

Schools Forum

Dedicated Schools Grant 2025/26

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To Consider

- Dedicated Schools Grant 2024/25
- Dedicated Schools Grant 2025/26
- Schools Block & Thurrock Funding Formula
- Central Services Block
- High Needs Block - Summary
- Early Years
- Next Steps

Dedicated Schools Grant 2024/25

DSG 2024/25	Funding Settlement	Academy Recoupment	Funding Block Transfer	Final DSG	Projected Outturn	Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Schools	167.156	(161.025)	(0.400)	5.731	5.148	(0.583)
Central Services	1.633	0.000	0.000	1.633	1.627	(0.006)
High Needs	38.888	(7.250)	0.400	32.038	34.228	2.190
Early Years	22.468	0.000	0.000	22.468	22.319	(0.149)
Total	230.145	(168.275)	0.000	61.870	63.322	1.452

Variance	£m		DSG Deficit - Summary	£m	% of DSG
Schools	(0.583)	Growth Fund	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2018	4.046	2.78%
Central Services	(0.006)		DSG Unfunded 31/03/2019	2.656	1.74%
High Needs	0.743	EHCP	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2020	1.978	1.28%
High Needs	(0.130)	RB, SP & AP	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2021	1.883	1.12%
High Needs	0.128	OLA	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2022	1.705	0.93%
High Needs	0.720	Post 16	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2023	0.534	0.25%
High Needs	0.473	Tuition	DSG 2023/24	(1.164)	
High Needs	0.256	Independent	DSG Balance 31/03/2024	(0.630)	(0.30%)
Early Years	(0.149)	Central Team	DSG 2024/25	1.452	
Variance	1.452		DSG Balance 31/03/2025	0.822	0.36%

Key Areas of Risk 2024/25	
Schools	Ongoing budget pressures, highlighted through Schools budget survey
High Needs	Continuous increase in EHCP's; Post-16 numbers and demand for specialist places.
Early Years	Expansion of EY offer, limited data available. Provider funding fragile

Dedicated Schools Grant 2025/26

Dedicated Schools Grant	2024/25	2025/26
	£m	£m
Schools Block	167.156	180.524
Central School Services Block	1.633	1.598
High Needs Block	38.888	41.870
Early Years Block	22.468	30.192
Total	230.145	254.184
SB Recoupment	(161.025)	(174.713)
HNB Recoupment	(7.250)	(7.246)
Total Recoupment	(168.275)	(181.959)
DSG Retained	61.870	72.225

Summary Narrative 2025/26	
Schools	Incorporates full year impact of Core Schools Budget Grant
CSSB	20% Reduction to Historic Commitments
High Needs	7% increase in funding, reflecting increase in demand.
Early Years	Further expansion of the EY offer to 30 hours in 2025/26

Schools Block 2025/26

Schools Block		£m
Schools Block 2024/25		£167.156
Existing Grant TPAG	£9.813m	£2.817
Existing Grant TPECG		£3.450
Existing Grant CSBG (Sept-March)		£3.546
Revised Schools Block	A	£176.969
Core Schools Budget Grant (Apr-Aug)	B	£2.405
Increase in Funding	C	£1.156
Change in Pupil Numbers Oct-24 Census		(£0.143)
Change in Growth Fund		£0.138
Schools Block		£180.524
% Increase in funding	(C/A)	0.64%
% Increase in funding	((B+C)/A)	2.01%

Schools Block 2025/26 – Growth Fund

Pupil Growth 2025/26	Pupil Growth	Year Group	Growth 2025/26	Funding Per Pupil	Total Cost 2025/26
Primary	180	tbc	120	£3,995	£479,400
Secondary	90	tbc	77.5	£5,630	£436,325
	270		198		£915,725
					Growth Fund Agreed 2024/25 Summer Term £191,016
Thurrock Retained Growth					£1,106,741

Growth Fund DfE 2025/26	£1,414,412
NFF & ACA Applied	(£224,721)
Confirmed Growth - Abbots Hall Reception	(£82,950)
Growth Fund	£1,106,741

School Block – Decision Required

- To confirm agreement to the retention of £1,106,741 to fund in year growth in 2025/26.
 - This is a minor change to the value included in the original report circulated.
- To confirm agreement to the Growth and Falling Rolls policy 2025/26 (circulated with Agenda)
 - Key change is the updated funding rates 2025/26

Cabinet Decision: January 2025

Cabinet will formally agree to the continuation of these principles at its meeting on 22 January 2025.

Political approval is required as part of the APT (local formula) submission to the Department for Education.

- Thurrock's funding formula will implement the following principles consistent with the decision made by Cabinet from 2020/21:
 - National Funding Formula including Area Cost Adjustment values to be applied.
 - Where this is unaffordable the Basic Entitlement value, to be included, will be reduced to contain within the funding available. The reduction to be applied will be weighted, consistent with the distribution of funding between Primary and Secondary.
 - Growth fund to be retained to support sufficiency of school places.

