

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

GATESHEAD SCHOOLS FORUM MEETING

Thursday, 15 February 2024

PRESENT:	Peter Largue (Chair)	Trade Union Representative
	Sarah Diggle (Vice Chair)	Secondary Maintained Governors
	Julie Goodfellow	Primary Academy Headteacher
	Steven Haigh	Secondary Academy Headteacher
	Alison Hall	Primary Maintained Schools
	Denise Kilner	Nursey Sector Representative
	Mustafa Malik	Primary Headteachers
	Ethel Mills	PVI Sector Representative
	Michelle Richards	Special Schools Rep
	Dominic Volpe	Maintained Secondary Headteachers
IN ATTENDANCE:	Terence Appleby	Gateshead Council
	Barry Grenfell	Gateshead Council
	Kate Lowes	Gateshead Council
	Melanie Maitland	Gateshead Council
	Carole Smith	Gateshead Council

42 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Jacqui Ridley and Brendan Robson and Councillor Sheila Gallagher

43 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 11th January 2024 were agreed as a correct record.

44 EARLY YEARS FUNDING - 2-YEAR-OLD FUNDING

The Forum received a report to outline the results of the Early Years 2-Year-Old funding consultation.

After the approval of the 2-year-old funding formulae proposals at the January 2024 Forum the consultation documents were sent to all early year settings on the 16th January 2024, a total of 26 responses were received, but not all respondents answered all questions.

The results showed overall positive response to the proposals in the consultation from 88.46% to 50%.

There had been a significant number of don't know responses and disagreement responses ranged from 3.85% to 30.77%.

The funding formulae will be reviewed during 2024/25 financial year.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) The School Forum approved a single funding formula for both disadvantaged and 2-year-olds of working parents.
 - (ii) The School Forum approved 5% top-slice to contribute to the early years funding team and the remainder to be added to the inclusion fund.
 - (iii) The School Forum approved a base rate of £6.5664 per hour
 - (iv) The School Forum approved disadvantaged supplement rate £0.86, with £0.05 to be held in contingency for fluctuations in pupil mix between disadvantaged and 2-year-olds of working parents.
 - (v) The Schools Forum approved the universal supplement rate using 5% of funding based on IDACI ACORN data.

45 EARLY YEARS FUNDING - 3- & 4-YEAR-OLD FUNDING

The Forum received a report for the proposals for 3- & 4-year-old early years funding formulae for 2024/25.

The Local Authority have received an increase in funding of £0.47 per hour for the 3- & 4-year-olds, however, £0.04 of the increase relates to the mainstreaming of the Teachers Pay and Pension Grant (TPPG) for 2023/24.

The total estimated funding for 3- & 4-year-old early years funding is £12,537,638 both universal and extended hours, the allocation will be amended with January 2024 census information.

There will be an increase in the inclusion fund for 2024/25, the funds will be allocated on a different basis to better meet the needs of low levels and emerging SEND.

Approval was requested from Schools Forum to allocate the small amount of unspent inclusion funding for 2023/24 on inclusion training for all early year's settings.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) The School Forum approved the updated 3- & 4- year old EYSFF factor values, approved the proposed use of unspent centrally held inclusion funding
 - (ii) The School Forum notes further work will be undertaken on the allocation of inclusion funding allocation proposals for 2024/24.

46 EARLY YEARS FUNDING - UNDER 2'S

The Forum received a report on the proposals made by the Early Years subgroup of

Schools Forum on the allocation of the under 2-year-olds DSG funding from September 2024 for consultation with all early year's settings.

The third meeting of the group on the 15th January 2024 discussed funding proposals for children under 2 of working parents and agreed proposals to be taken to Schools Forum for approval to enable the consultation with all early years settings to take place.

- RESOLVED:
- (i) The Schools Forum approved the proposed consultation document in appendix 1, together with the planned consultation period of 16 February 2024 to 1 March 2024.

47 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Chair.....