

# THURROCK SCHOOLS' FORUM

13<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 10:00 – 12:00

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

## AGENDA

### ***Multi Academy Trusts***

The Gateway Learning Community Trust (GLC)  
Catalyst Academies Trust  
Harris Federation  
Ormiston Park  
ORTU Federation  
Osborne Co-operative Academy Trust  
REAch2 Academy Trust  
South West Essex Community Education Trust

Vine Schools Trust  
Christus Catholic Trust

### ***Secondary Voluntary Aided School***

Grays Convent

### ***Standalone Academy Trusts***

Woodside Academy  
Giffards Primary

### ***Infrastructure Groups***

TASS  
TPHA

### ***Alternative Provision***

Olive AP

### ***Special Schools***

Treetops Academy  
Beacon Hill Academy

### ***Non-school members***

Diocese of Chelmsford  
Diocese of Brentwood  
0-5 EYFS Representative  
0-11 Representative  
11-19 Representative

### **Name**

Mrs V Reid (Chair)  
Mr T Parfett  
Mrs N Graham  
To be advised  
Mr K Sadler  
Mr Griffiths  
Mr E Samuel  
Mr S Munday

Mrs E Wigmore  
Mrs J Seymour

### **Name**

Mrs P Johnson

### **Name**

Mr S Proctor  
Mrs N Haslam-Davis

### **Name**

Mr S Bell  
Mrs J Sawtell-Haynes

### **Name**

Mr M Vickers

### **Name**

Mr J Brewer  
Mrs Sue Hewitt

### **Name**

Miss S Jones  
Mrs M Shepherd  
Mr A Melbourne  
Ms A Jones  
Mr S Bowak

**THURROCK SCHOOLS' FORUM**

**13<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 10:00 – 12:00**

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<b>Introductory Items</b>		
<b>Item</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Time Guide</b>
1.	<b>Welcome from Chair</b>	10:00
2.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b>	10:02
3.	<b>Agreement of agenda, time-guide and notification of 'Any Other Business'</b>	10:03
4.	<b><i>For Decision</i></b>  <b>Dedicated Schools Grant 2023/24 and 2024/25</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presented by David May</li></ul>	10:05
5.	<b><i>For Decision</i></b>  <b>Union Facility Time Annual Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presented by Andrea Winstone</li></ul>	10:25
6.	<b><i>For Decision</i></b>  <b>Meeting dates for the academic year 2024-2025</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presented by Sarah Williams</li></ul>	10:30
7.	<b><i>For Discussion</i></b>  <b>DSG Management Plan and SEND DBV Programme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presented by David May</li></ul>	10:40
8.	<b><i>For Information</i></b>  <b>Pupil Mobility</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presented by David May</li></ul>	11:00

**THURROCK SCHOOLS' FORUM**

**13<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at 10:00 – 12:00**

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<b>9.</b>	<b><i>For Information</i></b>  <b>Schools' Forum Forward Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presented by Sarah Williams</li></ul>	<b>11:15</b>
<b>Closing Items</b>		
<b>10.</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2024</b>	<b>11:20</b>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Action Log Review</b>	<b>11:30</b>
<b>12.</b>	<b>Matters Arising</b>	<b>11:35</b>
<b>13.</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	<b>11:45</b>
	<b>Date of next meeting</b>	

## THURROCK SCHOOLS FORUM REPORT

DATE: 13 June 2024  
SUBJECT: Dedicated Schools Grant 2023/24 and 2024/25  
REPORT OF: David May  
THE REPORT IS: For Decision

### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The final outturn position for 2023/24 is a surplus of £1.164m, that will change the deficit position of £0.534m to a surplus of £0.630m. This will be available to support identified funding pressures in the High Needs Block in 2024/25.
- 1.2 There continues to be significant risk within the High Needs Block:
- Continued increase in demand for EHCP's; and
  - Sufficiency of local offer to prevent high-cost external placements.
- 1.3 Thurrock has been successful with its grant application as part of the SEND Delivering Better Value programme and will start the work to implementation. An extraordinary meeting of Headteachers is to be held on 20 June 2024 to discuss with all Thurrock schools.
- 1.4 The projected outturn for 2024/25 is a deficit of £0.952m, with additional risks of £0.601m identified. The start of the new academic year, with confirmed pupil movement will help to clarify the pressures and consider mitigations that could be developed in both short and medium term. The impact of the DBV grant is expected to support this position.

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Schools Forum is invited to:
- a) Note and seek clarity on the contents of the report.

### 3. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

3.1 To inform members of the Schools Forum of the outturn position in relation to the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) for 2023/24 and projected outturn position for 2024/25, in accordance with the Schools Forums (England) Regulations 2012.

### 4. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT 2023/24

4.1 The outturn position for 2023/24 is surplus £1.164m as shown below: Appendix A provides further detail on the key areas of expenditure.

DSG 2023/24	DSG £'000	Quarter 4 Forecast £'000	Quarter 4 Forecast Variance £'000	Quarter 3 Reported Variance £'000	Movement £'000	Direction of Travel
Schools	5.450	5.010	(0.440)	(0.397)	(0.043)	▼
Central Services	1.633	1.608	(0.025)	(0.011)	(0.014)	▼
High Needs	31.085	30.139	(0.945)	(0.389)	(0.556)	▼
Early Years	13.741	13.987	0.246	0.343	(0.097)	▼
<b>Total</b>	<b>51.908</b>	<b>50.744</b>	<b>(1.164)</b>	<b>(0.454)</b>	<b>(0.710)</b>	▼

4.2 The outturn of £50.744m is 2% less than the funding allocation. This is a £0.710m favourable movement from the quarter 3 reported position.

#### ***Schools Block £0.440m (8%) underspend.***

The underspend is driven by Pupil growth and delays in the expansion of places in the primary sector. An updated growth projection has been included in 2024/25 budget.

#### ***Central Services Block £0.025 underspend.***

The underspend is achieved through salary slippage and maximisation of external funding.

#### ***High Needs Block £0.945m (3%) underspend.***

The underspend is achieved through:

- One-off delays caused by building issues around RACC within the proposed new resource bases £1.221m.
- Special Schools, delayed expansion of 10 places £0.346m.

The overspend is driven by:

- £0.312m Increase in support provided through Tuition costs.
- £0.159m Top up payments to Academies. The demand for EHCPs continues at an average of 28 new EHCPs a month.
- £0.151m Additional High Needs Targeted support relating to behavioural therapists and professional costs.

#### ***Early Years Block £0.246m 2% overspend.***

The overspend is driven by increase in demand for top up funding to support children with additional needs and an increase in funded hours paid in 2023/24.

The provisional impact of the Early Years January 2024 census that is reflected in the outturn position is an increase in funding of £27,102. The final funding allocation will be confirmed by the ESFA in July 2024.