Area Cost Adjustment and London Fringe

- London Fringe
 - The purpose of this factor is to support schools that have higher costs because they are in the London fringe area, and where only part of the local authority is in this area.
 - The DfE identify in the APT, schools in the London Fringe.
- Area Cost Adjustment
 - The ACA is a multiplier applied to funding factors to reflect geographical variation in labour market costs.

Local authority	ACA	Fringe	Districts
Buckinghamshire Fringe	1.04808	1.0177	Areas covered by the former Chiltern and South Bucks districts
Buckinghamshire Non-Fringe	1.02990	1.0000	Areas covered by the former Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe districts
Essex Fringe	1.03854	1.0347	Basildon, Brentwood, Epping Forest, Harlow
Essex Non-Fringe	1.00369	1.0000	Braintree, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring, Uttlesford
Hertfordshire Fringe	1.04808	1.0312	Broxbourne, Dacorum, East Hertfordshire, Hertsmere, St Albans, Three Rivers, Watford, Welwyn Hatfield
Hertfordshire Non-Fringe	1.01634	1.0000	North Hertfordshire, Stevenage
Kent Fringe	1.03854	1.0378	Dartford, Sevenoaks
Kent Non-Fringe	1.00074	1.0000	Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Gravesham, Maidstone, Folkestone and Hythe, Swale, Thanet, Tonbridge and Malling, Tunbridge Wells
West Sussex Fringe	1.05878	1.0588	Crawley
West Sussex Non-Fringe	1.00000	1.0000	Adur, Arun, Chichester, Horsham, Mid Sussex, Worthing
ACA for Schools	1.03854	1.0000	Thurrock ACA is the same ACA as Essex and Kent where they have schools on the fringe.

Schools Block 2025/26

National Funding Formula and Area Cost Adjustment applied in full

Formula Factor Values	2024/25		2025/26	
	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
Minimum Per Pupil	£4,610		£4,955	
Minimum Per Pupil - KS 3		£5,771		£6,221
Minimum Per Pupil - KS 4		£6,331		£6,831
Primary	£3,624.00		£3,995.26	
KS 3		£5,109.40		£5,630.96
KS 4		£5,759.50		£6,348.60
FSM	£508.74	£508.74	£514.08	£514.08
FSM6	£851.37	£1,245.90	£1,100.85	£1,614.93
IDACI Band F	£243.99	£353.01	£244.06	£353.10
IDACI Band E	£295.90	£467.21	£295.98	£467.34
IDACI Band D	£462.02	£654.10	£462.15	£659.47
IDACI Band C	£503.55	£716.39	£508.88	£721.79
IDACI Band B	£534.70	£768.31	£540.04	£773.71
IDACI Band A	£706.01	£981.15	£711.40	£986.61
EAL	£612.57	£1,645.63	£617.93	£1,656.47
Mobility	£996.72	£1,432.79	£1,002.19	£1,438.38
Prior Attainment	£1,214.75	£1,842.89	£1,220.28	£1,853.79
Lump Sum	£139,540.80	£139,540.80	£150,692.15	£150,692.15
Sparsity	£59,284.08	£86,174.75	£59,612.20	£86,614.24
Area Cost Adjustment	1.03825		1.03854	
Minimum Funding Guarantee	0.5%		0%	
Notional SEN Allocation	£23,348,190		£25,721,669	
DSG Schools Block	£167,156,024		£180,523,690	
NNDR	(£754,174)		(£754,174)	
Transfer to HNB	(£400,000)		£0	
Growth Fund	(£1,276,684)		(£1,106,741)	
Budget Available	£164,725,166		£178,662,775	
Cost implication	£164,725,166		£178,662,775	

Schools Block – Notional SEN 2025/26

Notional SEN Budget	2024/25	2025/26
Basic Entitlement	2.5%	2.5%
FSM	0%	0%
FSM6	100%	100%
IDACI Band A - F	25%	25%
EAL	0%	0%
Mobility	0%	0%
Low Attainment - Primary	100%	100%
Low Attainment - Secondary	100%	100%
Sparsity	25%	25%
Additional to meet minimum per pupil funding	100%	100%
Notional SEN Value	£22,930,956	£25,721,669
Schools Block Formula	£166,024,368	£179,769,516
% Notional SEN / Schools Block Formula	13.81%	14.31%

