

MINUTES

Title of Meeting:	School's Forum High Needs Working Group	
Purpose or Mandate:	To oversee the HNB of the DSG	
Date:	13 April 2021	
Place:	Teams Meeting	
Times:	3:30pm – 4:35pm	
Attendees:	<p>Gemma Morgan (Chair)</p> <p>Alison Bowman</p> <p>Allison Coleman</p> <p>Graham Alcock</p> <p>Darron Jackson</p> <p>Sarah Wood</p> <p>Ashlee Jacobs</p> <p>Jan Hatchell</p> <p>Jacqui Frost</p> <p>Abbie Thorington</p> <p>Lisa Jones</p> <p>Steve Newman</p> <p>Joy Settle</p> <p>Helen Murray</p> <p>Neil Winn</p> <p>Sue Prickett</p>	<p>Head of SEND Funding and Provider Services, SCC</p> <p>Governor, Earl Soham Primary School</p> <p>Governor, Federation of Fairfield and Colneis Schools</p> <p>Headteacher, Chalk Hill PRU</p> <p>Headteacher, Gorseland Primary School</p> <p>Headteacher, Waldringfield Primary School</p> <p>Raedwald Trust</p> <p>Headteacher, Riverwalk School</p> <p>SPHA</p> <p>Ipswich Academy</p> <p>Consortium Multi-Academy Trust</p> <p>SEND Policy and Funding Manager, SCC</p> <p>High Needs Funding Moderation Lead, SCC</p> <p>Wickham Market Primary School</p> <p>Murrayfield Primary School</p> <p>Chief Finance and Operations Officer, SENDAT</p>

Item	Minutes	Action
Welcome and apologies	Sam Porter, Michael Quinton, Helen Murray, Sally Garrett	
DfE Funding Formula Consultation	<p>DfE are looking at changing the funding formula they use to determine how much high needs funding local authorities receive. The current funding formula is based on historical data which means we are heavily underfunded.</p> <p>As part of the DfE consultation, they are looking to use 17/18 data which means local authorities that overspend cautiously will be penalised. If this data is used SCC will not see an increase in funding. In comparison to neighbouring councils, we are in a worse position although their overspend is high. As part of SCCs response to the consultation we have asked for clarification as to why the DfE are not using the most up to date information they</p>	

	have available.	
Dual Placement Policy	There has been a lot of changes to the document since it was first looked at. We are currently waiting for feedback from SPCN and have met with family services. When the group first met there was a suggestion around helping to link provision between school and FE settings. Unsure of issue which was raised by Calvin at the time. Jan Hatchell mentioned that dual placements that go on to FE settings doesn't get recognised at all in the document. SN to go back to Calvin around clarity of point raised. Additional point was raised regarding transport. This was discussed at the first meeting but SN needs to seek clarification from the transport team.	SN to speak to Calvin M involving post 16. Chase Mo in Transport. Look at transport policy. Chase SPCN.
DSG Deficit Recovery Plan & Future Spend of the High Needs Block	<p>GM, SN and MQ are currently finalising the DSG recovery plan for the DfE. As part of this we have also been looking at spend for 2021 onwards. The current deficit of £14.5m will be recovered over 5 years and a contribution of 0.5% from the Schools Block will pay for the recovery.</p> <p>Over the past 6 months we have had high levels of admissions at specialist education panel, the panel usually occurs every Monday but has now increased to 3 times a week due to volumes. Panel members have been placing pupils in the local offer but have had to place some in independent placements. Taking into consideration all admissions we are forecasting a £2.5m overspend for 2021/22. GM to explore 3 options to tackle this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do nothing as the increase in funding we receive on an annual basis from the DfE will cover that overspend and continue with funding from DfE. However we will not know our position until July 2021. 2. Go back to school's forum and ask for another half percent and add to the other half percent already asked for. 3. Reduce all high needs funding by 10%. <p>Need to make everyone aware of situation (DMT, school's forum). Judith M was working with this before she left, and Alan Cadzow is also aware. GM to take paper to DMT on 28th April 2021.</p>	
AOB & Notes from last meeting.	GM to send SEND Capital Programme spreadsheet around with minutes. (geographical spread)	
Future Dates	<p>High Needs Working Group:</p> <p>25 May 2021</p> <p>9 Sept 2021</p> <p>2 Nov 2021</p>	<p>Schools Forum:</p> <p>26 Jun 2021</p> <p>7 Oct 2021</p> <p>30 Nov 2021</p>