

**Summary of the decisions taken at the meeting of the  
West Northamptonshire Schools Forum held on  
Wednesday 13 December 2023**

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Decision</b>
<b>Agenda Item 3 Minutes</b>	RESOLVED: that the minutes of the meeting held on 18 October 2023 were agreed as an accurate record.
<b>Agenda Item 4 Election of Vice-Chair for 2023-24</b>	RESOLVED: that the election of Vice-Chair would be held over until the next meeting.
<b>Agenda Item 5 DSG Monitoring 2023-24</b>	RESOLVED: that Schools Forum noted the forecast outturn position for 2023-24.
<b>Agenda Item 6 Schools Funding 2024-25 - outcome of consultation and final proposals</b>	<p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the proposal to move 0.5% from the Schools Block to the High Needs Block in 2024-25.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the implementation of the split site funding policy to follow the National Funding Formula but recommended that adjustments to the Formula be made in cases when it would have a disproportionate financial impact on a school.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the updated growth fund policy.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed that growth fund rates remain at current levels and not be increased.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the inclusion in the schools formula of the weighted numbers included in the consultation document.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed to set the net growth fund budget at £1.1m.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed that the central schools services budgets included in the consultation document continue to be funded for 2024-25.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the continuation of the de-delegation for trade union facility time with a 10% increase to a rate of £3.53 per pupil.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the continuation of the de-delegation for school improvement grant and the proposed rate of £5.50 per pupil.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum noted that the Education Skills Funding Agency would need to adjudicate on the proposed extension of the de-delegation for school improvement grant to include finance support at a rate of £5.00 per pupil as the Schools Forum could not reach a resolution, and that West Northamptonshire Council would carry out further consultation with all maintained primary schools to inform the final decision.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the continuation of the de-delegation for redundancy support and the proposed rate of £4.00.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the notional SEND budget changing for 2024-25 based on the Education Skills Funding Agency recommendations.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed the approach for the notional SEND budget set out in option 1 in the consultation document: low prior attainment factor at 80%; age weighted pupil unit at 2.3%; and exclusion of free school meals.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 7</b> <b>Early Years 2024-25</b></p>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Schools Forum noted the update.</li> <li>• That Schools Forum agreed to write to the Department for Education to draw attention to the challenges for early years providers resulting from the late date of the 2024-25 funding announcement.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agenda Item 8</b> <b>High Needs Budget 2024-25</b></p>	<p><b>RESOLVED:</b> that Schools Forum noted the update.</p>

<b>Agenda Item 9 High Needs Project Update</b>	RESOLVED: that Schools Forum noted the update.
<b>Agenda Item 10 Forward Plan</b>	RESOLVED: that Schools Forum noted the Forward Plan.