

## SEND and HNB Review Consultation Proposals October 2021

### **Proposal 1: Time allocation of Inclusion Support Services to Secondary Schools**

Currently all secondary schools receive the same flat rate of time from their Inclusion Support delivery team to support pupils with SEND. Current time allocation to each Secondary School

**Education Child Psychology Team** – 65 hours

**Special Advisory Teacher: Learning** – 67 hours

**Special Advisory Teacher SEMH** – 60 hours

In Primary schools the time allocation of Inclusion Support teams is based on a formula:

Number on roll, IDACI rating, Number of pupils with EHCPs and Number of pupils referred to Inclusion Support. Schools are then ranked according to the formula and placed within 5 bands of time allocation. Each element of the formula has the same weighting.

If a formula model based on need is agreed for Secondary schools, the distribution of hours of delivery time would mean that some schools will receive additional hours whilst others would receive less.

Please see below a sample model for the allocation for advisory teacher hours

Model A- School	School Type	NOR	# EHCP	IDACI	IS Referral	Overall Rank	Overall Quintile	Rank in Model A
	Sec	971	82	27%	90	1	A	A
	Sec	1110	58	25%	85	2	A	A
	Sec	1933	27	8%	63	3	A	A
	Sec	1221	38	5%	77	4	A	A
	Sec	1507	28	16%	65	5	A	A
	Sec	1635	28	23%	53	6	B	B
	Sec	1424	15	27%	69	7	B	B
	Sec	1328	19	12%	59	8	B	B
	Sec	1536	15	36%	42	9	B	B
	Sec	1336	21	49%	38	10	B	B
	Sec	1418	15	41%	44	11	C	C
	Sec	1110	23	36%	48	12	C	C
	Sec	1400	12	1%	60	13	C	C
	Sec	1086	16	24%	53	14	C	C
	Sec	331	7	121%	45	15	C	C
	Sec	1195	14	18%	41	16	D	D
	Sec	1133	27	4%	36	17	D	D
	Sec	1090	9	25%	46	18	D	D
	Sec	884	14	42%	37	19	D	D
	Sec	165	2	181%	6	20	E	E

A Band – 72 hrs

B Band – 67 hrs

C Band – 62 hrs

D Band – 57 hrs

E Band – separate banding for school due to very low numbers on roll

Using different weightings of elements within the formula changes the schools ranking and banding. This, and indicators used within the formula could be further discussed with Secondary Head Teachers.

Please indicate your decision by choosing one of the following options

**Option 1**

Align allocation of Inclusion Support delivery time in secondary mainstream schools with the primary school allocation model. Change delivery hours from a flat rate to all secondary schools to a formula model for similar distribution of time based on need.

**Option 2**

Align allocation of Inclusion Support delivery time to a formula model. Inclusion of specific elements and weightings in the formula to be further discussed and agreed by secondary school steering group.

**Option 3**

Maintain current flat rate so that all Secondary Schools receive the same amount of time allocation to all schools.

- **Proposal 2: Determine use of funding being held within SEN Support Service category of High Needs Block for Secondary Preventing Exclusions Team**

Currently this team have not been appointed following feedback from Secondary Heads and the impact of Covid.

Original proposal was to employ 7 central Preventing Exclusions Officers to work under-direction of the SAT SEMH team to prevent exclusion / support transition in KS3. This is based on a similar model and capacity of Preventing Primary Exclusions team currently working within primary schools. Staffing costs for team £198,600 from 2021/22 onwards. The reallocation of funding would total £1,390,200 over the 5-year period to 2027/28.

An alternative proposal of funding the transition/ reintegration team has been suggested. This team is part of the Fair Access and Exclusion team and supports the transition of pupils who are subject to agreed managed moves (in Secondary) and reintegration of permanently excluded pupils into mainstream settings (Primary) and a family support worker. Currently the positions are funded through the Primary and Secondary Exclusions Levy which is controlled by schools and separate to the High Needs Block. Positions have been previously agreed by head teachers at Fair Access Management Board and Joint Executive Group. These are temporary positions and continued funding is dependent on the Exclusion Levy set by Head teachers as part of the Fair Access Protocol and the numbers of permanently excluded pupils successfully transitioning to mainstream schools. Team consists of 2 Secondary Transition/Integration Officers, 1 Primary Transition Officer and 1 Family Support Officer. Staffing cost for team £109,260 from 2021/2022

