



MONMOUTHSHIRE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTORATE
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT – CHANGES TO THE FUNDING
FORMULA FOR SCHOOLS

- This document forms part of the consultation process on the proposed changes to the funding formula, which delegates funding to schools within Monmouthshire.
- The relevant Welsh Government legislation that Monmouthshire Local Education Authority is bound by is:

The Schools Budget Share (Wales) Regulations 2010.

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FORMULA FOR DELGATING FUNDING FOR PUPILS WITH ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS TO MONMOUTHSHIRE SCHOOLS.

Date of Issue: **10th January 2022**

Action Required: **Consultation closes noon on the 11th February 2022.**

Title of Document: The Review of Funding for Schools in Monmouthshire Consultation Document.

Audience: All Head teachers at Monmouthshire Schools, Chairs of Governing Bodies of Monmouthshire Schools, The Schools Budget Forum, the Senior Leadership Team, the Departmental Management Team of the Children and Young People Directorate, Children and Young People Select Committee, Diocesan Directors of Education and All Elected Members.

Overview: This document details the reasons for the review of the current consultation on School's funding and outlines the new proposals for the distribution of this funding.

Action Required: A proforma is enclosed for your response. The completed form should be sent to the address below by the consultation closing date of **noon on the 11th February 2022**

Responses to: Nikki Wellington

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Further Information: Enquiries about this consultation document should be directed to **Nikki Wellington**

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Additional Copies: These can be obtained from Nikki Wellington (telephone number and e-mail address above)

Related Documents: The Schools Budget Shares (Wales) Regulations 2010

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Appendix 2 – Proposed transition funding for schools

Appendix 3 – Integrated Impact Assessment Document.

1. Background

- 1.1 The school budget forum regularly reviews the funding formula for schools to ensure that the funding is distributed to schools in the fairest way.
- 1.2 Following a meeting of the School Budget Funding Forum on the 16th December 2021, members agreed to consult on the basis for delegating funding to Monmouthshire schools for pupils with additional learning needs (ALN).
- 1.3 This consultation only covers funding for pupils with ALN who attend a mainstream Monmouthshire school, this does not include the funding delegated to the Special Needs Resource Bases, small class provision at King Henry VIII School or placements in Out of County / Independent Schools.

2. Issues with current arrangements

- 2.1 The funding for pupils with ALN was last reviewed in 2009 and the current funding model was agreed and put in place. Under the current funding model funding is delegated as a lump sum to all schools using an indicator of FSM with additional funding delegated for individual pupils via a panel who look at their needs and agree a funding level.
- 2.2 To access funding pupils are assessed and provided with either a statement of educational needs or a school action plus resourced agreement, (SAPRA) both may attract a level of funding depending on the needs of the pupil, but a statement of educational needs is a statutory document with the SAPRA being a document internal to Monmouthshire.
- 2.3 Typically the funding provided will be Band D funding (£9,730) or Band E funding (£14,595). These values have not been increased for several years and all schools are required to use some of their school budget to meet need. It is a requirement that a minimum of 5% of the school budget is used to support pupils with additional learning needs.
- 2.4 This process is very bureaucratic requiring many forms and assessments to be completed and it is often criticised by Headteachers for being very time consuming and rigid. The funding follows the pupil and if the pupil leaves the funding will be removed which could result in a member of staff who is supporting that pupil being put at risk of losing their job.

3. Process.

3.1 It was agreed at the School Budget Finance Forum in the summer term that a working group would look at all the proposals and decide on a model to be consulted on. The working group members were primary and secondary school Headteacher, School Business Managers, Additional Learning Needs Co-Ordinator's and officers from the Local Authority covering Finance and Additional Learning Needs.

3.2 The working group considered several options these included:

- To leave funding as is and not make any changes – this was rejected by the working group for the reasons stated above.
- Delegate funding on pupil numbers – it was agreed that this should be part of the formula, but funding should not be delegated purely on pupil numbers.
- Delegate funding on FSM – it was agreed that this was not a measure of ALN.
- Total funding delegated on existing statement – it was agreed that this would not look at the future needs of pupils and schools who has been proactive in applying for statements would be favoured.
- Delegate to a cluster of schools – this was not accepted by all schools, but it was agreed that if schools wish they once the funding has been delegated, they can pool the funding for the cluster to allocate.