School Budget Information 2025/26

School Name	2024/25 APT NOR	2025/26 APT NOR	% Change	NNDR	Budget after deduction of 2024/25 NFF NNDR allocation	Budget after deduction of 2025/26 NFF NNDR allocation	Change 2025/26	% Increase	Additional grants rolled into the DSG allocation	Increase 2025/26 (excluding Additional Grant)	% Increase	Notional SEN Budget
Total	29,154	28,884		£754,174	£164,725,166	£178,662,775	£13,937,609		£12,218,461	£1,719,148	1.0%	£25,721,669
Abbots Hall Primary School	321	377	17.3%	£4,167	£1,532,099	£1,935,308	£403,208	26.3%	£114,494	£288,714	18.8%	£216,551
Arthur Bugler Primary School	415	410	(1.2%)	£4,990	£1,913,150	£2,100,349	£187,199	9.8%	£136,873	£50,326	2.6%	£283,204
Aveley Primary School	407	401	(1.5%)	£7,578	£2,071,305	£2,219,791	£148,486	7.2%	£147,985	£501	0.0%	£345,376
Belmont Castle Academy	652	642	(1.5%)	£13,107	£3,121,010	£3,380,570	£259,561	8.3%	£221,429	£38,131	1.2%	£466,243
Benyon Primary School	360	377	4.7%	£3,643	£1,866,826	£2,113,333	£246,507	13.2%	£133,409	£113,098	6.1%	£308,388
Bonnygate Primary School	419	412	(1.7%)	£8,038	£2,123,681	£2,281,662	£157,981	7.4%	£147,162	£10,819	0.5%	£350,153
Bulphan Church of England Academy	69	61	(11.6%)	£1,921	£487,069	£489,870	£2,801	0.6%	£32,600	(£29,799)	(6.1%)	£46,860
Chadwell St Mary Primary School	209	216	3.3%	£3,393	£1,167,659	£1,326,288	£158,629	13.6%	£87,666	£70,963	6.1%	£216,958
Deneholm Primary School	416	420	1.0%	£5,786	£2,022,538	£2,222,202	£199,664	9.9%	£149,001	£50,664	2.5%	£302,738
Dilkes Academy	475	491	3.4%	£9,882	£2,368,989	£2,662,061	£293,072	12.4%	£164,931	£128,141	5.4%	£383,716
East Tilbury Primary School	682	635	(6.9%)	£15,667	£3,379,325	£3,411,318	£31,993	0.9%	£247,312	(£215,319)	(6.4%)	£538,754
Giffards Primary School	401	410	2.2%	£6,707	£1,939,231	£2,167,725	£228,494	11.8%	£144,164	£84,331	4.3%	£308,950
Graham James Primary Academy	420	418	(0.5%)	£7,014	£1,970,304	£2,144,157	£173,852	8.8%	£144,775	£29,077	1.5%	£276,481
Harris Primary Academy Chafford Hundred	628	627	(0.2%)	£27,646	£2,895,080	£3,106,785	£211,705	7.3%	£202,271	£9,434	0.3%	£379,257
Harris Primary Academy Mayflower	990	1,007	1.7%	£15,770	£4,563,900	£4,989,685	£425,785	9.3%	£319,639	£106,146	2.3%	£623,568
Herringham Primary Academy	402	394	(2.0%)	£6,810	£2,193,220	£2,364,523	£171,303	7.8%	£164,758	£6,545	0.3%	£443,887
Holy Cross Catholic Primary School	208	206	(1.0%)	£5,786	£1,105,704	£1,177,646	£71,943	6.5%	£79,167	(£7,224)	(0.7%)	£149,944
Horndon-On-the-Hill CofE Primary School	201	193	(4.0%)	£3,418	£981,414	£1,041,587	£60,172	6.1%	£70,233	(£10,060)	(1.0%)	£113,217
Kenningtons Primary Academy	386	389	0.8%	£8,192	£1,884,345	£2,071,685	£187,340	9.9%	£133,520	£53,820	2.9%	£280,090
Lansdowne Primary Academy	617	613	(0.6%)	£13,005	£3,474,303	£3,733,773	£259,471	7.5%	£261,428	(£1,957)	(0.1%)	£776,404
Little Thurrock Primary School	609	627	3.0%	£12,186	£2,805,185	£3,138,205	£333,020	11.9%	£203,492	£129,528	4.6%	£363,044
Orsett Church of England Primary School	204	202	(1.0%)	£4,042	£983,008	£1,056,710	£73,702	7.5%	£71,539	£2,164	0.2%	£95,801
Ortu Corringham Primary School and Nursery	427	417	(2.3%)	£8,960	£2,000,936	£2,157,739	£156,803	7.8%	£150,806	£5,996	0.3%	£297,873
Purfleet Primary Academy	587	585	(0.3%)	£12,902	£3,101,803	£3,383,743	£281,940	9.1%	£224,659	£57,281	1.8%	£588,529
Quarry Hill Academy	419	418	(0.2%)	£9,830	£2,097,494	£2,320,093	£222,599	10.6%	£154,661	£67,938	3.2%	£335,214
Shaw Primary Academy	410	390	(4.9%)	£7,270	£2,112,749	£2,196,065	£83,315	3.9%	£157,033	(£73,717)	(3.5%)	£337,496

