

Report to: **Schools' Forum**

Date: **19 November 2021**

Title of Report: **Growth Fund / Falling Rolls Fund**

By: **Gary Langford, Place Planning Manager**

Purpose of Report: **To update Schools' Forum on spend in the 2021/22 financial year and to seek approval for funding for the 2022/23 financial year.**

Recommendation:
Schools' Forum is asked to approve an allocation of £724,386 for the 2022/23 Growth Fund.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The 2021/22 Growth and Falling Rolls Funds were approved by Schools' Forum on 20 November 2020.
- 1.2 The Growth Fund supports maintained and non-maintained mainstream schools which are required to provide extra places to meet basic need within the local authority. The fund is provided for:
 - Key Stage 1 top-up: paid to schools to enable them to comply with Key Stage 1 class size legislation, which sets a maximum class size of 30 pupils with one teacher. There are a few exceptions where class sizes can exceed 30, but there is no entitlement to Growth Fund, for example, arising from admissions through the Fair Access Protocol.
 - Additional classes: where the local authority has made a formal request for a school to set up one or more additional classes or requests a permanent increase in a school's Published Admission Number.
 - New school funding: when new schools open in a local authority area, they receive pre-opening funding through a formula to cover costs incurred prior to the opening and diseconomy funding to cover costs incurred while the school fills to capacity. The funding decreases year on year as more year groups in the new school are admitted.
- 1.3 The Falling Rolls Fund is used to support good or outstanding schools that have temporary, but significant, falling rolls, but where local planning data shows the places will be needed in the near future. It is designed to avoid the need for a school to restructure and then recruit again shortly afterwards. The funding is for maintained and non-maintained schools. The circumstances in which a payment is made from the Falling Rolls fund are:
 - The school is judged to be good or outstanding at their last Ofsted inspection (this is a mandatory requirement from the DFE).
 - The number on roll has dropped by more than 5% between the October 2020 census and the October 2021 census.
 - Local planning data (East Sussex County Council pupil forecasting model) predicts that the number on roll will, in October 2023, be equal to or exceed their number on roll as in October 2020.

2. Growth Fund 2021/22

- 2.1 Schools' Forum approved a budget of £1,682,300 for the 2021/22 Growth Fund. This figure was based on estimated Key Stage 1 pupil numbers, the predicted additional classes required for the 2021/22 academic year and the number of new schools that required diseconomy funding.
- 2.2 In 2021/22, the numbers of schools eligible for either Key Stage 1 top-up funding, additional class funding or new schools funding were:

- 41 primary schools eligible for Key Stage 1 top-up funding
- 10 primary schools eligible for additional class funding
- 3 secondary schools eligible for additional class funding
- 1 all-through school eligible for new schools funding

2.3 To date, £1,229,448 of the Growth Fund budget has been spent in 2021/22, leaving a balance of £452,852 unallocated. The underspend has come about largely because fewer schools qualified for Key Stage 1 top-up funding than had been predicted last year. It is proposed to carry forward this amount to the next financial year, thereby reducing the amount sought in 2022/23.

2.4 A summary of spend in 2021/22 is provided in **Appendix A**.

3. Growth Fund 2022/23

3.1 The proposed allocation for 2022/23 is based on the estimated October 2021 pupil numbers and the estimated Key Stage 1 numbers as in October 2022. A 10% contingency has been added to the Key Stage 1 top-up element to allow for any unforeseen changes.

3.2 Additional class funding for 2022/23 is based on the predicted need for places identified through the annual update to the pupil forecasting model, most recently updated in July 2021 and available in the School Organisation Plan 2021-2025, recently approved for publication by the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability. A 10% contingency has been added to the additional class element to allow for any unanticipated pressures.

3.3 It is currently estimated that the following numbers of schools will be eligible for Growth Fund support in 2022/23:

- 39 primary schools potentially eligible for Key Stage 1 top-up funding
- 3 primary schools potentially eligible for additional class funding
- 3 secondary schools potentially eligible for additional class funding
- 1 all-through school eligible for new schools funding

3.4 In total the Growth Fund requirement for 2022/23 is £1,177,244. This figure can be partially offset by the carry forward of £452,852 from 2021/22, as described in 2.3 above. Therefore, the actual requirement for 2022/23 is £724,386.

Recommendation:

Schools' Forum is recommended to approve an allocation of **£724,386** for the 2022/23 Growth Fund.

3.5 A breakdown of the Growth Fund calculation for 2022/23 is provided in **Appendix B**. The updated Growth Fund guidance document for 2022/23 will be available online ahead of the new financial year.

4. Falling Rolls Fund 2021/22

4.1 The Falling Rolls Fund budget in 2021/22 is £47,000. To date, one school – Beckley CE Primary School – was eligible for funding and received £5,000. We propose carrying forward the unspent balance of £42,000 to 2022/23 when we estimate that one school might be eligible for funding. A budget of £42,000 will be sufficient to fund the school, if eligible, and provide a contingency for any unforeseen circumstances. As a result, we do not require any additional funding for the Falling Rolls Fund next year.