**5. DSG RESERVE**

- 5.1 The movement to reserves of £1.164m will change the deficit position of £0.534m to a surplus of £0.630m. This will be available to support identified funding pressures in the High Needs Block in 2024/25.
- 5.2 As a result of having a DSG deficit, a DSG management plan is required to be submitted to the ESFA that outlines the reason the deficit has occurred and actions to be taken to contain expenditure within the funding envelope provided.
- 5.3 Thurrock is part of the Delivering Better Value in SEND programme that aims to support LA's to improve delivery of SEND services for children and young people while ensuring services are sustainable. The grant application was approved by DfE DBV Programme Board on 29 February. The outline plan is shown below, with expenditure to be incurred during 2024/25:

**Thurrock DBV: Use of Grant**

Workstream & Area	Impact	Total Cost	Spend 2024/25
Workstream 1- Improving mainstream capacity and ability to meet needs of children and young people at SEND Support and with EHCPs.	Schools - Release to attend training	<b>£450,000</b>	£550,000
	Cost of training and venue hire	<b>£100,000</b>	
Workstream 2- Improving mainstream capacity and ability to meet needs of children and young people at SEND Support and with EHCPs.	Primary Outreach	<b>£180,000</b>	£300,000
	Secondary Outreach	<b>£120,000</b>	
Workstream 2 Review of Outreach services to prioritise and mainstream year 1 investment	SEND specialist engaged to review and prioritise outreach offer.	<b>£75,000</b>	£75,000
Workstream 3 Reducing the high INMSS placement costs	Increase to commissioning capacity to ensure VFM being secured.	<b>£75,000</b>	£75,000
		<b>£1,000,000</b>	<b>£1,000,000</b>

- 5.4 Officers are currently progressing the detail in the implementation of the grant. An extraordinary meeting of Headteachers is to be held on 20 June 2024 to discuss with all Thurrock schools.

## 6. DEDICATED SCHOOLS GRANT 2024/25

6.1 The current projected outturn for 2024/25 is a deficit of £0.952m position as shown below: Appendix A provides further detail on the key areas of expenditure.

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	5.731	(0.000)
Central Services	1.610	0.000	0.000	1.610	1.610	0.000
High Needs	39.083	(7.256)	0.400	32.227	33.179	0.952
Early Years	22.574	0.000	0.000	22.574	22.574	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>230.423</b>	<b>(168.281)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>62.142</b>	<b>63.094</b>	<b>0.952</b>

6.2 The area of focus is the High Needs Block. The key areas are:

- Expansion of places available within Special Schools from Sept-24 at a cost of £0.508m.
- Out of Borough Placements. Three joint funded placements agreed in the spring term with a full year cost implication to the DSG of £0.528m.
- Tuition, £0.187m, continued demand for tuition services.

This is mitigated by:

- Delay in the opening of Primary Autism Resource base to Sept-24, a saving of £0.136m.
- Non-Residential Out of Borough Placements £0.135m

There are a number of risks that are not reflected in the current figures:

- Post 16 – If all year 11's remain in current placement, cost implication of £0.317m.
- If EHCP's continue at a rate of 24 per month, cost implication of £0.284m.

6.3 At this stage pupil movement, with the schools and high needs block, for the new academic year is not fully known. This will be included in the information to be reported in September and allow a more accurate picture of the projected outturn to be known.

## 7. TEACHERS PAY ADDITIONAL GRANT 2024/25

7.1 In 2024/25 the Teachers pay additional grant (TPAG) for special and AP schools continues. Funding allocation has been confirmed with ESFA first instalment expected.

7.2 The funding to be received by Thurrock will be based on the place numbers held by the ESFA and a funding rate of £595 per place. Thurrock has 625 special and AP places and will receive £389206 for 2024/25 financial year.

7.3 Local Authorities retain flexibility in how they pass on funding to individual providers.

7.4 The only change to the 2023/24 agreed methodology is to increase the lump sum to reflect a 12-month allocation. This increases the £5,000 (2023/24) to £9,000 to be paid in 2024/25. The remaining funding to be allocated on a place value:

**2024/25 Teachers' pay additional grant Special and AP Thurrock allocation**

School Name	Lump Sum	ACA	Places	Value	Total
Beacon Hill Academy	£9,000	1.046606	75	£540	£51,383
Olive AP Academy	£9,000	1.046606	85	£540	£57,033
Treetops Free School	£9,000	1.046606	147	£540	£92,075
Treetops School	£9,000	1.046606	318	£540	£188,715
<b>Total - Value of Grant</b>			<b>625</b>		<b>£389,206</b>

7.5 The following table shows how the funding is to be distributed over the financial year:

**2024/25 Teachers' pay additional grant - Distribution profile**

School Name	Total	Jul-24	Mar-25	Total
Beacon Hill Academy	£51,383	£21,410	£29,973	£51,383
Olive AP Academy	£57,033	£23,764	£33,270	£57,033
Treetops Free School	£92,075	£38,364	£53,710	£92,075
Treetops School	£188,715	£78,631	£110,084	£188,715
<b>Total - Value of Grant</b>	<b>£389,206</b>	<b>£162,169</b>	<b>£227,037</b>	<b>£389,206</b>

**8. REFERENCES TO OTHER KEY DOCUMENTS / PREVIOUS REPORTS**

- School Forum meeting 14-03-24 - Dedicated Schools Grant 2023/24 & 2024/25
- School Forum Meeting 16-01-24 - Dedicated Schools Grant 2023/24 & 2024/25

**9. CONTACT DETAILS OF LEAD OFFICER / AUTHOR**

If you have any queries or comments in advance of the Schools Forum meeting about this report, please contact.

Name: David May  
 Role: Head of Financial Management, Corporate Finance  
 E-Mail: [dmay@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:dmay@thurrock.gov.uk)