School Budget Information 2025/26

School Name	2024/25 APT NOR	2025/26 APT NOR	% Change	NNDR	Budget after deduction of 2024/25 NFF NNDR allocation	Budget after deduction of 2025/26 NFF NNDR allocation	Change 2025/26	% Increase	Additional grants rolled into the DSG allocation	Increase 2025/26 (excluding Additional Grant)	% Increase	Notional SEN Budget
Total	29,154	28,884		£754,174	£164,725,166	£178,662,775	£13,937,609		£12,218,461	£1,719,148	1.0%	£25,721,669
Somers Heath Primary School	421	426	1.2%	£7,680	£2,104,640	£2,372,312	£267,672	12.7%	£153,516	£114,156	5.4%	£362,481
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	189	203	7.4%	£5,888	£974,777	£1,172,460	£197,683	20.3%	£72,266	£125,418	12.9%	£155,118
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	206	207	0.5%	£6,349	£1,136,341	£1,238,904	£102,563	9.0%	£76,441	£26,122	2.3%	£135,774
St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School	587	583	(0.7%)	£11,571	£2,791,100	£3,067,818	£276,719	9.9%	£197,081	£79,637	2.9%	£425,680
Stanford-Le-Hope Primary School	410	418	2.0%	£8,755	£1,987,900	£2,217,934	£230,034	11.6%	£142,760	£87,275	4.4%	£325,564
Stifford Clays Primary School	601	588	(2.2%)	£10,240	£2,880,532	£3,104,744	£224,213	7.8%	£209,386	£14,827	0.5%	£491,967
Thameside Primary School	796	806	1.3%	£17,101	£4,146,981	£4,544,936	£397,955	9.6%	£291,381	£106,574	2.6%	£810,941
The Gateway Primary Free School	391	392	0.3%	£14,234	£2,171,149	£2,384,486	£213,337	9.8%	£158,840	£54,496	2.5%	£438,782
Tilbury Pioneer Academy	421	414	(1.7%)	£6,737	£2,330,222	£2,518,196	£187,974	8.1%	£168,999	£18,976	0.8%	£470,240
Tudor Court Primary School	699	667	(4.6%)	£19,661	£3,222,390	£3,304,985	£82,595	2.6%	£224,877	(£142,282)	(4.4%)	£404,937
Warren Primary School	416	419	0.7%	£11,059	£1,917,760	£2,076,145	£158,385	8.3%	£132,551	£25,834	1.3%	£234,429
West Thurrock Academy	425	420	(1.2%)	£14,746	£2,091,505	£2,255,652	£164,147	7.8%	£155,580	£8,567	0.4%	£317,212
Woodside Academy	633	627	(0.9%)	£9,933	£2,989,720	£3,260,661	£270,941	9.1%	£217,673	£53,268	1.8%	£493,574
Grays Convent High School	680	653	(4.0%)	£8,294	£4,454,468	£4,703,782	£249,314	5.6%	£337,806	(£88,493)	(2.0%)	£543,606
Harris Academy Chafford Hundred	1,005	1,012	0.7%	£49,152	£6,154,662	£6,877,676	£723,014	11.7%	£462,934	£260,080	4.2%	£722,076
Harris Academy Ockendon	1,195	1,199	0.3%	£37,632	£8,027,521	£8,860,441	£832,921	10.4%	£612,999	£219,922	2.7%	£1,215,770
Harris Academy Riverside	946	986	4.2%	£31,232	£6,287,051	£7,244,083	£957,032	15.2%	£493,953	£463,078	7.4%	£1,022,663
Ormiston Park Academy	706	689	(2.4%)	£27,136	£4,995,767	£5,366,410	£370,643	7.4%	£391,671	(£21,028)	(0.4%)	£849,451
Orsett Heath Academy	480	562	17.1%	£6,088	£3,084,216	£4,066,026	£981,810	31.8%	£241,493	£740,318	24.0%	£504,491
Ortu Gable Hall School	1,076	952	(11.5%)	£41,984	£6,960,624	£6,759,392	(£201,232)	(2.9%)	£528,373	(£729,605)	(10.5%)	£892,939
Ortu Hassenbrook Academy	665	603	(9.3%)	£18,022	£4,713,484	£4,755,180	£41,696	0.9%	£368,533	(£326,837)	(6.9%)	£775,690
St Clere's School	1,236	1,210	(2.1%)	£40,960	£8,149,026	£8,735,744	£586,718	7.2%	£609,244	(£22,526)	(0.3%)	£1,224,485
Thames Park Secondary School	672	737	9.7%	£0	£4,521,546	£5,513,256	£991,711	21.9%	£349,357	£642,353	14.2%	£850,770
The Gateway Academy	1,106	1,048	(5.2%)	£70,656	£8,164,842	£8,457,815	£292,974	3.6%	£620,664	(£327,690)	(4.0%)	£1,505,513
The Hathaway Academy	672	605	(10.0%)	£18,842	£4,733,591	£4,678,776	(£54,815)	(1.2%)	£357,998	(£412,814)	(8.7%)	£703,606
William Edwards School	1,186	1,120	(5.6%)	£32,512	£7,571,028	£7,932,088	£361,060	4.8%	£577,077	(£216,017)	(2.9%)	£1,015,214