4.2 The updated Falling Rolls Fund guidance document for 2022/23 will be available online ahead of the new financial year.

Growth Fund and Falling Rolls Fund summary 2021/22

DFE Number	Primary School	KS1 Top Up April 21 to Aug 21 £	KS1 Top Up Sep 21 to March 22 £	Add Class Funding April 21 to Aug 21 £	Add Class Funding Sep 21 to March 22 £	Diseconomy Funding £
2050	Alfriston School	£4,488.00	£6,283.00			
2156	Chiddingly Primary School		£6,283.00			
2060	Hamsey Community Primary School	£4,488.00	£6,283.00			
2071	Laughton Community Primary School		£817.00			
2091	St Michael's Primary School, Withyham	£8,391.00	£11,748.00			
2099	Little Common School	£5,789.00	£8,104.00			
2107	Manor Primary School		£6,283.00			
3003	Battle and Langton Church of England Primary School	£10,994.00	£15,391.00			
3004	Beckley Church of England Primary School	£8,391.00	£11,748.00			
3009	Burwash C of E School	£5,789.00	£8,104.00			
3012	Catsfield Church of England Primary School	£3,186.00	£4,461.00			
3016	Crowhurst C of E Primary School	£5,789.00	£8,104.00			
3018	Danehill Church of England Primary School	£5,789.00	£8,104.00			
3022	East Hoathly C of E Primary School	£1,885.00	£2,639.00			
3026	Fletching Church of England Primary School	£13,596.00				
3028	Forest Row Church of England Primary School	£13,596.00	£19,035.00			
3035	Hurst Green Church of England Primary School		£2,639.00			
3043	Mayfield Church of England Primary School	£10,994.00	£15,391.00			
3045	Netherfield C of E Primary School	£13,596.00	£19,035.00			
3046	Ninfield Church of England Primary School	£5,789.00	£8,104.00			
3047	Northiam Church of England Primary School	£5,789.00	£8,104.00			
3048	Nutley Church of England Primary School		£17,213.00			
3049	Peasmarsh Church of England Primary School	£8,391.00	£11,748.00			
3051	St Michael's Church of England Primary School, F	£1,885.00				
3055	Salehurst Church of England Primary School		£817.00			
3076	Bodiam Church of England Primary School	£8,391.00	£11,748.00			
3077	Iford & Kingston Church of England Primary School	£7,090.00	£9,926.00			
3080	Staplecross Methodist Primary School	£10,994.00	£15,391.00			
3081	Wadhurst C of E Primary School		£20,857.00			
3323	Framfield Church of England Primary School	£584.00	£817.00			
3325	St Mark's Church of England Primary School, Had	£3,186.00	£4,461.00			
3326	St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School	£1,885.00	£2,639.00			
3330	Little Horsted Church of England Primary School		£9,926.00			
3331	Mark Cross Church of England Primary School		£6,283.00			
3335	Holy Cross Church of England Primary School	£5,789.00	£8,104.00			
3041	Southover			£1,776.00		
2153	Meridian			£19,168.00	£6,530.00	
2094	Chyngton			£475.00	£1,065.00	
2076	Park Mead			£21,295.00		
3015	Cross in Hand			£26,500.00	£37,500.00	
2104	Cradle Hill				£37,500.00	
2105	Polegate				£37,500.00	
		£176,534.00	£296,590.00	£69,214.00	£120,095.00	£0.00
2023	White House Primary School	£7,847.00				
3345	Anney Catholic Primary School, Seaford	£11,467.00				
2026	Rye Community Primary School	£9,054.00				
2007	West St Leonard's Community Primary School		£6,282.50			
2115	Jarvis Brook School		£817.25			
2161	Robsack Wood Community Primary School		£15,391.25			
2011	The Baird			£9,607.95	£19,282.50	
2009	High Cliff			£1,162.00	£37,500.00	
2003	Glenleigh Park			£26,500.00		
4026	Beacon secondary			£57,804.00	£125,400.00	
4046	Seahaven Academy			£29,500.00	£83,600.00	
4027	Hailsham Academy Trust				£41,800.00	£84,000.00
		£28,368	£22,491	£124,574	£307,583	£84,000
		KS1 Top Up	£523,983			
		Additional Class	£621,465			
		New School	£84,000			
			£1,229,448			
DFE Number	Primary School	Falling Rolls				
3004	Beckley CE Primary School	£5,000				
		£5,000				

Growth Fund requirement 2022/23

Funding type	Funding required
Key Stage 1 top-up funding	£630,315
Additional class funding	£490,928
New school funding	£56,000
Net total	£1,177,244
Less carry forward from 2021/22	-£452,858
Request from Schools Forum for 2022/23	£724,386

Falling Rolls Fund requirement 2022/23

Funding type	Funding required
Carry forward from 2021/22	£42,000
Request from Schools Forum for 2022/23	£0
2022/23 allocation	£42,000