**Appendix A**

<b><u>Dedicated Schools Grant</u></b>		<b><u>2023/24</u></b>	<b><u>2024/25</u></b>	<b><u>2024/25</u></b>	<b><u>2024/25</u></b>
		<b><u>Outturn</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Projected</u></b>	<b><u>Variance</u></b>
		<b><u>£m</u></b>	<b><u>£m</u></b>	<b><u>£m</u></b>	<b><u>£m</u></b>
SB	Schools Block	155.651	166.756	166.756	0.000
CSSB	Central Services Block	1.608	1.610	1.610	(0.000)
HNB	High Needs Block	37.165	39.483	40.435	0.952
EYB	Early Years Block	13.987	22.574	22.574	0.000
Dedicated Schools Grant Funding Settlement		208.411	230.424	231.375	0.952
Less Academy Recoupment		(157.667)	(168.281)	(168.281)	0.000
Dedicated Schools Grant Received		(51.908)	(62.142)	(62.142)	0.000
<b>(Under) / Overspend</b>		<b>(1.163)</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>0.952</b>	<b>0.953</b>
SB	Maintained Schools Budgets	4.018	4.454	4.454	0.000
SB	Growth Fund	0.993	1.277	1.277	0.000
CSSB	Statutory and Regulatory duties - Education	0.544	0.511	0.511	(0.000)
CSSB	Statutory and Regulatory duties - Finance	0.159	0.174	0.174	0.000
CSSB	School Place planning	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.000
CSSB	Admissions	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.000
CSSB	Schools Forum	0.006	0.009	0.009	0.000
CSSB	SACRE	0.010	0.015	0.015	0.000
CSSB	School Licences	0.154	0.173	0.173	0.000
CSSB	Contribution to Combined budgets	0.406	0.400	0.400	0.000
HNB	Place Funding	0.000	0.025	0.025	0.000
HNB	Top Up Funding - Thurrock Academies	3.771	4.535	4.594	0.058
HNB	Top Up Funding - Thurrock Resource Provisions	4.077	5.017	4.511	(0.506)
HNB	Top Up Funding - Thurrock Special Schools	7.375	7.871	8.379	0.508
HNB	Top Up Funding - Thurrock Alternative Provision	1.865	1.895	2.265	0.370
HNB	Top Up Funding - Other Local Authorities (4-16)	1.549	1.600	1.359	(0.241)
HNB	Top Up Funding - Post 16	2.563	2.515	2.563	0.048
HNB	Pupils not in School	0.617	0.540	0.504	(0.036)
HNB	Medical Tuition	0.419	0.193	0.416	0.223
HNB	Residential - Non Maintained and Independent	1.841	1.854	2.508	0.654
HNB	Non Residential - Non Maintained and Independent	2.118	2.155	2.029	(0.126)
HNB	Commissioned Services	1.185	1.245	1.245	0.000
HNB	Additional High Needs Targeted	0.550	0.600	0.600	0.000
HNB	Home Hospital Education Services	0.042	0.030	0.030	0.000
HNB	Travellers Team	0.050	0.052	0.052	0.000
HNB	Home to School Transport	1.600	1.600	1.600	0.000
HNB	High Needs Central Team	0.515	0.500	0.500	0.000
HNB	SEND DBV	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
EYB	3&4 Year old	11.732	13.360	13.360	0.000
EYB	2 year olds Disadvantaged	1.923	2.214	2.214	0.000
EYB	2 year olds Working parents	0.000	3.520	3.520	0.000
EYB	Under 2 Year olds	0.000	2.846	2.846	0.000
EYB	Expansion of the EY offer	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
EYB	Early Years Central Team	0.332	0.635	0.635	0.000
<b>Dedicated Schools Grant</b>		<b>50.744</b>	<b>62.143</b>	<b>63.094</b>	<b>0.952</b>

## THURROCK SCHOOLS FORUM REPORT

DATE: 13th June 2024  
SUBJECT: Meeting dates for academic year 2024-2025  
REPORT OF: Sarah Williams  
THE REPORT IS: For Decision

### 1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report provides proposed meeting dates for the next academic year based on the current academic year meeting dates.

### 2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Forum agrees the new proposed meetings dates/times for the next academic year 2024-2025.

### 3.0 INTRODUCTION

#### *Future meeting dates*

Proposed future meeting dates for the academic year have been identified and are provided below. All meetings are proposed to take place 10:00 to 12:00 on a Thursday.

1. Thursday 19th September 2024
2. Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024
3. Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025
4. Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025
5. Thursday 12th June 2025

### FINANCIAL / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None.

### 4.0 CONTACT DETAILS OF LEAD OFFICER / AUTHOR

**If you have any queries or comments in advance of the Schools Forum meeting about this report, please contact**

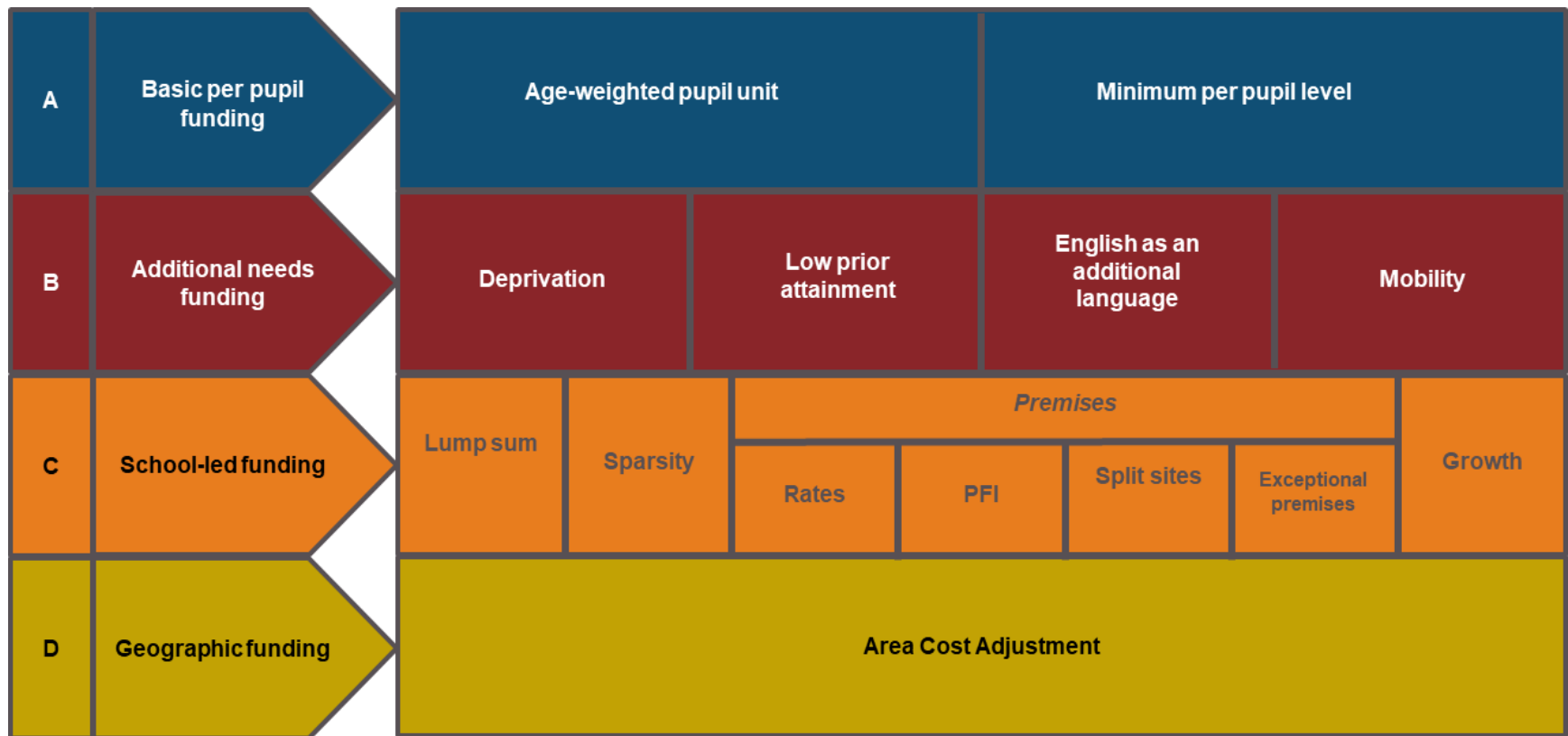
**NAME:** Sarah Williams  
**ROLE:** Head of Education Support Service  
**E-MAIL:** sjwilliams@thurrock.gov.uk  
**PHONE:** 01375 652971