Grants 2025/26

- Pupil Premium
 - The pupil premium will continue in the 2025 to 2026 financial year.
 - For 2025/26 the October 2024 school census data will be used to allocate the pupil premium, just as the October 2023 census was used for the 2024/25 pupil premium allocations.

Pupil Premium - Pupil Eligibility Criteria	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
	2024/25	2024/25	2025/26	2025/26
Pupils who are eligible for free school meals, or have been eligible in the past 6 years (including eligible children of families with no recourse to public funds)	£1,480	£1,050		
Looked-after children (LAC)	£2,570	£2,570		
Previously looked-after children (PLAC)	£2,570	£2,570		
Eligible service children in year groups reception to year 11	£340	£340		

- National Insurance Increase
 - Schools will be reimbursed for Nation Insurance increase
 - No detail on the amount or methods of compensation, but the DfE has confirmed that the compensation will cover the net effect of all the NIC changes.



Central School Services Block

Central School Services Block

- The central school services block (CSSB) was created from the DSG funding that was held centrally by the local authority.
- Statutory and Regulatory duties that include planning for the education service, S151 Officer's responsibilities, formulation and review of schools funding formula, admissions, and schools forum.
- Historic Commitments relate to Historic Pension Costs and contribution to combined budgets. A 20% year on year reduction has been applied from 2020/21.

Central school services block (CSSB)	2024/25	2025/26
CSSB unit of funding	£41.24	£43.75
CSSB pupil count	28,891	28,866
Funding for historic commitments	£418,776	£335,021
Total central school services block	£1,610,220	£1,597,884
Change in Funding	(£22,579)	(£12,337)
Change in Historic Commitments funding	(£104,693)	(£83,755)

Central School Services Block 2025/26

Central Schools Services Block	Budget 2024/25 £m	Budget 2025/26 £m
Statutory and Regulatory Duties - Education <i>Including: Director of children's services; Planning for the education service as a whole; Function in relation to the exclusion of pupils from schools; School Attendance; Excluded Pupils; Responsibilities regarding the employment of children</i>	£0.511	£0.530
Statutory and Regulatory Duties - Finance <i>Including: Revenue budget preparation, information and external audit relating to education; Formulation and review of local authority schools funding formula; Administration of grants; Task related to LA Section 151 responsibilities under LGA 1972</i>	£0.174	£0.177
School Place Planning	£0.027	£0.027
School Admissions	£0.301	£0.301
Servicing of Schools forum	£0.009	£0.009
SACRE	£0.015	£0.015
School Licensing	£0.195	£0.204
Contribution to Combined budgets	£0.400	£0.335
Total DSG - Central Services Block	£1.633	£1.598

Central School Services Block Decision Required

- To agree the use of the Central School Services Block budget of £1.598m in 2025/26.



High Needs Block 2025/26 DSG Management Plan

High Needs Block 2025/26

High Needs Block	2024/25	2025/26	Change	%
National Funding Formula	£34,688,151	£39,930,514	£5,242,363	
Additional High Needs allocation	£1,603,765	£0	(£1,603,765)	
National Funding Formula - Adjusted	£36,291,916	£39,930,514	£3,638,598	10.03%
Basic Entitlement	£2,755,607	£2,897,562	£141,955	
Teachers Pay/pension supplement	£62,312	£62,312	£0	
Additional funding Special Free School	£717,012	£0	(£717,012)	
Import/Export Adjustments	(£744,000)	(£1,020,000)	(£276,000)	
Total High Needs Funding	£39,082,847	£41,870,388	£2,787,541	7.13%
Transfer from Schools Block	£400,000	£0	(£400,000)	
High Needs Block Budget	£39,482,847	£41,870,388	£2,387,541	6.05%

