

News Bulletin



LIGHTHOUSE
SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

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Introduction

Dear everyone,

First of all, Happy New Year. I hope that the holiday was enjoyable and refreshing.

We start the term with the excellent news that Burrington and Wrington CE primary Schools are now full members of LSP and completed their academy conversion process on schedule on 1st January. Sarah Joskey and her team have faced a more arduous than typical transition with a great many legal issues to grapple with - but the work is done and mission accomplished. It is already a great pleasure working with colleagues, governors and families from these communities and I look forward with great excitement to the contribution that they will make in the Trust. We have also established the Churchill Hub from 1st January ahead of the further conversions due in the next few months. Thank you to Churchill Academy and Sixth Form for facilitating our fourth hub and we hope that it will provide a beneficial forum for all.

I am also delighted to congratulate Jane Bennett and her team at Flax Bourton on an Excellent rating from SIAMS. This is a rare accolade and reflects the school's very considered culture of flourishing and Christian character.

We finished the term making a series of requests of Heads and other leaders for involvement in the Challenge Partners Trust Review next week. Can I ask Heads to release colleagues (DHT/AHTs, SENDCOs, some subject leads, disadvantaged pupil leads, ECTs etc and SBMs) where possible to attend the virtual meetings. It is really important that the voice of the schools is heard by the reviewers. I'm sure there will be a few reminders sent out by Janine and Diane and I'll ask that she copies HTs in so that you can give colleagues a nudge if necessary.

Many thanks,

Gary

Distribution of the additional funding announced in the Autumn Statement

The Autumn statement announced an extra £2.3m for education. In reality, this is a £2b increase after the removal of the funding for the health and social care levy and £400m of this is being allocated to high needs. The DfE have now announced how the remaining £1.6b will be distributed.

A new grant called the Mainstream Schools Additional Grant (MSAG) will be allocated from April to August 2023 in the 2022-23 financial year and for the whole of the 2023-24 financial year. We expected the grant to be subsumed into GAG funding from September 2024.

The grant will be calculated on the following basis (figures quoted are full year equivalents):

- Lump sum of £4,576
- Per pupil funding of £121 for primary, £170 for KS3 and £193 for KS4
- FMS ever 6 funding of £106 primary and £154 secondary

The funding will be based on data from the October 2022 census. An estimate of the additional funding for each school is available [here](#). Please note that data highlighted in red is yet to be updated to reflect the 2022 census and therefore is subject to change.

The rates for the pupil premium are also increasing from April 2023 as a result of the funding announced in the Autumn Statement. Rates are increasing as detailed below:

- Reception to year 6 (Ever6FSM and NRPF) from £1,385 to £1,455
- Year 7 to 11 (Ever6FSM and NRPF) from £985 to £1,035
- LAC (funding paid to LAs initially) from £2,410 to £2,530
- Post-LAC (adoption, special guardianship or arrangement order
- following care) from £2,410 to £2,530
- Service children from £320 to £335

From 1 April 2023, pupil premium eligibility for pupils who have been adopted from care or have left care will include children adopted from outside of England and Wales.

The [pupil premium calculator](#) has been updated to reflect this change.

Please update your projected outturn for the 2022-23 financial year with this information and update your LGB.

Risk Protection Arrangement - costs for the 2023-24 financial year

The cost of RPA is reviewed annually to ensure affordability, breadth of cover and value for money are balanced.

The DfE has confirmed that the RPA deduction will be £23 per pupil from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 for academies.

Recovery Premium

The Recovery Premium grant is part of the government's package of funding to support pupils whose education has been impacted by Covid-19. At the time of preparing our 2022-23 Budget Assumptions Guidance in the Spring, there was no commitment for this funding package to continue in 2022-23. However, Recovery Premium has continued for 2022-23 and will continue for the 2023-24 academic years as well. Funding has already been paid to eligible schools in October (see nominal 1051) and 3 more payments will be made in January, April and July 2023.

This funding is focused on pupil premium eligible pupils because of the additional impact of the pandemic on these students. However, schools can use it to deliver evidence-based approaches for supporting any pupil based on an assessment of individual need.

Recovery premium allocations for mainstream schools will be based on pupil premium eligibility. This includes:

- pupils who are eligible for free school meals (FSM), including eligible children of families who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF)
- pupils who have been eligible for FSM at any point in the last 6 years
- children looked after by local authorities, referred to as looked-after children (LAC), and children previously looked after by local authorities, referred to as previously looked-after children (PLAC)

Recovery premium allocations will be calculated on a per pupil basis, based on £145 per eligible pupil in primary schools and £276 per eligible pupil in secondary schools. There continues to be a minimum payment to ensure that eligible primary and secondary schools will not receive less than £2,000 and £6,000 respectively. Per pupil rates for the academic year 2023 to 2024 will be confirmed in due course. Funding for looked-after children will be paid to the local authority and should be managed by the virtual school head in consultation with the child's school. 2022-23 allocations can be found [here](#).

As with pupil premium, schools must use their recovery premium on evidence-based approaches to support pupils, but schools can spend recovery premium on a wider cohort of pupils than those who are eligible for the funding (like Pupil Premium). A 'menu of approaches' has been developed to help schools to use both grants effectively. Any activities funded by recovery premium (or pupil premium) must align with the 'menu' from the start of the 2022 to 2023 academic year. It can be found on page 7 of [Using pupil premium: guidance for school leaders](#).

The menu includes tutoring, but recovery premium conditions of grant for the 2022 to 2023 academic year state that schools must not use the grant to meet their portion of the costs of tuition provided through the National Tutoring Programme (NTP). Schools should meet those costs from other sources of funding, including pupil premium. Recovery premium is additional funding to provide further education recovery support on top of the subsidised NTP offer.

Schools must show they are using their recovery premium effectively:

- by reporting on their use of recovery premium as part of their Pupil Premium Strategy Statement;
- through Ofsted inspections - inspectors may discuss plans schools have to spend their recovery premium funding
- by declaring that they have spent the funding in line with the conditions of grant (including that it has not been spent on NTP) and can demonstrate this upon request - a tick-box declaration will be added to the 2022 to 2023 year-end statement for NTP

