

Committee(s)	Dated:
Education Board	01/07/2021
Subject: City Premium Grant 2021/22 Allocations to Academies	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	2, 3, 8, 9, 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	Education Board, Central Risk
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	Y
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
Report author: Daniel McGrady, Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills)	

Summary

The City Premium Grant is the Education Board's grant to City Corporation sponsored and co-sponsored academies to enhance and enrich the core educational offer and support the delivery of exceptional education in the Family of Schools. This report asks Members to approve the release of £1,654,000 from the Central Risk element of the Education Board's budget. This funding is to support projects delivered over the 2021/22 academic year. A summary of the applications from academies is included in **Appendix 1**.

Recommendation(s)

Members are asked to:

- Approve the release of City Premium Grant funding to City sponsored academies for academic year 2021/22 as per Schedule 1 below:

Schedule 1 – Proposed City Premium Grant funding to City academies.

Academy	School Allocation¹	Proposed City Premium Grant 2020/21
Galleywall Primary School	60,000	60,000
Redriff Primary School	100,000	99,000
City of London Primary Academy Islington	40,000	40,000
City of London Academy Southwark	250,000	215,000
City of London Academy Highbury Grove	250,000	250,000
City of London Academy Highgate Hill	200,000	200,000
City of London Academy Shoreditch Park	140,000	140,000

¹ Based on a ceiling of £250K for secondary academies, £150K for Sixth Form colleges and £100K for primary academies pro rata according to the pupil numbers in the academy

City of London Academy Islington	250,000	250,000
The City Academy Hackney	250,000	250,000
Newham Collegiate Sixth Form	150,000	150,000
Total	1,690,000	1,654,000

- Note that there has been a delay on some applications, and these will be submitted to the Education Board meeting in September 2021, within the allocation envelope for each academy.
- Note that the balance of the core City Premium Grant funding will be rolled into a second, smaller funding round in January 2022 following the school performance scrutiny meetings and based on greatest areas of need.
- Note that the Education Board will receive evaluations of the impact of City Premium Grant funded projects delivered over the 2021/22 academic year at the December 2022 Education Board meeting.

Main Report

Background

1. The Education Board has awarded a City Premium Grant to City sponsored academies since the 2014/15 financial year. In November 2017, Members resolved to award the grant to City academies at a rate of £250K to secondary schools and £100K to primary schools. It was approved that this total amount would be allocated pro rata, based on the number of year groups in the school. The 2021/22 pro rata allocation to academies was approved by the Education Board with the itemised Education Board Budget for the 2021/22 Financial Year at their meeting on 28 January 2021.
2. As a basic principle, the City Premium Grant is to support 'additionality' and not to be used to fund basic school needs or capital purchases.

Current Position

3. All City sponsored academies were invited to apply for City Premium Grant funding to deliver projects over the 2021/22 Academic Year in March 2021. Academies are asked to provide details of the outputs, outcomes and impact of each programme/project which they propose to deliver.
4. The applications for core City Premium Grant funding were reviewed by a panel of officers comprised of: the Strategic Education and Skills Director, the Head of the Central Grants Programme and the Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills) for the City Corporation; and the Chief Standards Officer and Chief Finance Officer in the City of London Academies Trust.

Proposals

5. The panel considers that the applications summarised in **Appendix 1** meet the criteria of the grant and will support the delivery of exceptional education, cultural and creative learning and skills development delivered throughout the City sponsored academies. It is proposed that the Education Board approve the recommendation in this report.

Options

6. The Education Board have the following options:
 - a. Approve the release of City Premium Grant funding.
 - b. Approve the partial release of City Premium Grant funding.
 - c. Not approve the release of City Premium Grant funding.

Key Data

7. A summary of the main outputs, outcomes and impact for each project is included in **Appendix 1**.
8. Following the end of each academic year, academies are asked to evaluate the impact of the activity delivered by City Premium Grant funding. The evaluation provides data on the following:
 - a. Were the outputs delivered? If they changed, what did they change to?
 - b. How much did it cost, and did this diverge from the original proposed cost?
 - c. Which outcomes were delivered and how have they been measured?
 - d. What was the impact? – These can be positive or negative effects produced by the projects/activities and should be as long-term as possible (e.g. pupils showed demonstrable developments in their speaking skills and have applied this in other areas of the curriculum since starting the new academic year in September, with several pupils performing well in recent mock interviews).
9. Evaluation data for 2021/22 City Premium Grant funding will be submitted to the Education Board at their meeting in December 2022.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

10. Strategic implications

The City Premium Grant is an annual grant to provide financial support to academies towards programmes and activities which will deliver the aims of the Education Board's tripartite strategies: Education, Cultural and Creative Learning and Skills. In particular, the City Premium Grant is focused on delivering the following strategic aims.

- a. Developing pupils' fusion skills (e.g. oral communication, collaboration and teamwork, initiative, problem solving, creativity).
- b. Improving teaching and learning practices.
- c. Driving equality of opportunity by promoting social mobility, equalities and good health and wellbeing.
- d. Providing opportunities for pupils to experience the world of work.
- e. Providing opportunities for pupils to access culture, and for teachers to use culture and creativity as tools in teaching and learning.

11. Financial implications

The City Premium Grant is funded from the Central Risk element of the Education Board's budget. The proposed allocations in *Schedule 1* are aligned with the 2021/22 budget approved by the Education Board at their meeting on 28 January 2021.

12. Equalities implications

The Public Sector Equality Duty under Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 does not strictly apply as a matter of law to the City Corporation's City's Cash functions. However, it has been the Corporation's practice to have regard to those principles across all its functions. The Education Unit believe that this report complies with the City Corporation's Public Sector principles of the Equality Duty Act 2010. The proposals in this report have a positive impact on staff and pupils in the City sponsored academies, including individuals from ethnic minority backgrounds, young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), and pupils at risk of educational disadvantage for other reasons such as background, family income and personal circumstances.

13. Risk Implications

The Education Unit, Central Grants Unit and the CoLAT Central Team have monitored the grants being made to academies to pay for projects delivered by external organisations to ensure that the City's grant does not fund more than 50% of any external organisation's income, mitigating against the risks of the City Corporation being a majority funder of any charitable organisation or small company through the City Premium Grant.

Some proposed grant-funded activities may not be able to be delivered if COVID restrictions were to make them impossible or ill-advised (e.g. overseas trips). The Education Strategy Unit will work collaboratively with CoLAT and the academies to identify activities and projects which are impacted by restrictions to find suitable replacements, or accurately report an underspend.

14. No Resource, Climate, or Security implications identified.

Conclusion

15. The Education Board has provision within the 2021/22 Budget to award City Premium Grant funding to City academies at the rate outlined in Schedule 1. Members are asked to approve the release of funding to City sponsored academies as per Schedule 1 to the total value of £1,654,000.

Appendices

- **Appendix 1** – Summary of 2021/22 City Premium Grant Applications (Non-Public)

Daniel McGrady

Lead Policy Officer (Education, Culture and Skills)
Department of Community and Children's Services

E: daniel.mcgrady@cityoflondon.gov.uk