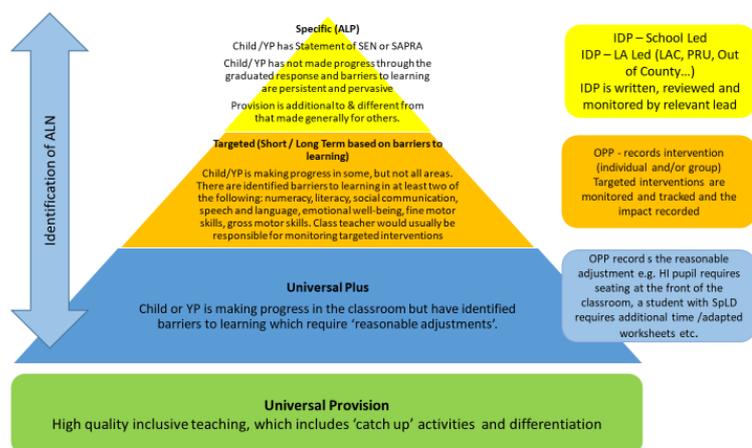
3.3 The working group agreed the following principles in deciding a proposal:

- The funding should follow the pupil
- The funding should allow for current and future needs
- The formula should create sustainability in funding so schools can plan
- The funding should be able to be used flexible to meet needs
- There should be a contingency which will have strict criteria to support learners that move into Monmouthshire and are not previously known about
- No school will be identified as it is the principles that are to be agreed and not the effect on the individual school.

3.4 Under the new Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and Educational Tribunal Act, schools will have increased responsibility to identify and meet the needs of learners who have ALN. The ALN Code states that 'Maintained schools have a key role to play in identifying ALN and in delivering Additional Learning Provision (ALP) to support learners with ALN. They are directly responsible for identifying and meeting the needs of the majority of their pupils who have ALN' (1.83).

In Monmouthshire and across the region, schools have been recommended to adopt a graduated response to meeting the needs of learners with ALN and to identify and secure provision/interventions to meet the continuum of need. The diagram below illustrates this model. To fulfil their statutory duties under

the new Code, schools will benefit from the flexibility and autonomy that delegated funding will provide, which will allow them to develop appropriate provision to ensure the needs of learners with ALN are fully met.



4. Proposal.

4.1 The working group and the School Budget Finance Forum have agreed to consult on two proposals, both will delegate funding based on a combination of pupil numbers and ALN (band funding).

4.2 Proposal 1

70% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 30% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model.

4.3 The effect on each school is shown in appendix 1 – Model 1.

4.4 Under this proposal 18 schools will see a reduction in funding and 16 schools will see an increase in funding.

4.5 Proposal 2

80% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 20% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model.

4.6 The effect on each school is shown in appendix 1 – Model 2.

- 4.7 Under this proposal 16 schools will see a reduction in funding and 18 schools will see an increase in funding.
- 4.8 If approved the funding will commence for the start of the next financial year and the pupil numbers will be updated to reflect the January 2022 count. The band funding will reflect the January 2022 forecasting model.
- 4.9 Under both proposals there will be a need for transition funding to reduce the effects for those schools that see large increases and large losses. This will be over a 3 year period by capping the gains and losses and this is reflected in appendix 2.
- 4.10 The proposal will be reviewed after a year to ensure that the delegation is fair and operating as intended. Schools will be able to use this funding flexible to support all learner with ALN. There will be a requirement in a small number of cases that a pupil will require one to one support due to their needs.
- 4.11 After the review it is intended to roll the funding out over a 3 year period to give schools the flexibility to put in place long term plans to support pupils with ALN.

Please use the proforma below to respond to the consultation, all responses should be sent to:

nicolawellington@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Any further information regarding this consultation can also sent to the email address above or please call 07766 504389.

All responses should be returned by noon 11th February 2022.

RESPONSE PROFORMA

Please indicate who you are responding on behalf of:

ALN Funding Formula	I agree	I disagree
<p>Proposal 1</p> <p>70% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 30% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model. (paragraph 4.2)</p>		
<p>Proposal 2</p> <p>80% of the funding distributed on pupil numbers and 20% on current funding for band D & E within the school. For the purposes of this consultation the pupil numbers are taken as the September 2020 count which is in line with the existing formula and the band funding is from the October 2021 forecasting model. (paragraph 4.5)</p>		

Please state below the reasons for your response, please also include any other funding models for the working group to consider should you disagree with the proposals above.

