

School Forum 10 March 2022	
Report from Executive Director of People - Children Service	
Early Years Centrally Retained Funds 2022-23	
Wards Affected:	All
Key or Non-Key Decision:	N/A
No. of Appendices:	N/A
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1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To advise and propose to Schools' Forum the planned use of centrally retained funds across the Early Years Block for financial year 2020-21.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 That Schools' Forum **review** and **agree** the use of centrally retained funds across the Early Years Block, which is to be set at 5% of the 2, 3 and 4 year –old funding allocation.

3 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 In-line with current regulations, as described under 5.2 of the Early Years entitlements: local authority funding of providers Operational guide for 2022-23, local authorities are required to pass- through 95% of their 3 and 4 year old funding from the government to early years providers, leaving a maximum of 5% of that funding to support central functions. As with the previous year, the LA is seeking to maximise the use of this allowance, please see table one for details.

4 Background

- 4.1. The 5% remaining expenditure can be used to support:
- Centrally retained funding (for central services or services in-kind, including special educational needs and disability (SEND) services),
 - Transfer of any funding to 2- year-olds,

- Any extra hours that local authorities choose to fund in addition to the government's hours for 3- and 4- year olds,
- Any funding movement out of the Early Years block.

5 Supporting Information

5.1. The provisional settlement for financial year is £14.461m, which is predicated on Jan.21 census data. The tables overleaf illustrate the calculations to derive the centrally retained budgets and the proposed use of them for 2022-23, reflecting the most up to date settlement provided by the DfE.

Note that EYPP, MNS, DAF and 2 Year Old funding are not included in the pass through calculation; however, under section 4 of the Operational guidance, it stipulates that there is currently no regulatory requirement to pass through a set amount of the government's funding to providers for the delivery of 2 Year Old entitlements. Therefore, it has been treated in the same manner as the 3-4 year old funding.

5.2 Budgets are provisional and are therefore subject to change. A revised settlement will be provided in Jul- 22, when the Jan-22 census has been verified. This may result in changes to the level of centrally retained funds available +/-.

Table 1 – EY Centrally retained Budget 2022/23

Initial funding allocation for universal entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds (£s)	Initial funding allocation for additional 15 hours entitlement for eligible working parents of 3 and 4 year olds (£s)	Initial funding allocation for 2 year old entitlement (£s)	Total eligible for top-slice
£m	£m	£m	£m
9.831	2.659	1.098	13.588

Total provisional Central Budget 2022-23	0.492	0.133	0.055	0.679
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Table 2 – EY Centrally retained budget allocation 2022/23

Early Years Central Budget	Base Allocation 2021/22	Proposed Allocation 2022/23	Description
Early Years Strategic Financial Support	£78,810	£78,810	Financial contribution for the budget overview / management by DCS, Service Lead and Strategic Finance Officer.
Central Early Years Expenditure	£68,760	£68,760	Statutory duty for a child with suspected or diagnosed SEND; managing referrals across the sector and delivering identified programmes and packages of support.
Early Years Team Contribution detailed below:			
Quality Care & Learning & Advisory Teachers	£276,930	£278,930	Statutory duty to provide support to all new providers, mandatory training, support and challenge settings receiving an Ofsted outcome of Inadequate (FIPP). Additional non- statutory duties: Bristol Standard Quality Improvement Scheme, promotion of self -evaluation and action planning through the Partnership Improvement Plan and regular QT involvement in settings.
2 year funding, 3 & 4 year old funding and other statutory responsibilities	£208,220	£210,220	Statutory duty securing free early education places; pass through of funding to all providers; the promotion of partnership working including flexibility of provision; compliance work to ensure providers offer entitlements appropriately, in- line with statutory guidance.
Littledown School	£42,000	£42,000	Payment to Littledown school for a range of behaviour support services.
Sub TOTAL	£674,720	£678,720	
Early Years Adaptations/Practical Support	£50,000	£50,000	A central resource to enable providers to access practical equipment/support in order to enable children with SEND to continue to access their entitlement/s.
Grand Total	£724,720	£728,720	£4k more than 2021/22

6 Financial Implications

6.1 The financial implications have been detailed in the body of this paper.

7 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 Not applicable

8 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

8.1 Not applicable

9 Legal Implications

9.1 There are no legal implications for this report.

10 Equality Implications

10.1 Not applicable