Thurrock Commissioned Places

Thurrock Commissioned Places	2024/25		2025/26	
Thurrock Commissioned Places	ESFA	LA	ESFA	LA
Nursery - Chafford Hundred	0	3	0	3
Nursery - Stanford-le-hope	0	3	0	3
Primary - Arthur Bugler - Autism	0	10	0	10
Primary - Aveley - Autism	10	10	10	10
Primary - Deneholm - Autism	0	10	12	12
Primary - Dilkes Primary - SEMH	10	10	10	10
Primary - East Tilbury - Inclusion Base	10	10	10	10
Primary - Lansdowne - LD & SLCN	10	10	10	10
Primary - ORTU Corringham - Sp & Lang	20	20	20	20
Primary - Quarry Hill - SEMH	10	10	10	10
Primary - Stanford-le-Hope - VI	5	5	5	5
Primary - Stifford Clays - Autism	0	10	12	12
Primary - Thameside - Inclusion Base	6	10	6	10
Primary - Tilbury Pioneer - Autism	0	10	0	10
Primary - Warren - HI	18	18	18	18
Secondary - Harris Chafford Hundred - SLCN & Autism	20	20	20	20
Secondary - Ormiston Park - SEMH	30	30	30	30
Secondary - St Clere's - HI & VI	17	17	17	17
Secondary - New Autism provision	0	0	0	0
RESOURCE BASES	166	216	190	220
Special - Treetops	318	318	318	318
Special - Treetops Free	147	155	155	155
Special - Beacon Hill	75	80	75	80
Special - Increase - September	0	20	0	16
SPECIAL SCHOOLS	540	573	548	569
Alternative Provision - Olive	85	85	85	85
AP	85	85	85	85
New SEMH provision - Apr 25	0	0	0	30
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL	0	0	0	30
THURROCK	791	874	823	904

High Needs Block 2025/26 – To Do

- To be considered at March 2025 Meeting
 - Band Values, Percentage Increase and review of Special school bands.
 - Outreach Services to be commissioned from September 2025.
 - Update to DSG Management Plan 2025/26
 - HNB detail budget and embedded Risks.

High Needs Budget 2025/26

(DSG Management Plan updated for funding allocation)

Dedicated Schools Grant - High Needs Block	2024/25 Budget £m	2024/25 Outturn £m	2025/26 DSG Mgmt Plan £m	2025/26 Budget £m
High Needs Block	38.888	38.888	41.870	41.870
Funding Block Transfer	0.400	0.400	0.000	0.000
Funding Settlement	39.288	39.288	41.870	41.870
Place Funding	0.000	0.000	0.578	0.578
Place Funding Academies to be recouped	7.250	7.250	7.246	7.246
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Schools & Academies	4.535	5.278	5.176	5.500
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Resource Provisions	4.672	4.573	4.726	4.826
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Special Schools	7.871	8.209	8.135	8.935
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Alternative Provision	2.265	1.895	1.820	1.920
Top Up Funding - Other Local Authorities (4-16)	1.385	1.512	1.558	1.434
Top Up Funding - Post 16	2.491	3.211	2.642	3.592
Pupils not in School	0.540	0.540	0.573	0.600
Medical Tuition	0.193	0.531	0.205	0.600
Year 11s	0.050	0.033	0.000	0.050
Residential - Non Maintained and Independent	1.854	1.929	3.074	1.120
Non Residential - Non Maintained and Independent	2.155	2.336	3.309	3.700
Commissioned Services	1.245	1.245	1.591	1.591
Additional High Needs Targeted	0.600	0.752	0.775	0.800
Home Hospital Education Services	0.030	0.030	0.031	0.030
Travellers Team	0.052	0.053	0.054	0.056
Home to School Transport	1.600	1.600	1.600	1.600
High Needs Central Team	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.458
Dedicated Schools Grant	39.288	41.478	43.595	44.637
(Surplus) / Deficit	(0.000)	2.190	1.724	2.767



Early Years

Early Years funding 2025/26

- Early Years is 1 of 4 funding blocks of the Dedicated Schools Grant, each has separate rules, regulations and funding allocations. (Schools; Central Services, High Needs and Early Years)
- Early Years Funding is now the most complex of all funding blocks
- Funding received from ESFA is based on the January Census for the 3-&-4-year-old and Disadvantaged 2-Year-olds.
 - Jan 25 = 5/12 of 2025/26 Funding – Update received July-25
 - Jan 26 = 7/12 of 2025/26 Funding – Final Allocation July-26
- Funding for 2-Year-Olds and Under 2 Working Parents is based on termly census.
 - Summer 2025 = 13 weeks of funding – Update received Nov-25
 - Autumn 2025 = 14 weeks of funding – Update received Mar-26
 - Spring 2026 = 11 weeks of funding – Final allocation Jul-26

Early Years funding 2025/26

- Funding paid to providers by LA is based on a termly census
 - LA must have a local funding formula in line with ESFA guidance
 - LA must manage the termly change in numbers and include deprivation funding for 3- & 4-year-old offer.
 - LA local funding formula is used to distribute funds to providers
 - LA pays providers before it receives confirmed funding allocation
- The funding formula requirements to be applied are:
 - 3-&4-Year-Olds – Consistent with previous years, more funding targeted through Deprivation.
 - 2-Year-Olds – Change to the Funding formula. No deprivation to be applied - Hourly Rate only.
 - Under 2s – New funding formula to be applied – Hourly Rate only.
 - Early Years Pupil Premium and Disability Access Fund applicable to all
 - SEN Inclusion Fund applicable to all.