Appendix 1									
School	70% Pupil Numbers	ALN - 30%	Total	Variance	80% Pupil Numbers	ALN - 20%	Total	Variance	
1	211,999	52,911	264,911	75,854	242,285	35,274	277,559	88,502	
2	53,780	17,637	71,417	10,693	61,463	11,758	73,221	12,497	
3	71,067	48,502	119,569	-34,896	81,219	32,335	113,554	-40,911	
4	51,619	22,046	73,666	-6,275	58,994	14,698	73,691	-6,250	
5	40,815	30,865	71,680	-35,993	46,646	20,577	67,223	-40,450	
6	49,459	26,456	75,914	-18,887	56,524	17,637	74,161	-20,640	
7	43,936	13,228	57,164	6,462	50,213	8,819	59,032	8,330	
8	16,326	4,409	20,735	8,985	18,658	2,940	21,598	9,848	
9	44,657	13,228	57,885	11,432	51,036	8,819	59,855	13,402	
10	61,223	8,819	70,041	32,638	69,969	5,879	75,848	38,445	
11	281,865	119,050	400,916	27,609	322,132	79,367	401,499	28,192	
12	54,020	39,683	93,704	-30,346	61,737	26,456	88,193	-35,857	
13	45,377	35,274	80,651	-29,169	51,859	23,516	75,376	-34,444	
14	55,701	61,730	117,431	-82,700	63,658	41,153	104,811	-95,320	
15	53,540	22,046	75,586	-1,394	61,189	14,698	75,886	-1,094	
16	67,225	39,683	106,909	-18,793	76,829	26,456	103,284	-22,418	
17	45,857	35,274	81,131	-27,738	52,408	23,516	75,924	-32,945	
18	80,430	44,093	124,523	-21,513	91,920	29,395	121,315	-24,721	
19	21,608	8,819	30,427	3,031	24,695	5,879	30,574	3,178	
20	146,455	30,865	177,320	71,557	167,377	20,577	187,954	82,191	
21	51,619	22,046	73,666	-7,976	58,994	14,698	73,691	-7,951	
22	48,498	13,228	61,726	21,126	55,426	8,819	64,245	23,645	
23	36,013	13,228	49,241	5,461	41,158	8,819	49,977	6,197	
24	92,915	8,819	101,733	60,004	106,188	5,879	112,067	70,338	
25	66,025	30,865	96,890	-8,007	75,457	20,577	96,033	-8,864	
26	321,240	136,687	457,928	-2,561	367,132	91,125	458,257	-2,232	
27	40,575	13,228	53,803	4,999	46,372	8,819	55,190	6,386	
28	41,536	17,637	59,173	3,739	47,469	11,758	59,227	3,793	
29	19,687	4,409	24,097	6,181	22,500	2,940	25,439	7,523	
30	49,699	13,228	62,926	17,858	56,798	8,819	65,617	20,549	
31	81,150	57,320	138,471	-55,984	92,743	38,214	130,957	-63,498	
32	46,337	17,637	63,974	9,071	52,957	11,758	64,715	9,812	
33	40,815	22,046	62,862	-5,891	46,646	14,698	61,344	-7,409	
34	66,985	26,456	93,441	11,426	76,554	17,637	94,191	12,176	
	2,500,056	1,071,452	3,571,508		2,857,206	714,302	3,571,508		
	16 Schools have reduced funding				16 Schools have reduced funding				
	18 Schools have increased funding				18 Schools have increased funding				

School	As is model 2022-23 Band D's & E's and lump sum	Transition Funding	Var
		No school will gain more than 12% or lose more than 8%	
1	189,057	211,744	22,687
2	60,724	68,011	7,287
3	154,465	142,108	-12,357
4	79,941	73,666	-6,275
5	107,673	99,059	-8,614
6	94,801	87,217	-7,584
7	50,702	56,786	6,084
8	11,750	13,160	1,410
9	46,453	52,027	5,574
10	37,403	41,891	4,488
11	373,307	400,916	27,609
12	124,050	114,126	-9,924
13	109,820	101,034	-8,786
14	200,131	184,121	-16,010
15	76,980	75,586	-1,394
16	125,702	115,646	-10,056
17	108,869	100,159	-8,710
18	146,036	134,353	-11,683
19	27,396	30,427	3,031
20	105,763	118,455	12,692
21	81,642	75,111	-6,531
22	40,600	45,472	4,872
23	43,780	49,034	5,254
24	41,729	46,736	5,007
25	104,897	96,890	-8,007
26	460,489	457,928	-2,561
27	48,804	53,803	4,999
28	55,434	59,173	3,739
29	17,916	20,066	2,150
30	45,068	50,476	5,408
31	194,455	178,899	-15,556
32	54,903	61,491	6,588
33	68,753	63,253	-5,500
34	82,015	91,857	9,842
	3,571,508	3,570,681	-827