

**REPORT TO:** School Forum

**DATE:** 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Senior Finance Officer, Financial Management Division

**SUBJECT:** Top-Up Funding Levels for 2014-15

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

**1.1 To report to the School Forum on the Top-Up Funding Rates for 2014-15**

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) The report be noted.
- (2) That the Top-Up Funding levels be agreed.
- (3) That the SLA Funding levels be agreed.

**3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**3.1 Special Schools**

These are funded at £10,000 per place plus a top-up dependent upon each pupil's category of need and level of support. The details of each pupil's category of need and level of support have yet to be verified so the finalised top-up values will be tabled at the meeting.

Appendix A shows the 2013-14 top-up values.

**3.2 Resource Bases**

Also funded at £10,000 per place plus a top-up dependent upon the unit. We have continued to use the 2012-13 funding level as the baseline and have re-calculated the top-up values based on pupil numbers as at January 2014. This gives each school funding that is as close as possible to their baseline.

Schools have been asked to confirm the numbers of pupils in each Resource Base. Some schools have yet to confirm the details so the finalised top-up values will be tabled at the meeting.

Appendix B shows the 2013-14 top-up values.

**3.3 Resource Base Service Level Agreements**

The KS2 and KS3/4 ASD units at Simms Cross, The Grange and

Saints Peter & Paul are funded for Outreach provision at £63,966.65 for 2013-14. For Simms Cross and Saints Peter & Paul we wish to continue the funding at the same level - £63,966.65.

For The Grange however we would look to double the funding value to £127,933.30. As you are aware The Grange has suffered financially with the amalgamation of the four schools into one at the same time as the new funding regulations coming into effect.

For 2013-14 we were able to fund an additional Lump Sum value to The Grange to recognise this financial hardship. While we cannot use the same mechanism for 2014-15 and after discussion with the EFA we are able to look to the SLA values to offer this additional funding.

#### 3.4 The Pupil Referral Unit

PRU's are funded at £8,000 per place plus a top-up per pupil. It is suggested that top-up values remain at the 2013-14 levels as we have no further information to base any revaluation upon. These levels are:

Key Stage 3 £73.73  
Key Stage 4 £23.89

As for 2013-14, the top-up will be funded centrally.

#### 3.5

##### Enhanced Provision funding

Schools are required to fund the first £6,000 of support for each pupil with SEN. It is only if a pupil requires support in excess of this £6,000 of Notional SEN (equivalent to 13 hours support in Primary schools or 16 hours support in Secondary schools) that top-up funding will be paid. The majority of schools receive top-up funding for Enhanced Provision either with or without a Statement.

As for 2013-14, the Financial Management Team will circulate details to Head Teachers of pupils in their schools who we believe are eligible for top-up funding each term. It is very important that these details are checked and the Financial Management Team notified whether they are correct or not. Incorrect details will result in incorrect funding.

#### 3.6

##### High Needs Block Funding

During week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> March we will hear the outcome of our High Needs place number return for 2014-15. This is when we will also hear if we are to have any change to the High Needs Block of Dedicated Schools Grant funding. A verbal update regarding this will be given at Schools Forum.

4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None

5.0 **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None