Role	Students	Referral route	Support /outcome
Secondary Preventing Exclusions Officer	KS3 students with identified SEMH needs (SEN Support) at risk of exclusion	School referral to Special Advisory Teacher: SEMH (Inclusion Support) following period of specific school based intervention and advice. Identification starts in Yr.6 to support transition into Yr.7.	On-site support within current secondary school in 6-week block. Work with school staff and parents in modelling successful strategies to support student.  Desired Outcome: Reduced risk of exclusion from school
Transition and Reintegration Officers	Secondary students at risk of permanent exclusion identified as requiring a managed transition to another school Primary students that are reintegrating into new mainstream school from Primrose PRU	School referral through Fair Access and Exclusions Team	Liaison between schools, pupil and family. On-site support in new school to establish trusted relationships with staff.  Desired Outcome: Successful transition into new school to provide a fresh start

Please indicate your decision by choosing one of the following options

**Option 1.** Use HNB funding to employ new Secondary Preventing Exclusion Team

**Option 2.** Use HNB funding to employ Transition / Integration Team which are currently part of the Fair Access and Exclusion Team and funded through the Exclusions Levy.

### **Top up funding for Children / Young People with Education, Health and Care Plans**

**Proposal 3: To determine the level of top up funding allocated to C/YP with an Education, Health and Care Plan.**

The amount of top up funding allocated to each individual child with an EHC Plan has been an area of debate with conflicting views. The options below reflect the differing views from school leaders across Sandwell. Alterations to “top up” funding will have a significant impact on the High Needs Block going forward if the numbers of students requiring EHC Plans continues to significantly increase.

The total funding allocated for a pupil with an EHC Plan in mainstream school is split between school budget (AWPU: element 1 and SEN Notional budget: element 2) and top up funding provided through the HNB (element 3). Top up funding is determined by a banding system based on level of need and support required. Schools are expected to use all elements within the C/YPs funding to provide provision specified in the EHC Plan.

Special Schools and PRUs are provided with £10,000 per place which replaces element 1 and 2 in mainstream schools. Each school then has a set amount of top up funding per pupil dependant on their setting.

Focus Provision schools are provided with additional funding to replace element 2 so that the placement cost is equivalent to £10,000 when element 1 (AWPU) is added. Each type of Focus Provision has a set amount of top up per pupil dependant on need

The school's forum sub-committee agreed to put forward the following options for consideration:

- Increase level of top up funding to all pupils each year from 2022/23 onwards.  
**Option 1** – 1% increase  
**Option 2** – 2% increase
- Increase level of top up funding for mainstream pupils from 2022/23 onwards  
**Option 3** – 1% increase  
**Option 4** – 2% increase
- **Option 5** - Maintain level of top up funding for all pupils

The table below shows the impact on individual levels of funding for each child according to the current banding system.

Mainstream		1% Increase	2% Increase	Variance 1%	Variance 2%
Banding	Top Up				
CL1	£3,260	£3,293	£3,325	£33	£65
CL2	£4,915	£4,964	£5,013	£49	£98
CL3	£6,310	£6,373	£6,436	£63	£126
CL4	£9,819	£9,917	£10,015	£98	£196
P1	£3,261	£3,294	£3,326	£33	£65
P2	£4,347	£4,390	£4,434	£43	£87
P3	£5,590	£5,646	£5,702	£56	£112
P4	£7,825	£7,903	£7,982	£78	£157
P5	£9,809	£9,907	£10,005	£98	£196

S1	£3,912	£3,951	£3,990	£39	£78
S2	£5,589	£5,645	£5,701	£56	£112
S3	£7,823	£7,901	£7,979	£78	£156
S4	£9,829	£9,927	£10,026	£98	£197
SEMH1	£2,794	£2,822	£2,850	£28	£56
SEMH2	£4,341	£4,384	£4,428	£43	£87
SEMH3	£5,569	£5,625	£5,680	£56	£111
SEMH4	£7,887	£7,966	£8,045	£79	£158
SEMH5	£9,839	£9,937	£10,036	£98	£197
SL1	£4,939	£4,988	£5,038	£49	£99
SL2	£6,351	£6,415	£6,478	£64	£127
SL3	£7,824	£7,902	£7,980	£78	£156
SL4	£9,780	£9,878	£9,976	£98	£196
MSA	£1,570	£1,586	£1,601	£16	£31