# Pupil Mobility

**David May**  
**Head of Financial Management**  
[dmay@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:dmay@thurrock.gov.uk)  
**June 2024**

# The schools national funding formula

- The schools NFF comprises of 14 factors



# Pupil Mobility Factor

- The mobility factor allocates funding to schools with a high proportion of pupils who have an entry date in the last 3 years that is not typical. (the first census a pupil is recorded as attending the school is a January or May census, not October).
- The mobility methodology involves tracking individual pupils using their unique pupil ID through censuses from the past 3 years. If the first census when the pupil was in the school was a January or May census, they are a mobile pupil.
- To be eligible for mobility funding, the proportion of mobile pupils in a school must be above the threshold of 6%. A per pupil amount is then allocated in respect of all mobile pupils above that threshold.

<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Units (P)</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Units (S)</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Total</b>
2024-25	279.46	£996.72	119.24	£1,432.79	£449,393
2023-24	210.37	£981.34	73.69	£1,412.29	£310,514
2022-23	137.49	£925.00	67.96	£1,330.00	£217,567

# Pupil Mobility – School Level funding

Year	2024-25		2023-24		2022-23	
School Name	Units	Mobility (£)	Units	Mobility (£)	Units	Mobility (£)
<b>Total</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>£449,393</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>£310,514</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>£217,567</b>
Abbots Hall Primary School	9.74	£9,708.05	7.29	£7,154.90	3.81	£3,527.87
Aveley Primary School	0.64	£639.47			9.20	£8,510.00
Belmont Castle Academy	8.88	£8,850.87	3.88	£3,807.58	3.12	£2,886.00
Benyon Primary School	20.40	£20,333.09	14.94	£14,658.94		
Bonnygate Primary School	9.86	£9,827.66	10.52	£10,323.65	12.52	£11,581.00
Bulphan Church of England Academy	2.86	£2,850.62	0.04	£39.25	0.44	£407.00
Chadwell St Mary Primary School	2.46	£2,451.93	0.64	£628.05		
Deneholm Primary School			3.04	£2,983.26	0.16	£148.00
Dilkes Academy	12.50	£12,459.00				
East Tilbury Primary School	14.08	£14,033.82	14.26	£13,993.84	4.04	£3,737.00
Herringham Primary Academy	15.88	£15,827.91	13.82	£13,562.05		
Holy Cross Catholic Primary School	4.52	£4,505.17	6.82	£6,692.71	0.76	£703.00
Horndon-On-the-Hill CofE Primary School	1.94	£1,933.64			1.00	£925.00
Kenningtons Primary Academy			7.44	£7,301.13	3.06	£2,830.50
Lansdowne Primary Academy	13.06	£13,018.33	15.95	£15,648.14	15.66	£14,482.73
Purfleet Primary Academy	39.78	£39,649.52	29.52	£28,969.02	10.88	£10,064.00
Quarry Hill Academy	1.92	£1,918.28				
Shaw Primary Academy	10.40	£10,365.89	11.34	£11,128.34	3.64	£3,367.00
Somers Heath Primary School	7.74	£7,714.61	5.18	£5,083.32	4.04	£3,737.00
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School	5.66	£5,641.44	0.06	£58.88		
St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School	15.78	£15,728.24	3.89	£3,813.91		
Stanford-Le-Hope Primary School			0.54	£529.92		
Stifford Clays Primary School	0.94	£936.92				
Thameside Primary School	42.35	£42,214.29	31.98	£31,382.98	36.66	£33,910.50
The Gateway Primary Free School	12.63	£12,590.87	10.03	£9,837.89	6.16	£5,698.00
Tilbury Pioneer Academy	6.74	£6,717.89			5.30	£4,899.52
Tudor Court Primary School	5.06	£5,043.40	3.00	£2,948.21		
Warren Primary School	0.04	£39.87				
West Thurrock Academy	13.59	£13,547.40	16.20	£15,896.68	17.04	£15,764.31
Ormiston Park Academy	31.64	£45,333.32	31.84	£44,967.38	25.74	£34,233.18
Ortu Hassenbrook Academy	24.20	£34,668.22	17.80	£25,138.80	14.62	£19,444.60
The Gateway Academy	25.72	£36,855.90	7.93	£11,195.83	6.81	£9,060.90
The Hathaway Academy	37.68	£53,987.34	16.12	£22,769.70	20.79	£27,650.02

# High Needs Block 2024/25

Thurrock High Needs Block 2024/25			
Historic spend factor	30%	£11,578,693	
Population factor	32%	£12,475,003	
FSM factor	6%	£2,362,452	
IDACI factor	7%	£2,879,089	
Bad health factor	5%	£1,800,348	
Disability factor	4%	£1,727,350	
KS2 low attainment factor	5%	£1,945,081	
KS4 low attainment factor	4%	£1,523,900	
<b>Total historic spend and other proxy factor allocation</b>	<b>93%</b>		<b>£36,291,916</b>
Basic entitlement factor	7%		£2,755,607
Hospital education and historic pay and pension grant funding factor	0%		£62,312
Additional funding for new and growing special free schools	2%		£717,012
Import/export adjustment	(2%)		(£744,000)
<b>High Needs NFF allocations for 2024-25</b>	<b>100%</b>		<b>£39,082,847</b>
<b>High Needs NFF allocations for 2023-24</b>			<b>£37,356,101</b>
	An Increase of	4.62%	£1,726,746

- The HNB funding formula includes population as a factor but no mobility factor.
- Inward migration for specialist provision has a significant cost implication to Thurrock.

# In Summary

- Within the Schools Block funding is provided. Data sets from the ESFA with National funding formula values applied.
- High Needs Block population is included but pupil mobility is not a factor. This causes significant budget implications where inward migration could cost for 1 child £100k+.
- Needs to be kept under review numbers and impact.
- Year 11 pupils have presented a significant challenge in academic year 2023/24.





