

Top-up Funding (banding) for Children and Young People (CYP) with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Top-up funding is provided to CYP aged from 0-25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The EHCP is a statutory document which confirms their special educational needs and/or disabilities. This document details the provision and outcomes that are attributed to their needs.

- 1.1.1 Top-up funding is provided to settings from the High Needs Block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG).
- 1.1.2 In March 2018, a working group was established following a Schools Forum meeting to address the current issues relating to top-up funding for CYP.
- 1.1.3 The working group established that the existing model was ‘not fit for purpose’ as this was not a needs led model. The existing model also provided a disparity in costs associated with the five types of settings. The working group set about developing a new model.

Current Banding Model

SETTING	MAINSTREAM (TOP UP) (EXCL £4k AWPU, £6K Notional)	RESOURCE BASE (TOP UP) (EXCL £10K Base Funding)	ARBOUR VALE (TOP UP) (EXCL £10K Base Funding)	LITLEDOWN SCHOOL (TOP UP) (EXCL £10K Base Funding)	HAYBROOK COLLEGE (TOP UP) (EXCL £10K Base Funding)
BAND 1	£0				
BAND 2	£2,000	£4,000	£5,000	£10,000	£6,000
BAND 2A	£4,000				
BAND 3	£6,000	£9,000	£10,000	£15,000	£11,000
BAND 4	£10,000	£14,000	£15,000	£20,000	£16,000
BAND 5	£14,000	£19,000	£20,000	£25,000	£21,000
BAND 6	£18,000	£24,000	£25,000	£30,000	£26,000
BAND 7			£35,000	£40,000	£36,000
BAND 8			£45,000	£50,000	£46,000

- 1.1.4 The working group based its approach on a model devised by Essex. This was deemed as the most appropriate model due to it being derived from the SEND Code of Practice (2015). It therefore took into account the four areas of identified need within an EHCP unlike SBC’s existing model.
- 1.1.5 In July 2018, a sub-group was created where school staff were asked to contribute to the work with council officers to develop descriptors of need for the new matrix. Head teachers, Speech and Language Therapists (SaLT), Physiotherapists, Occupational Therapists, Sensory teachers, Educational Psychologists and SEND officers all contributed to this process. It was agreed that council staff would then take this work away to add financial costs against the descriptors of need.

- 1.1.6 The working group was re-established in November 2018 where council officers reported back to the wider task and finish group at a half day workshop. Feedback from the workshop suggested that, overall, members of the task and finish group were satisfied that proposals reflected very positive progress in addressing an important and complex issue. Several of those in attendance offered to continue to test the proposed model more widely with a number of their pupils.
- 1.1.7 Following this, a meeting has been arranged with members on the 30th January to summarise progress to date and to discuss the next steps. Subject to consultation with wider stakeholders, the new model will to be rolled out from 1st April 2019. This will affect new requests for Education, Health and Care needs assessments and for students who are transferring phase during the next academic year. There will be no changes to the funding for children and young people in existing funded placements.
- 1.1.8 The consultation process for the new banding model will include wider stakeholder engagement, including consulting with parents and carers, head teachers, governors and SENDCOs.

Date	Event
30 th January 2019	Feedback session with banding members
Mid February 2019 (4th February – 15th February)	CONSULTATION – consult with wider stakeholders Consultation session for head teachers, governors and SENDCOs (x1 event) Consultation session for parent/carers (x1 event) Consultation live on The Local Offer website
	Reflect on feedback from consultation.
26 th February 2019	Schools Forum paper produced
5 th March 2019	March 2019 - Schools Forum review consultation responses and make final decision on new model
1 st April 2019 Subject to Consultation	New banding model rolled out for New Requests for Assessments

- 1.1.9 The new banding model is not expected to reduce the total cost of top-up funding for children and young people with SEND, however it will address the issues of inequity within a range of settings. The new banding model will further support the work of the SEND service to ensure that the appropriate level of support is provided within the continuum of existing provision in Slough.
- 1.1.10 The proposed model comprises of a single banding model made up of 11 levels of funding. The ‘top-up’ range has been developed in partnership with SBC finance colleagues to demonstrate the level of support/ resource the CYP would need based on respective individual needs.

Current			Proposed	
BAND	SETTING	TOP UP	Range (notional)	TOP UP (Range)
1	Mainstream	Nil	1-5	2,000 – 8,500
2		£2,000		
2A		£4,000		
3		£6,000		
4		£10,000		
5		£14,000		
6		£18,000		
2	Resource	£4,000	4-8	7,500 – 20,000
3		£9,000		
4		£14,000		
5		£19,000		
6		£24,000		
2	Littledown School	£10,000	7-11	15,000 – 40,000
3		£15,000		
4		£20,000		
5		£25,000		
6		£30,000		
7		£40,000		
8		£50,000		
2	Haybrook College	£6,000	7-11	15,000 – 40,000
3		£11,000		
4		£16,000		
5		£21,000		
6		£26,000		
7		£36,000		
8		£46,000		
2	Arbour Vale School	£5,000	7-11	15,000 – 40,000
3		£10,000		
4		£15,000		
5		£20,000		
6		£25,000		
7		£35,000		
8		£45,000		