

17 June 2020

Maintained Nursery School – De-delegation

REPORT OF THE COUNTY TREASURER AND CHIEF OFFICER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that DEF:

- a) That DEF agrees to the de-delegation within the Maintained Nursery Schools from 2020/21 and review annually as per other phases.

1. Background

In 2013/14 the following services were delegated but were able to be de-delegated from the primary and/or secondary maintained schools subject to Schools Forum decision by the representatives in each sector.

- Contingency (including schools in financial difficulties)
- Behaviour support services
- Ethnic Minority Achievement
- Gypsy Roma Traveller Achievement
- Support to under-performing ethnic groups and bilingual learners
- Free school meals eligibility
- Maternity, trade unions and public duties
- Copyrights

De-delegation is not an option for academies, special schools, nurseries or PRU's. Where de-delegation has been agreed for maintained primary and secondary schools, it is the Department's presumption that the local authority will offer the service on a buy-back basis to those schools and academies in their area which are not covered by the de-delegation.

In the case of special schools and PRU's, the funding for such services, will be included in the top-up. Academies will continue to receive a share of funding for these services in their delegated budget

At the 2013/14 consultation Schools Forum agreed for the above de-delegation of services for the primary and secondary maintained schools and that the funding for Special Schools should be pooled.

2. Proposal

Maintained Nursery Schools have, to do date, not paid into the de-delegation funds or pooled funding as per the decisions made at the initialisation of the de-delegated funding.

The Authority has now been approached by the Maintained Nursery Schools following discussions with the DfE to request that they have the opportunity to buy into the services in line with the other sectors as identified above.

The Head of Education and Head of Education Finance have agreed to review the process to enable the Maintained Nursery Schools to enter the schemes from 2020/21. Any previous funding pressures within the schools should not be recompensed from the various funding streams prior to 1 April 2020.

The schools will de-delegate / pool funding using the primary school de-delegation rates for the year and will be calculated using the previous year's actual pupils FTE. (this number of pupils is used for the SEN funding basis) and 1 FTE is equivalent to 570 hours (15 hours x 38 weeks)

The Maintained Nursery Schools have reviewed the de-delegated and central services document from the 2020/21 Schools consultation pack for the services available and wish to buy into the following services:

2019/20 figures for explanation:

2019/20 funding uses 2018/19 actuals (Summer 2018, Autumn 2019 and Spring 2019) total hours 2, 3 and 4 year old.

Chestnut - 50,091 hours which equates to $50,091/570 = 87.87$ pupils (FTE)

West Exe - 49,263 hours which equates to $49,263/570 = 86.43$ pupils (FTE)

	Rate £	Maintained Nursery	
		Chestnut £	West Exe £
Contingency	23.92	2101.94	2067.20
Trade Unions	2.53	222.69	219.00
Maternity	21.44	1884.12	1852.98
Copyrights	0.30	26.57	26.14
Ethnic Minority Achievement	7.61	669.11	658.04
Gypsy Roma Traveller Achievement	12.37	1087.02	1069.05
		5,991	5,892

Following on from discussions at SFG the Maintained Nursery Schools will have to buy into the above services and whether they currently require the service or not at present as any other maintained school does. They will not be required to purchase the following services as they already buy into Behavioural Support through Early Years in line with all other childcare providers.

	Rate £	Maintained Nursery	
		Chestnut £	West Exe £
Behaviour Support	70.16	6165.89	6063.97

		6,166	6,064
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These values will be revised for 2020/21 once actual 2019/20 pupils data has been received.

3. Recommendation

That DEF agrees to the de-delegation within the Maintained Nursery Schools set out in the proposal from 2020/21 and review annually as per other phases.

All to Vote

MARY DAVIS
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JO OLSSON
Chief Officer for Children's Services

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