**Any Questions ?**

## Thurrock School Forum Forward Plan for 2024 – 2025

Date of Meeting	Agenda Item / Focus
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024</b>	Forum Membership Review and Election of Chair and Vice Chair
	Dedicated Schools Grant – Finance Report - Decision
	ESFA Consultations - <b>Standing</b>
	Review of Forward Plan 2024/25 - <b>Standing</b>
	Pupil Place Planning Review
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024</b>	Dedicated Schools Grant – Finance Report - Decision
	Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan - Decision
	High Needs Block 2024/25 - Decision
	ESFA Consultations - <b>Standing</b>
	Review of Forward Plan 2024/25 - <b>Standing</b>
	Childcare Sufficiency - <b>Standing</b>
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2025</b>	Dedicated Schools Grant – Finance Report & Presentation
	Growth Fund 2024/25
	ESFA Consultations - <b>Standing</b>
	Thurrock Code of Practice for delivery of early education for 2, 3&4 year olds - <b>Standing</b>
	Childcare Sufficiency
	Review of Forward Plan 2024/25 - <b>Standing</b>
<b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b>	Thurrock Budget – Children’s Services
	Dedicated Schools Grant – Finance Report - Decision
	High Needs Block and Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan – Decision
	ESFA Consultations - <b>Standing</b>
	Pupil Place Planning Review - <b>Standing</b>
	Review of Forward Plan 2024/25 - <b>Standing</b>
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025</b>	Dedicated Schools Grant – Finance Report - Decision
	Dedicated Schools Grant Management Plan - Decision
	Meeting dates for the academic year 2025/26
	ESFA Consultations - <b>Standing</b>
	Union Facility Time Annual Review
	Review of Forward Plan 2024/25 - <b>Standing</b>

# Schools Forum 13-06-2024

## Schools Survey

David May

Email: [dmay@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:dmay@thurrock.gov.uk)

David May  
Head of Financial Management  
[dmay@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:dmay@thurrock.gov.uk)  
13 June 2024

# Schools Forum – Survey – April 2024

## 20 Responses received

Are you able to set a balanced budget 2024/2025?	Yes	No			
	9	11			
If you have an in-year deficit, are reserves being used in 2024/2025 to enable a balanced budget to be set?	Yes	No			
	11	9			
Are reserves available to support future year budgets?	Yes	No	Maybe		
	5	8	7		
What percentage increase for support services pay has been included when considering 2024/2025 budget?	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%
	1	6	5	7	1
Have discussions been held with ESFA on setting the 2024/2025 budget?	Yes	No	Planned		
	1	18	1		
If you are unable to set a balanced budget in 2024/2025, what is the scale of shortfall as a percentage of the school's 2024/2025 budget allocation?	N/A	< 5%	5%-9.99%	10%-14.99%	> 20%
	6	5	6	2	1

# Schools Forum – Survey – April 2024

## 20 Responses received

What are the 3 key challenges in setting budgets 2024/2025?	No.
Unknown Pay Increases / Staffing and Agency Costs	17
Cost of living / Energy Costs - Inflation	14
Level of Funding for SEN to maintaining excellent levels of provision.	12
Unknown additional income	5
Future planning for EYFS - space and funding and meeting the needs for governments requirements for wraparound care.	5
State of school buildings and the cost of trying to keep them in a safe condition.	1

# Schools Forum – Survey – April 2024

## Summary

- Pressures in the system are nationally recognised by Local Authorities, Academies and Schools:
  - Inflationary increases have been greater than increases in funding.
  - Teachers pay award is recognised but no provision or acknowledgement of Support Staff or minimum wage increases.
  - Increased EHCP numbers, complexity of need and cost to support but limited increase in funding.

# Teachers Pay and Pension Grants 2024/25

## Special and AP Providers

**David May**  
**Head of Financial Management**  
[dmay@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:dmay@thurrock.gov.uk)  
**June 2024**

# Teachers Pay Grant 2023/24

- In 2023/24 one grant was received for Teachers Pay for Special and AP Providers.
- The grant received was £170,166 for the period September to March 2024.
- The grant was distributed through a combination of Lump sum and per pupil value.

## 2023/24 Teachers' pay additional grant Special and AP Thurrock allocation

School Name	Lump Sum	ACA	Places	Value	Total
Beacon Hill Academy	£5,000	1.047175	75	£229	£23,020
Olive AP Academy	£5,000	1.047175	85	£229	£25,422
Treetops Free School	£5,000	1.047175	147	£229	£40,319
Treetops School	£5,000	1.047175	318	£229	£81,405
<b>Total - Value of Grant</b>			<b>625</b>		<b>£170,166</b>



# Teachers Pay Additional Grant 2024/25

2024/25

## 2024/25 Teachers' pay additional grant Special and AP Thurrock allocation

School Name	ACA	Places	Value	Total
Beacon Hill Academy	1.046610	75	£446	£35,009
Olive AP Academy	1.046610	85	£446	£39,677
Treetops Free School	1.046610	147	£446	£68,618
Treetops School	1.046610	318	£446	£148,437
<b>Total - Value of Grant</b>		<b>625</b>		<b>£291,741</b>

## 2024/25 Teachers' pay additional grant Special and AP Thurrock allocation

School Name	Lump Sum	ACA	Places	Value	Total
Beacon Hill Academy	£9,000	1.046610	75	£390.96	£39,689
Olive AP Academy	£9,000	1.046610	85	£390.96	£43,781
Treetops Free School	£9,000	1.046610	147	£390.96	£69,150
Treetops School	£9,000	1.046610	318	£390.96	£139,122
<b>Total - Value of Grant</b>			<b>625</b>		<b>£291,741</b>

- Confirmed funding allocation.
- Distribution method consistent with 2023/24
- Awaiting payment profile, this could be July and March.

# Teachers' Pension Grant 2024/25

## Allocation 2024/25

### 2024/25 Teachers' Pension additional grant Special and AP Thurrock allocation

School Name	ACA	Places	Value	Total
Beacon Hill Academy	1.046606	75	£595	£46,705
Olive AP Academy	1.046606	85	£595	£52,932
Treetops Free School	1.046606	147	£595	£91,541
Treetops School	1.046606	318	£595	£198,028
<b>Total - Value of Grant</b>		<b>625</b>		<b>£389,206</b>

### 2024/25 Teachers' Pension additional grant Special and AP Thurrock allocation

School Name	Lump Sum	ACA	Places	Value	Total
Beacon Hill Academy	£9,000	1.046606	75	£540	£51,383
Olive AP Academy	£9,000	1.046606	85	£540	£57,033
Treetops Free School	£9,000	1.046606	147	£540	£92,075
Treetops School	£9,000	1.046606	318	£540	£188,715
<b>Total - Value of Grant</b>			<b>625</b>		<b>£389,206</b>

- Confirmed funding allocation.
- Distribution method consistent with 2023/24
- Payment to be made in July, for the full allocation

# Teachers Pay and Pension Grants 2024/25

- Distribution methodology consistent with 2023/24.
- Funding will be distributed on receipt and at the earliest opportunity.
- School Forum asked to agree the funding distribution method for 2024/25 for Special and AP schools.