Dedicated schools grant: Indicative 2025/26 Early years block allocations

	Rate	Units	Value
Number for 3 and 4 year old	£6.13	2,887.95	£10,090,787
Number for 3 and 4 year old additional 15 hours entitlement	£6.13	1,259.81	£4,401,903
Number for 3 and 4 year old early years pupil premium funding	£1.00	215.27	£122,704
Estimated number for 3 and 4 year old disability access funding	£938.00	124.00	£116,312
Total 3 and 4 year old			£14,731,706
Number for 2 year old disadvantaged entitlement funding	£8.75	437.05	£2,179,788
Number for 2 year old working parents entitlement funding (Apr-Aug)	£8.75	236.91	£1,181,589
Number for 2 year old working parents entitlement funding (Sept-Mar)	£8.75	829.74	£4,138,329
Estimated number for 2 year old early years pupil premium funding	£1.00	92.87	£52,936
Estimated number for 2 year old disability access funding	£938.00	22.00	£20,636
Total 2 Year olds			£7,573,278
Estimated number for under 2s entitlement (Apr-Aug)	£11.89	257.51	£1,745,223
Estimated number for under 2s entitlement (Sept-Mar)	£11.89	904.33	£6,128,916
Estimated number for under 2s early years pupil premium funding	£1.00	8.36	£4,766
Estimated number for under 2s disability access funding	£938.00	9.00	£8,442
Total Under 2s			£7,887,346
Total early years block (£s)			£30,192,330

Early Years funding 2025/26

Early Years Funding Formula 2025/26		
The hourly rates to be paid to all providers from April 2025 are:		
Under 2's	£11.50	An increase of 36p per hour
2 Year Olds	£8.30	An increase of 80p per hour. No deprivation funding to be paid.
3 and 4 Year Olds	£5.50	An increase of 10p per hour. Increase to deprivation rates.
Deprivation funding 3 & 4 Year Olds	Annual Rate	Rate Per Hour
Band G - IDACI SCORE < 0.20	£0.00	£0.00
Band F - IDACI SCORE 0.20 - 0.25	£340.00	£0.60
Band E - IDACI SCORE 0.25 - 0.30	£340.00	£0.60
Band D - IDACI SCORE 0.30 - 0.35	£425.00	£0.75
Band C - IDACI SCORE 0.35 - 0.40	£540.00	£0.95
Band B - IDACI SCORE 0.40 - 0.50	£685.00	£1.20
Band A - IDACI SCORE > 0.50	£800.00	£1.40
IDACI Postcode Score can be download from:		
http://imd-by-postcode.opendatacommunities.org/imd/2019		
EARLY YEARS PUPIL PREMIUM	£570.00	£1.00
DISABILITY ACCESS FUND	£938.00	

Early Years funding 2025/26

Reconciliation		3 and 4 year old	2 year old - Disadvantaged	2 year old - Working parents	Under 2s - Working parents	Total
1	Hourly Rate	£13,003,228	£2,067,684	£5,046,321	£7,615,861	£27,733,094
2	Deprivation 4%	£565,956	£0	£0	£0	£565,956
3	Pupil Premium	£122,704	£52,936	£0	£4,766	£180,406
4	DAF	£116,312	£20,636	£0	£8,442	£145,390
5	SEN Inclusion	£600,000	£46,710	£113,998	£44,107	£804,815
6	Funding to Providers	£14,408,200	£2,187,965	£5,160,319	£7,673,176	£29,429,661
7	Central Team	£343,784	£65,394	£159,598	£236,224	£805,000
8	Total	£14,751,984	£2,253,359	£5,319,917	£7,909,401	£30,234,660
	ESFA 18-12-24	£14,731,706	£2,253,360	£5,319,918	£7,887,346	£30,192,330
	Central Team (7/(1+2+5))%	2.43%	3.09%	3.09%	3.08%	
	Variance from ESFA 10-12-24	(£20,278)	£1	£1	(£22,054)	(£42,330)

Thurrock - Early Years funding 2025/26

Summary Funding Rates	Thurrock DfE 2024/25	Thurrock DfE 2025/26	Increase YOY
3 and 4-year-old entitlements - combined hourly funding rate	£5.88	£6.13	£0.25
2-year-old entitlements - hourly funding rate	£8.45	£8.75	£0.30
Under 2s entitlement - hourly funding rate	£11.52	£11.89	£0.37
Early years pupil premium (EYPP) - national hourly funding rate	£0.68	£1.00	£0.32
Disability access funding (DAF) - national yearly funding rate	£910.00	£938.00	£28.00

