

**Schools Forum**

Date: 14 September 2023

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Venue: MS Teams  
Meeting

Paper

**B**

Public

## Updated Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2023-24

**Responsible Officer** Jo Jonese-mail: [jo.jones@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:jo.jones@shropshire.gov.uk)

Tel: 01743 254343

### Summary

The Department for Education (DfE) announced provisional 2023-24 local authority Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocations in December 2022. In March 2023 the DfE announced an update to the DSG allocation for the 2023-24 financial year. A further update was received in July 2023.

This report provides a summary of Shropshire's latest updated 2023-24 DSG allocation comparing it with Shropshire's previous provisional DSG allocation as reported to Schools Forum in June 2023.

### Recommendation

This report is for information only.

## REPORT

1. In January 2023 Schools Forum members received a report summarising the funding blocks making up Shropshire's 2023-24 provisional DSG allocation and listing the key financial headlines for each of the blocks.
2. Shropshire's 2023-24 provisional DSG allocation was updated in March 2023 to include recoupment for academies and deductions for high needs places funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) at that point.
3. A further update was received in July 2023 including adjustments to academy recoupment in relation to the early years' provisional allocation and the high needs import/export adjustment.



4. A summary of the provisional 2023-24 DSG (as presented to Schools Forum in June 2023), and the latest updated 2023-24 DSG announced in July 2023, is shown in the table below.

5.

	<b>Provisional DSG</b> (as at Dec 22) £m	<b>Recoupment / Deductions for HN places</b> (as at March 23) £m	<b>Provisional DSG</b> (as at March 23) £m	<b>Recoupment / Early Years Adjustment / HN Import/Export Adjustment</b> (as at July 23) £m	<b>Latest DSG</b> (as at July 23) £m
Schools Block	200.087	136.500	63.587	-0.841	62.746
Early Years Block (Provisional)	18.280	0	18.280	-0.412	17.868
High Needs Block	39.268	7.038	32.230	0.743	32.974
Central Schools Services Block (CSSB)	2.378	0	2.378	0	2.378
<b>Total DSG</b>	<b>260.13</b>	<b>143.538</b>	<b>116.475</b>	<b>-0.509</b>	<b>115.966</b>

6. The latest (July 2023) Schools Block allocation shows a deduction of £841k, this is due to the conversion of Much Wenlock Primary School to an academy in April 2023.

7. In line with the schools operational guidance, redetermination of school budget shares to enable the reallocation of funding for permanently excluded pupils will take place for both maintained schools and academies. The following maximum pupil level rates, for pupils without an EHCP, will apply for the academic year commencing 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023. Where additional top-up funding is provided through the EHCP this may be deducted, depending on the timing of the exclusion and payment of the top-up funding.



<b>School Budget Share formula factors 23-24</b>	<b>Primary (£)</b>	<b>Secondary KS3 (£)</b>	<b>Secondary KS4 (£)</b>
Basic Entitlement	3,394	4,785	5,393
FSM	480	480	480
FSM6	705	1,030	1,030
IDACI (Highest Band A)	670	930	930
EAL	580	1,565	1,565
Low Prior Attainment	1,155	1,750	1,750
Mobility	945	1,360	1,360
<b>Maximum Potential annual deduction</b>	<b>7,929</b>	<b>11,900</b>	<b>12,508</b>

8. To encourage and support the increased focus on early intervention and prevention promoted nationally, through the SEND and AP improvement plan, and locally, through the Shropshire Plan, exploration into different cost recovery models used by other Local Authorities for permanently excluded pupils will commence in the Autumn term 2023. Following this activity, and engagement with the sector, further recommendations will be provided to Schools Forum later in the year.
9. There is a decrease to the Early Years Block allocation due to the updated census data from January 2023. This is still provisional at this stage and will be further updated after the census data collected in January 2024.
10. The latest High Needs Block adjustment relates to the following elements:
- an update to our import/export adjustment. The import/export adjustment reflects the net place funding costs of other local authority pupils placed in our high needs settings and Shropshire high needs pupils placed in other local authority settings. Shropshire is a net exporter of high needs pupils, and our 2023-24 import/export adjustment has decreased by £195,000. The total deduction for our import/export adjustment is now £0.771m included within the High Needs Block funding.
  - Additional funding for Special Free Schools – an allocation of £615,334 that relates to Keystone Academy, this funding ensures new special free schools do not create an additional cost for the LA.
  - An increase in the deductions for high needs places of £66,999 relating to our SEND hubs within mainstream schools.



11. Shropshire's latest remaining DSG for 2023-24, after recoument for academies and deductions for direct funding of high needs places by ESFA, equates to £115.966m.
12. The Schools Supplementary grant for 2023-24 of £6.77m sits outside the DSG allocation, however the High Needs Additional Grant 23-24 £1.644m is reported within these figures, as reported to schools forum in June 2023.
13. In July 2023 the Teachers' pay additional grant was announced for 2023-24 to support schools with the September 2023 teachers' pay award.
  - The allocation for Shropshire mainstream schools is £2,030,297. This will be paid to the LA for maintained schools in October and directly to academies in November.
  - The allocation for Shropshire special schools is £193,180, this will be paid to the LA for passing onto schools within the guidelines provided.