# Dedicated Schools Grant and Management Plan

**David May**  
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**June 2024**

# Dedicated Schools Grant 2023/24

DSG 2023/24	Funding Settlement	Academy Recoupment	Funding Block Transfer	Early Years Adjust	Final DSG	Projected Outturn	Variance
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Schools	156.834	(150.641)	(0.742)	0.000	5.450	5.010	(0.440)
Central Services	1.633	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.633	1.608	(0.025)
High Needs	37.368	(7.026)	0.742	0.000	31.085	30.139	(0.945)
Early Years	13.599	0.000	0.000	0.142	13.741	13.987	0.246
<b>Total</b>	<b>209.433</b>	<b>(157.667)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.142</b>	<b>51.908</b>	<b>50.744</b>	<b>(1.164)</b>

Variance	2023/24
Schools	(0.439) * Growth Fund
Central Services	(0.025) * Admissions
High Needs	(1.211) * Resource Bases
High Needs	(0.436) * Special
High Needs	0.159 Top Up Funding
High Needs	0.151 Professional Fees
High Needs	0.055 OOB
High Needs	0.312 Tuition Services
High Needs	0.025 Others
Early Years	0.404 Providers
Early Years	(0.158) Central Team
	<b>(1.164)</b>
* One-Off =	<b>(2.112)</b>

DSG Deficit - Summary	£m	% of DSG
DSG Unfunded 31/03/2018	4.046	2.78%
DSG Unfunded 31/03/2019	2.656	1.74%
DSG Unfunded 31/03/2020	1.978	1.28%
DSG Unfunded 31/03/2021	1.883	1.12%
DSG Unfunded 31/03/2022	1.705	0.93%
DSG 2022/23	<b>(1.171)</b>	
DSG Unfunded 31/03/2023	0.534	0.25%
DSG 2023/24	<b>(1.164)</b>	
<b>DSG Balance 31/03/2024</b>	<b>0.630</b>	<b>(0.30%)</b>

**DSG Balance 31/03/2024 available to support identified funding pressures in the High Needs Block in 2024/25.**

# DSG Deficit 2017 to 2024

DSG Deficit - Summary	£m	% of DSG	SB	CSSB	HNB	EY	Total
DSG unfunded 31-03-17	(1.343)				(1.343)		(1.343)
DSG 2017/18	(2.703)				(2.703)		(2.703)
Deficit unfunded 31-03-2018	(4.046)	2.78%					
DSG 2018/19	1.389		2.878	(0.004)	(1.496)	0.011	1.389
Historic Deficit 2018/19	(2.656)	1.74%					
DSG 2019/20	0.678		1.809	0.183	(1.562)	0.248	0.678
Deficit @ 31/03/2020	(1.978)	1.26%					
DSG 2020/21	0.095		0.804	0.175	(0.294)	(0.590)	0.095
Deficit @ 31/03/21	(1.883)	1.12%					
DSG 2021/22	0.178		0.670	0.077	(0.571)	0.002	0.178
Deficit @ 31/03/2022	(1.705)	0.93%					
DSG 2022/23	1.171		0.720	0.069	0.192	0.190	1.171
Deficit @ 31/03/2023	(0.534)	0.25%					
DSG 2023/24	1.164		0.440	0.025	0.945	(0.246)	1.164
<b>DSG Balance 31/03/2024</b>	<b>0.630</b>	<b>(0.30%)</b>	<b>7.321</b>	<b>0.525</b>	<b>(6.832)</b>	<b>(0.385)</b>	<b>0.630</b>

# 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	5.731	0.000
Central Services	1.610	0.000	0.000	1.610	1.610	0.000
High Needs	39.083	(7.256)	0.400	32.227	33.179	0.952
Early Years	22.574	0.000	0.000	22.574	22.574	0.000
<b>Total</b>	<b>230.423</b>	<b>(168.281)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>62.142</b>	<b>63.094</b>	<b>0.952</b>

Variance	2024/25	DSG Deficit - Summary	£m	% of DSG
Schools	0.000 Growth Fund	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2018	4.046	2.78%
Central Services	(0.000)	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2019	2.656	1.74%
High Needs	0.058 EHCP	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2020	1.978	1.28%
High Needs	(0.136) RB and AP	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2021	1.883	1.12%
High Needs	0.508 Special	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2022	1.705	0.93%
High Needs	(0.241) OLA	DSG 2022/23	(1.171)	
High Needs	0.048 Post 16	DSG Unfunded 31/03/2023	0.534	0.25%
High Needs	0.187 Tuition Services	DSG 2023/24	(1.164)	
High Needs	0.528 Independent	DSG Balance 31/03/2024	0.630	(0.30%)
Early Years	0.000 Providers	DSG 2024/25	(0.952)	
	<b>0.952</b>	<b>DSG Balance 31/03/2025</b>	<b>(0.322)</b>	<b>0.14%</b>

Key Areas of Risk 2024/25	
Schools	Average Inflationary increase of 3.4%. Unknown financial impact of Support staff pay
High Needs	Continuous increase in EHCP's and demand for specialist places. Insufficient funding.
Early Years	Expansion of EY offer, limited data available. Provider funding fragile



