

Criteria for Additional Funding for New Academy/Maintained Schools and Planned Growth in Primary and Secondary Academy/Maintained Schools.

Agreed at Schools Forum 18th November 2015

Growth Criteria

Growth funding will be provided to mainstream maintained schools and academies where:

1. The County Council agree that a temporary or permanent increase to a school's PAN is required to meet **basic need population growth** (not simply arising from parental preference or a school's desire to increase capacity). This would normally be to accommodate an additional reception class.
2. The County Council agree that a temporary increase to a school's PAN is required to accommodate in year admissions across a number of year groups resulting from **basic need expansion increases in an area** (not simply arising from parental preference or a school's desire to increase capacity).
3. The County Council requests schools to admit significant additional pupils **as a consequence of a school closure**.
4. In-year **support to a new school** from the growth fund is required in line with section 3 of the New School Funding Criteria below.

The agreed increase will normally be in the form of an additional class or half class.

Where an additional class is needed in an area but agreement cannot be reached to fund one school, the funding may be split between two or more schools.

Growth Funding Payments

One off funding will be allocated based on 30 pupils (or 15 if a half class) X the age weighted pupil unit (AWPU) X 7/12ths. (note: for an academy a full AY funding is paid subject to the LA being able to reclaim this 5/12ths from the EFA)

This additional funding will be taken into account when subsequently calculating any payments that may be due to a maintained school from the de-delegated in year growth fund to ensure no double funding arises.

If a school or academy feels that the funding mentioned above will significantly underfund their additional costs, they will be given an opportunity to bring a request for additional funding to the Schools Forum for consideration. Any such request must be backed with clear demonstrated evidence of the additional funding need.

Where growth funding is payable to academies, the County Council will also pay the increase for the remaining 5/12ths of the academic year (April to August). The Council's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) will however be reimbursed for this 5/12ths element by the Education Funding Agency (EFA.)

Rules on growth funding payments to a new school are covered under section 3 of the New School Funding Criteria below.

New School Funding Criteria

1. Start up costs prior to a school opening

A one off lump sum of £50,000 will be payable to the school from the growth fund.

This is intended to be used towards costs such as:

- Funding salary costs of the designated head teacher, admin and finance support prior to opening.
- Any temporary accommodation costs while awaiting new build.
- Recruitment and interview related costs.
- Any other incidental costs.

It will up to the school how to use these funds. No further one off funding prior to opening will be payable and any unspent funds can be retained by the school.

2. Varying the pupil numbers used in the Authorities Proforma Tool (APT) submission to the DfE.

When a new school opens and for a period of 7 years or when a school reaches 90% of its NOR capacity whichever is the sooner, the LA will apply to the EFA to vary the pupil number on roll (NOR) in the APT (the APT NOR is used as the basis for schools' budgets).

The varied NOR will (subject to EFA approval) be used in the APT instead of the previous October census NOR that is used for all other schools.

Funding for a new school in the first instance will be based upon 120 pupils (a minimum four class model).

Varied pupil numbers will be calculated based on a maximum of 30 pupils per class and by keeping Infant and Junior phases as distinct teaching groups.

E.g. for a new 2FE primary school

Funding will be based upon 120 pupils (a minimum four class model) in the first instance.

Initial assumption:

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| • Reception Class of up to 30 pupils | } | Infant total – 60 pupils |
| • KS1 class of up to 30 pupils | | |
| • KS2 2 classes of up to 30 pupils | | Junior total – 60 pupils |

Triggers for additional funding:

As soon as the infant numbers (Reception plus KS1) reach 60 pupils, the LA will fund another 30 Reception places (3 classes). Then

- on reaching 90 the LA will fund another 30 places (4 classes)
- on reaching 120 the LA will fund another 30 places (5 classes)
- on reaching 150 the LA will fund another 30 places, taking them to six infant classes.

AND/OR

As soon as KS2 total pupil numbers reach 60, the LA will fund another 30 places.

- on reaching 90 the LA will fund another 30 places
- on reaching 120 the LA will fund another 30 places
- on reaching 150 the LA will fund another 30 places
- on reaching 180 the LA will fund another 30 places
- on reaching 210 the LA will fund another 30 places, taking them to eight KS2 classes.

Funding will not be clawed back if the actual pupil numbers at year end are lower than the estimated varied number used in the APT.

Other funding factors

If data is provided by the DfE relating to other funding factors (e.g. prior attainment, deprivation) as a percentage of the actual NOR then these percentages will be applied to the varied NOR to identify appropriate funding for the other factors.

If data is not available the other factor percentages of a similar school will be used, or in the case of there being no similar school the average percentages for the whole sector.

3. In-year support to new schools from the growth fund.

The following will apply for a period of 7 years, or when a school reaches 90% of its NOR capacity, whichever is the sooner.

3.1 Funding for new class required.

If at any point during the financial year the LA identifies an additional reception class is required above those already used in the varied NOR then the school will receive an additional full year's funding of 30 pupils X the AWPU. This will in effect be a correction to the estimated NOR used in the APT submission.

3.2 New class not required but in-year October census NOR higher than varied NOR used in APT.

The school's in year October census will be compared to the varied NOR used in the APT plus any additional NOR added for a new class in year. If the October NOR is higher than this, AWPU funding will be provided for the increase without applying any thresholds. This will ensure that if a school does not qualify for additional class funding it will as a minimum be funded for all its pupils at the mid financial year October census date.