Summary Funding Rates	Thurrock Provider 2024/25	Increase YOY	Thurrock with YOY Increase passported	Thurrock Provider 2025/26	Variance	Change in Deprivation	Variance
3 and 4-year-old entitlements - combined hourly funding rate	£5.40	£0.25	£5.65	£5.50	(£0.15)	£0.08	(£0.07)
2-year-old entitlements - hourly funding rate	£7.50	£0.30	£7.80	£8.30	£0.50	£0.00	£0.50
Under 2s entitlement - hourly funding rate	£11.14	£0.37	£11.51	£11.50	(£0.01)	£0.00	(£0.01)
Early years pupil premium (EYPP) - national hourly funding rate	£0.68	£0.32	£1.00	£1.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Disability access funding (DAF) - national yearly funding rate	£910.00	£28.00	£938.00	£938.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00

Summary Funding Rates	National Average LA Funding	Thurrock DfE 2025/26
3 and 4-year-old entitlements - combined hourly funding rate	£6.12	£6.13
2-year-old entitlements - hourly funding rate	£8.53	£8.75
Under 2s entitlement - hourly funding rate	£11.54	£11.89
Early years pupil premium (EYPP) - national hourly funding rate	£1.00	£1.00
Disability access funding (DAF) - national yearly funding rate	£938.00	£938.00

Inclusion Fund 2025/26

- Currently funded at £11 per hour.
- From September 2025 this will increase to £11.25.
- This is a means of distributing funding, a contribution of a flat rate, with no direct link to the employment of an individual.
- It is up to each setting do determine how the funding is used to support the needs of the child.
- Any change to the hourly rate would lead to a reduction in the hourly rates to be paid to providers.

Early Years 2025/26 - Inclusion Fund	
3 and 4 year old	£600,000
2 year old - Disadvantaged	£46,710
2 year old - Working parents	£113,998
Under 2s - Working parents	£44,107
Total	£804,815

Early Year Central Team – Retained 2025/26

Early Years Central Team 2025/26	Budget 2025/26 £m
<p>Funding and Sufficiency</p> <p><i>Childcare Sufficiency, Early Years Entitlement and Wraparound Expansion, and Business Support, Business Development, support advice and training, recruitment and retention, finance audits, Nursery Funding, Provider support for Portal, Family support for nursery Funding</i></p>	£0.242
<p>Welfare requirements</p> <p><i>Statutory EYFS Welfare Requirements for EY Providers, Ofsted and EYFS Compliance, Ofsted preparation and post Ofsted actions, Safeguarding Child Protection CPD, Support advice and training, recruitment and retention</i></p>	£0.178
<p>Learning & Development</p> <p><i>0-3, 3-5 Early Education Improvement in EY settings, Pre and Post Ofsted Support, School Support in Early Years, Moderation, 0-5 Learning and development CPD, Family Hubs HLE, AET, transition</i></p>	£0.292
<p>SEND</p> <p><i>Area SENCO and Area SENCO Support for EY settings to give support advice and guidance to settings on SEND, training, resources , plans etc</i></p>	£0.094
Total Early Years Central Team	£0.805

Early Years Block Decision Required

- To agree the use of the Early Years Central Team budget of £0.805m in 2025/26.

Early Years Funded Weeks

Thurrock will pay providers the same profile as the DfE for 2025/26

Thurrock 2024/25	Financial Year 2025/26	DfE Funded Weeks	%	School Calendar
13	<u>SUMMER TERM 2025</u> Tuesday 22 April 2025 to Tuesday 22 July 2025	13	34%	13
13	<u>AUTUMN TERM 2025</u> Monday 8 September 2025 to Friday 19 December 2025	14	37%	14
12	<u>SPRING TERM 2026</u> Monday 5 January 2026 to Friday 27 March 2026	11	29%	11
38	TOTAL	38	100%	38

Early Years funding 2025/26

Next Steps

- A presentation will be made at the Early Years Provider Forum on Wednesday 5th February to inform:
 - New funding rates to be applied from April 2025.
 - Key Census and Payment dates for 2025/26



Next Steps

Next Steps

- Schools Funding Formula to be submitted to ESFA by 22 January
- ESFA approval to the formula is required before the budgets can be confirmed as final.
- Headteachers Briefing 30 January
- Early Years Provider Forum on Wednesday 5th February
- Detail work required on HNB Budget to be key area of discussion at next School Forum meeting to be held on 13 March 2025.
- Schools Forum meeting Thursday 14 March:
 - Thurrock Council Budget – Children Services