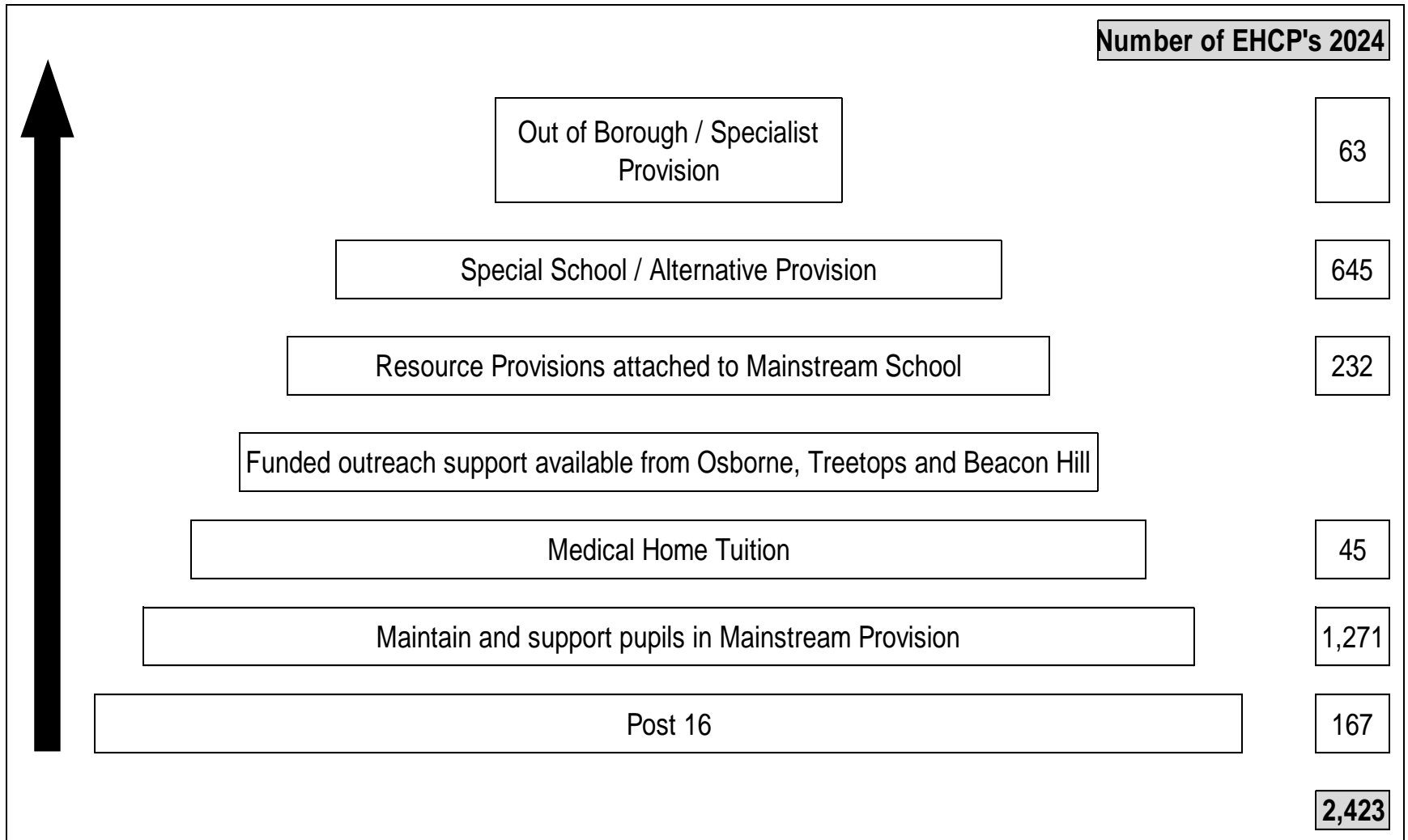
**High Needs Block 2024/25**  
**DSG Management Plan**  
**Delivering Better Value SEND Programme**



# Thurrock SEND Strategy

- The long-term strategy is to:
  - build confidence and skills to reduce the need for an EHCP
  - increase the local offer and reduce the number of out of area placements.
  - deliver improved outcome for young people
  - deliver improved value for money
- This will be achieved by:
  - Maintaining and supporting pupils in mainstream provision
  - Funded Outreach support
  - Resource Provisions attached to Mainstream School
  - Special School / Academy Provision
  - Out of Borough

# SEND Strategy



# Thurrock Commissioned Places

Thurrock Commissioned Places	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25 ESFA	2024/25 Updated
Nursery - Chafford Hundred	3	4	0	3
Nursery – Stanford-le-hope	3	3	0	3
Primary - Lansdowne - LD & SLCN	10	10	10	10
Primary - Stanford-le-Hope - VI	5	5	5	5
Primary - ORTU Corringham - Sp & Lang	20	20	20	20
Primary - Dilkes Primary - SEMH	10	10	10	10
Primary – Quarry Hill - SEMH	10	10	10	10
Primary – Warren - HI	18	18	18	18
Primary – Stifford Clays - Autism	11	10	10	10
Primary - Aveley - Autism	10	10	10	10
Primary – East Tilbury - Inclusion Base	10	10	10	10
Primary – Thameside - Inclusion Base	6	6	6	6
Primary - Arthur Buler - Autism	0	0	0	10
Primary - Deneholm - Autism	0	10	0	10
Primary - Tilbury Autism	0	0	0	0
Secondary - Harris Chafford Hundred - SLCN & Autism	20	20	20	20
Secondary – St Clere’s - HI & VI	17	17	17	17
Secondary – Ormiston Park - SEMH	30	30	30	30
Secondary - New SEMH provision	0	0	0	20
Secondary - New Autism provision	0	0	0	0
<b>RESOURCE BASES</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>222</b>
Special - Treetops	318	318	318	318
Special - Treetops Free	147	147	147	155
Special - Beacon Hill	75	75	75	80
Special - Increase - September	16	0	0	8
<b>SPECIAL SCHOOLS</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>561</b>
<b>Alternative Provision - Olive</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>85</b>
<b>THURROCK</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>801</b>	<b>868</b>

# Outreach Services 2024/25

ACADEMY / SCHOOL (TRUST)	TYPE	SUPPORT OFFERED	AGE
Beacon Hill Academy	Physical Difficulties, Severe and Complex Learning Difficulties	Support mainstream early years, primary and secondary schools meet the needs of pupils with physical difficulties and severe and complex learning difficulties. It will help to promote inclusive practice across the borough and support the integration and reintegration of pupils into mainstream setting.	0-25
East Tilbury Primary- The Annex and Thameside Primary – Stepping Stones (Osborne Trust)	Alternative Provision Primary	Support for children at risk from exclusion	4-11
Thurrock Sensory Service St Clere's School, Warren Primary (Osborne Trust)	Deaf Children and their families	Qualified Teachers of the Deaf, Family Support Workers, BSL Interpreters, Deaf Role Models and Tutors of Sign Language	0-25
Thurrock Sensory Service ST Clere's School (Osborne Trust)	Vision Impaired Young People	Advisory Teachers and Habilitation Specialist are able to assess, support, advise and supply information to individuals, their families, schools and associated professionals.	0-25
Treetops Special School	Autism and Learning Difficulties	Advice for schools with children with Autism and Learning Difficulties, Interventions, Applied Behaviour Analysis, Verbal Behaviour	0-25
Olive Alternative Provision Academy (Olive Trust)	Secondary Alternative Education Provis	6 <sup>th</sup> Day Provision - Thurrock also accepts complex needs referrals for pupils who may need tuition in small groups.	11-16

