

**REPORT TO:** School Forum

**DATE:** 20<sup>th</sup> January 2016

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

**SUBJECT:** Pupil Growth Contingency

**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

**1.1 To report to the School Forum options for the Pupil Growth Contingency for 2015-16.**

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

RECOMMENDED:

- (1) The report be noted.
- (2) That the allocations for the schools as detailed are approved,

**3.0 SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**3.1 Background**

The Primary Pupil Growth contingency budget for 2015-16 was set at £100,000 while the Secondary Pupil Growth contingency budget was set at £80,000.

**3.2 Halton Criteria**

Primary Pupil Growth funding can be accessed if a school has an increase of 15 or more pupils within KS1/2 while Secondary Pupil Growth funding can be accessed if a school has an increase or 15 or more pupils within KS3/4.

**3.3 EFA regulations**

The EFA will not allow payment of Pupil Growth monies to schools simply on the basis of popularity. The EFA has set out the following as acceptable for the funding of Pupil Growth:

- Support where a school or academy has agreed with the authority to provide an extra class in order to meet basic need in the area (either as a bulge class or as an ongoing commitment)
- Support where a school has temporarily increased its PAN by X or more pupils in agreement with the authority.
- Pre-opening costs / initial equipping allowance / diseconomy of scale allowance for new maintained schools and recoument academies, including new academies where the school is opening in response to basic need.

### 3.4 **Qualifying Schools**

Using the Department for Education confirmed October 2015 census data and comparing the pupil numbers with the DfE confirmed October 2014 census data, the following primary schools meet our qualifying criteria for Pupil Growth Funding:

School	Oct-15	Oct-14	
Astmoor Primary	149	133	16
Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy	740	669	71
Sandymoor Free School	274	249	25
Simms Cross Primary	208	191	17
St Gerards Primary	191	176	15
St Bede's Junior	289	272	17
Wade Deacon High	1568	1520	48

Of the above seven schools, only two have had an increase in PAN – St Bede's Juniors and Sandymoor. Therefore under the EFA regulations it is only these two schools who can receive Pupil Growth funding.

As Sandymoor is an academy, we are required to fund the Pupil Growth from September 2015 to August 2016. St Bede's Junior will be funded for September 2015 to March 2016 as they will receive their budget for 2016-17 based on the higher pupil numbers from April 2016.

### 3.5 **Funding**

We have a Primary Pupil Growth budget of £100,000 so we are proposing to fund at the Basic Entitlement value of £2,588.35. Therefore St Bede's Junior would receive  $(17 * £2,588.35)$  £44,002.

The Secondary Pupil Growth budget is £80,000. If we were to fund Sandymoor at the KS3 Basic Entitlement value of £4,301.89 we would be £27.5k over budget. Therefore the maximum we can fund is at £3,200 per pupil so Sandymoor would receive  $(25 * £3,200)$  £80,000.

## 4.0 **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None

## 5.0 **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 None