



**Schools Forum
18th June 2014**

**Report from the Strategic Director of
Children & Young People**

For Information

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) – Revenue Funding Update

1.0 Background

- 1.1 The DfE released details of the revenue funding for the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) at the end of May 2014, along with a grant calculator for schools to utilise.

2.0 UIFSM - Revenue Funding Allocations

- 2.1 From October 2014 there will be a new census flag to measure the actual take up of UIFSM in schools. However, schools are required to provide this meal from September 2014 and therefore provisional allocations will be provided to schools initially, with adjustments being made later.
- 2.2 Funding is provided by academic year, and schools should therefore expect to receive each years funding in two payments. The first payment relating to September to March will be received by schools in July and the final payment for April to August will be paid in April of each year.
- 2.3 Schools should therefore expect to receive 7/12ths of the provisional allocation in July 2014 (these will be paid to Local Authorities in June 2014). The final allocation for 2014/15 will be determined from the October 2014 and January 2015 census and the balance payable will therefore be paid to schools in April 2015 (this will be paid to local authorities by 1st April 2015)
- 2.4 Funding will be provided at £437 per pupil, but only in respect of pupils that are not currently eligible for free school meals. This is calculated as £2.30 per pupil for 190 days. It is expected that schools costs will be lower than £2.30 and therefore this slight surplus in funding can be used towards light equipment or increased staffing required as a result of the introduction of UIFSM.

- 2.5 The initial provisional calculation is based on 87% take up of the total pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2, less those eligible for free school meals.
- 2.6 The final calculation will be adjusted to take account of the average number of pupils taking a meal in the October 2014 and January 2015 censuses.
- 2.7 No schools in Brent qualify for the Small Schools Allocation. Schools with less than 150 pupils are provided with an additional amount of £3000.
- 2.8 Funding is passported by the local authority, as is the case with the Pupil Premium. The funding will be provided to the local authority with allocations for each school, and this will hence be paid over directly to schools after being received by the local authority.
- 2.9 The DfE also provided a grant calculator for schools to determine how much their allocation will be based on their local assumptions, and how much would be paid in both instalments.

3.0 Pupil Premium

- 3.1 The main deprivation measure for pupil premium remains as free school meal eligibility. It is therefore important that schools encourage parents to fill in the eligibility form if they are in receipt of benefits, to determine their eligibility.
- 3.2 As reported to the Schools Forum previously, Brent has redesigned the FSM eligibility form as a Pupil Premium form. This now explains to parents the benefits to their child and the school by filling in this form, even though their child now receives a free school meal. This is attached as Appendix C below, and the updated webpage can be found at <http://www.brent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

4.0 Recommendations and Consultation points

- 4.1 The Schools Forum is requested to:
- a. Note details of the UIFSM funding and Conditions of Grant.

Appendices

- A. Universal Infant Free School Meals: Conditions of Grant 2014/15
- B. Universal Infant Free School Meals: Grant Calculator
- C. New Free School Meals/Pupil Premium Poster and Form



Free School Meals
Poster.pdf



Free School Meals
Application Form.pdf

Background Papers

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/universal-infant-free-school-meals-conditions-of-grant>
- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/287804/UIFSM_DEPARTMENTAL_ADVICE.pdf

Contact Officer

Norwena Thomas
Senior Finance Analyst – Schools & Education