# High Needs Budget 2024/25

Dedicated Schools Grant - High Needs Block	2023/24 Outturn £m	2024/25 Budget £m	2024/25 Outturn £m	2024/25 Variance £m	2024/25 Risk £m
High Needs Block	37.368	39.083	39.083	0.000	
Funding Block Transfer	0.742	0.400	0.400	0.000	
<b>Funding Settlement</b>	<b>38.111</b>	<b>39.483</b>	<b>39.483</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
Place Funding	0.000	0.025	0.025	0.000	
Place Funding Academies to be recouped	7.026	7.256	7.256	0.000	
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Schools & Academies	3.771	4.535	4.594	0.058	0.284
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Resource Provisions	4.077	5.017	4.511	(0.506)	
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Special Schools	7.375	7.871	8.379	0.508	
Top Up Funding - Thurrock Alternative Provision	1.865	1.895	2.265	0.370	
Top Up Funding - Other Local Authorities (4-16)	1.549	1.600	1.359	(0.241)	
Top Up Funding - Post 16	2.563	2.515	2.563	0.048	0.317
Pupils not in School	1.037	0.733	0.920	0.187	
Residential - Non Maintained and Independent	1.841	1.854	2.508	0.654	
Non Residential - Non Maintained and Independent	2.118	2.155	2.029	(0.126)	
Commissioned Services	1.185	1.245	1.245	0.000	
Additional High Needs Targeted	0.550	0.600	0.600	0.000	
Home Hospital Education Services	0.042	0.030	0.030	0.000	
Travellers Team	0.050	0.052	0.052	0.000	
Home to School Transport	1.600	1.600	1.600	0.000	
High Needs Central Team	0.515	0.500	0.500	0.000	
<b>Dedicated Schools Grant</b>	<b>37.165</b>	<b>39.483</b>	<b>40.435</b>	<b>0.952</b>	<b>0.601</b>
(Surplus) / Deficit	(0.945)	0.000	0.952	0.952	0.601

# Emerging Insight from DBV Programme

- To provide better support and outcomes for children and young people with SEND, the greatest opportunity exists in increasing the ability of local systems to support children in a mainstream setting.
- The evidence highlights three priority drivers to achieve this:
  1. Increasing the ability of mainstream schools to provide day to day support for children with SEND (e.g., staff skills, staff capacity/school resourcing, physical space in schools)
  2. Improving the access mainstream schools and children have to wider system resources (e.g. service capacity and effectiveness)
  3. Increasing parent carer confidence in the ability of mainstream schools to meet their child's needs (e.g., Quality of communication with parents, involvement in support planning)
- Grant Application aligned with emerging insights and improved VFM.

# Grant Application - Approved DfE DBV Programme Board 29-02-24

Workstream & Area	Impact	Total Cost	Spend 2024/25
Workstream 1- Improving mainstream capacity and ability to meet needs of children and young people at SEND Support and with EHCPs.	Schools - Release to attend training	£450,000	£550,000
	Cost of training and venue hire	£100,000	
Workstream 2- Improving mainstream capacity and ability to meet needs of children and young people at SEND Support and with EHCPs.	Primary Outreach	£180,000	£300,000
	Secondary Outreach	£120,000	
Workstream 2 Review of Outreach services to prioritise and mainstream year 1 investment	SEND specialist engaged to review and prioritise outreach offer.	£75,000	£75,000
Workstream 3 Reducing the high INMSS placement costs	Increase to commissioning capacity to ensure VFM being secured.	£75,000	£75,000
		<b>£1,000,000</b>	<b>£1,000,000</b>

# DSG Mitigated Projection with Grant Investment

LA + DBV MITIGATED Projection	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Mainstream schools or academies	1,171	1,271	1,309	1,322	1,335	1,349
Resourced Provision or SEN Units	141	232	252	262	272	272
Maintained special schools or special academies	496	560	560	560	560	560
NMSS or independent schools	63	63	63	59	59	55
Medical/Home Tuition	45	45	46	48	49	51
Post 16	167	167	172	177	182	188
AP (EHCP)	7	85	115	115	115	115
<b>Total EHCP / Places funded by HNB</b>	<b>2,090</b>	<b>2,423</b>	<b>2,517</b>	<b>2,543</b>	<b>2,573</b>	<b>2,589</b>

LA + DBV MITIGATED Projection	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Total Expenditure	£	£	£	£	£	£
Mainstream	7.621	8.349	9.157	9.428	9.705	9.992
Resources	5.043	5.542	6.216	7.059	7.622	8.110
Special Schools	12.580	13.779	13.942	14.583	15.230	15.904
NMSS or Independent	3.960	4.537	5.416	5.221	5.380	5.162
Medical or Home Tuition	1.078	0.950	0.809	0.857	0.908	0.962
Post-16 or FE	2.563	2.563	2.642	2.776	2.918	3.067
AP	2.721	3.115	3.525	3.687	3.763	3.841
Other H2S Transport	1.600	1.600	1.600	1.600	1.600	1.600
<b>Total</b>	<b>37.165</b>	<b>40.435</b>	<b>43.307</b>	<b>45.211</b>	<b>47.126</b>	<b>48.638</b>
DSG Assumed	38.111	39.483	40.255	41.463	42.707	43.988
In Year Position HNB	0.946	(0.952)	(3.052)	(3.748)	(4.420)	(4.650)
In Year Position Other Funding Blocks	0.219	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
DSG (Deficit)/Surplus	(0.534)	0.631	(0.322)	(3.374)	(7.121)	(11.541)
<b>Accumulated (Deficit)/Surplus</b>	<b>0.631</b>	<b>(0.322)</b>	<b>(3.374)</b>	<b>(7.121)</b>	<b>(11.541)</b>	<b>(16.190)</b>

Accumulated (Deficit) DBV Programme	(0.080)	(2.364)	(5.830)	(9.511)	(13.385)	(16.879)
Unmitigated Accumulated (Deficit)	(0.080)	(0.975)	(3.702)	(8.818)	(16.490)	(26.884)
Projected Improved position with Grant investment	0.000	1.389	2.128	0.694	(3.106)	(10.005)



# DBV Progress Reporting

- Quarterly return to be submitted to DfE
- Provide a summary of progress to date in relation to the agreed implementation plan
- Workstream delivery confidence Risk Ratings

RAG rating	Descriptor
Green	Delivery on track, no noted concerns.
Amber / Green	Delivery on track, some concerns/issues with mitigations in place.
Amber / Red	Delivery at risk, additional mitigations in place to regain traction.
Red	Delivery significantly delayed or off track, escalation and intervention required to regain traction.

- Individual workstream
  - An overview of progress including risks, mitigations or significant successes.
  - An assessment of risk for delivery.
  - Summary of key milestones achieved, attach supporting evidence.
  - Outline if any emerging impact from the workstream, aligned with the implementation plan.

# In Summary

- This is a highly complex area, with some LAs with significant DSG deficits. Thurrock's Strategy around the Local Offer has supported the current DSG position.
- Funding is challenging, however more can be done to improve early intervention and the local offer to minimise escalation of need and ultimately high-cost external placements.
- The DBV grant seeks to provide training and outreach support to mainstream schools, in enhancing the inclusive offer.
- This will help to demonstrate improved VFM and better outcomes for the child/young person which may then support additional funding.
- The SEND AP Green paper is the Government's response to the improvements required in the current system; the change programme is addressing this across the country by piloting a range of interventions to support children and young people.



**Any Questions ?**