Special					
School	Top Up	1% increase	2% increase	Variance 1%	Variance 2%
The Orchard	£14,085	£14,226	£14,367	£141	£282
The Meadows	£14,146	£14,287	£14,429	£141	£283
The Westminster	£13,400	£13,534	£13,668	£134	£268
Shenstone Lodge	£24,737	£24,984	£25,232	£247	£495

Focus Provision					
Type	Top Up	1% increase	2% increase	Variance 1%	Variance 2%
ASD	£13,129	£13,260	£13,392	£131	£263
HI	£10,200	£10,302	£10,404	£102	£204
MLD	£9,400	£9,494	£9,588	£94	£188
PD	£12,600	£12,726	£12,852	£126	£252
SEMH	£13,129	£13,260	£13,392	£131	£263

PRUs					
Type	Top Up	1% increase	2% increase	Variance 1%	Variance 2%
Primrose	£11,920	£12,039	£12,158	£119	£238
SCS	£7,346	£7,419	£7,493	£73	£147
Albright	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0

The table below shows the estimated impact on the HNB for the different options. These figures are based on **the current baseline amounts and do not include predicted increases in pupils with EHC Plans**. They do include commitments to fund additional specialist placements in already agreed new free schools, Meadows and Westminster SPI.

Please refer to the financial spreadsheet (appendix 2) for full financial impact on the HNB.

Proposal 3 Option	Predicted year HNB goes into deficit	Predicted year HNB goes into full deficit
3.1 – 1% increase all pupils	2025 / 2026	2027 / 2028
3.2 – 2% increase all pupils	2024 / 2025	2026 / 2027
3.3 – 1% mainstream pupils	2026 / 2027	
3.4 – 2% mainstream pupils	2025 / 2026	
3.5 – no change	No deficit	

**It is important to note that if the predicted increase of pupils with EHCPs is accurate than the HNB is estimated to go into in-year deficit in 2023/24 and full deficit in 2024 / 2025.**

**The table below shows the potential cost of predicted increases to students receiving additional funding through the HNB if the population of C/YP with EHC Plans follows it current trajectory**

	Total Anticipated Increase in EHCPs 1300 over 5 Years	EHCPs Already accounted for	Total to fund over 5 Years	Cost 22/23 £m	Cost 23/24 £m	Cost 24/25 £m	Cost 25/26 £m	Cost 26/27 £m
Specialist Places 35%	455	-271	184	0.9	1.8	2.8	3.7	4.6
Mainstream Places 65%	845	0	845	1.4	2.8	4.2	5.5	6.9
Total	1,300	-271	1,029	2.3	4.6	7.0	8.3	11.5

As this is a five-year anticipated increase in pupil numbers and the HNB is not in deficit at the moment a management report should be submitted to the DFE on the anticipated future deficit. They will however expect the LA to make certain plans to meet the anticipated increase in SEN pupils and manage the deficit from within. The LA also needs to be mindful of reported school balances.

Please indicate your decision by choosing one of the following options

- Increase level of top up funding to all pupils each year from 2022/23 onwards.  
**Option 3.1 – 1% increase**

### **Option 3.2 – 2% increase**

- Increase level of top up funding for mainstream pupils from 2022/23 onwards

### **Option 3.3 – 1% increase**

### **Option 3.4 – 2% increase**

- **Option 3.5** - Maintain level of top up funding for all pupils

## **Increase in Specialist Places**

### **Proposal 4. To incrementally increase specialist places for pupils with severe learning difficulties / complex needs and secondary aged SEMH students**

The increase in specialist places will be subject to decisions in relation to top up funding if the HNB is not to go into deficit.

Only children with more complex special educational needs will require specialist places as specified in their EHC Plan. The decision to place a C/YP in a specialist placement is made by Provision Panel held by Inclusive Learning Service. Decisions are made using the needs assessment advice from a range of professionals from education, health and social care.

