</b>	<b>5.45</b>	<b>10.691</b>	<b>0.556</b>	<b>0.293</b>	<b>0.436</b>	<b>17.426</b>

Detailed breakdown of the equivalent funding for 2023/24 financial year.

<b>School</b>	<b>Place funding £m</b>	<b>2023/24 Top-up based on places £m</b>	<b>23/24 Additional High needs funding £m</b>	<b>TPAG £m</b>	<b>Historic Teachers P&amp;P grant £m</b>	<b>23/24 Total funding £m</b>
Cambridge Special School	1.290	2.816	0.143	0.036	0.103	<b>4.388</b>
Wood Lane High School	1.000	1.163	0.078	0.031	0.080	<b>2.352</b>
Jack Tizard Special School	0.700	2.274	0.100	0.022	0.056	<b>3.152</b>
Queensmill School	2.460	4.344	0.235	0.078	0.197	<b>7.314</b>
<b>23/24 Total</b>	<b>5.45</b>	<b>10.597</b>	<b>0.556</b>	<b>0.167</b>	<b>0.436</b>	<b>17.206</b>

**Report Ends**