The chart below demonstrates the additional financial impact on the HNB for the predicted numbers of C/YP requiring specialist placement in the next 5 years. These figures do not include mainstream schools with focus provision or pupil referral units.

	Total Anticipated Increase in EHCPs 1300 over 5 Years	Already accounted for *	Total to fund over 5 Years	Cost 22/23 £m	Cost 23/24 £m	Cost 24/25 £m	Cost 25/26 £m	Cost 26/27 £m
Specialist Places 35%	455	-271	184	0.9	1.8	2.8	3.7	4.6
Mainstream Places 65%	845	0	845	1.4	2.8	4.2	5.5	6.9
Total	1,300	-271	1,029	2.3	4.6	7.0	8.3	11.5

The list below provides suggested examples of incremental changes to Specialist Provision within Sandwell to address the current short fall. Designation of need is based on current priorities for placement as specified in data analysis.

Provision for children / young people with ASD will be supplied through the opening of the 2 Free Special Schools

- KS3 SEMH FP – 10 places HNB £231,290 + capital costs
- KS3 / 4 SEMH Specialist – 10 places HNB £347,370 + capital costs
- Increase SLD / Complex Needs provision primary + secondary  
Satellite Schools / extension – 20 places HNB £482, 920 + capital costs

Capital costs would be met through the High Needs Capital Allocation Grant (1.4 million) and monies already designated within the SEND Capital Grant (£600,000).

Further expansion of specialist provision would be based on increases to funding by the DfE via new SEND capital programmes and increases to the HNB.

Timeline for completion would be dependent on schedule of capital works

Please indicate your decision by choosing one of the following options

**Option 1** – Agree to fund additional places proposed for pupils with severe learning difficulties / complex needs and Secondary aged students with SEMH needs.

**Option 2** – Do not agree to fund additional places proposed

### **Support for developing specialist teaching spaces in mainstream schools**

#### **Proposal 5.**

#### **To use a proportion of the High Needs Capital Grant to support the physical development of specialist teaching environments within mainstream schools.**

This proposal is to support further inclusivity in our mainstream schools to support the growing complexity of SEN Needs within our student population.

Currently some schools have developed their own small group teaching spaces for pupils with similar more complex needs in their schools. This is funded through combining individual top up funding to provide bespoke small group support that meets the children's needs and provision specified in their EHC Plans. The development of pilot "hubs" in schools has been supported by Educational Psychologist and Special Advisory Teachers through their allocated school hours. Inclusion Support staff have provided advice, guidance and specific staff training to develop effective supportive teaching strategies for the identified group of children.

Schools have used the "hubs" in a flexible way to meet the most prominent needs within their own school population and environment. Some hubs have been developed to provide pupils with ASD a structured teaching environment whilst others have focused on providing pupils with SEMH difficulties nurturing, therapeutic spaces

Mainstream schools have raised that suitable teaching environments and resources are an issue when creating spaces to support pupils with SEN. This is a barrier to greater inclusion of pupils with SEND.

The funding would be:

- Available to all mainstream schools



- Allocated through a bid process and schools would be expected to match fund the amount through their own capital monies.
- Upper limit of funding to an individual school = £10,000
- Limited to 1 bid per school
- To be used for capital works only

The total amount of funding available would be dependent on the capital spend of projects to support development of specialist places

Please indicate your decision by choosing one of the following options

**Option 1** Agree with proposal to use High Needs Capital Allocation Funding to support development of specialist teaching / intervention spaces within mainstream schools

**Option 2** Disagree with proposal

### **Proposal 6**

**Allocate HNB funding to support the initial establishment of specialist teaching environments within mainstream schools through access to a resource grant. The grant would be used to contribute towards the purchase specialist resources and equipment for use within the hub.**

The funding would be:

- Available to mainstream schools establishing a specialist hub
- Allocated through a bid process
- Limited to an upper amount of £2000
- Limited to one bid per school

Total allocation from the HNB estimated £100,000 as a single expenditure.

Please indicate your decision by choosing one of the following options

**Option 1** Agree with proposal to fund a limited resource grant to schools establishing a specialist hub

**Option 2** Disagree with proposal