

Committee(s) Education Board	Dated: 03/02/2022
Subject: City Premium Grant Update: January Proposed Allocation Model	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 8 and 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	NA
If so, how much?	NA
What is the source of Funding?	NA
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author(s): Anne Bamford, Strategic Education and Skills Director	

Summary

This report outlines the allocation of the 'January round' of the City Premium Grant to academies in the Family of Schools.

Recommendation(s)

Members of the Education Board are asked to:

- Note the allocations of the 'January round' of the City Schools Premium grants.
- Agree to monitor the impact of this expenditure as part of the annual Evaluation and Impact cycle that is reported to the Education Board in November/December each year.

Main Report

Background

1. The City Premium Grant is an annual grant to City Corporation's sponsored academies and special grants around strategic and partnership projects across the Family of Schools. Decisions on the grant are delegated to the City Corporation's Education Board with operational responsibility owned by the Education Strategy Unit.

The January Funding Round

2. The bulk of the City School Premium Grant is allocated each year in the May Education Board proceeding the start of each new academic year, based on the bids for funding received from the schools.
3. Each year a small per cent of the overall funding envelope is reserved to address any particular challenges or areas requiring funding that emerge from the Standards Scrutiny meetings held each October.
4. In collaboration with the schools and CoLAT, and in response to issues emerging from the Standard Scrutiny meetings, each year in January the Strategic Education and Skills Director allocates the remainder of the funding, known as the 'January Round'.
5. This academic year there was a total of £1,632,000 distributed to the academies as part of the first round of funding.
6. £75,000 was reserved for the January round of funding. Based on the Scrutiny meetings and in consultation with CoLAT and the schools the following apportioning of the January round was agreed:
 - £21,550 to support oracy development through the deployment of the Voice 21 programme to provide benefit across the academies (including primary academies)
 - £25,000 to Highbury Grove to build the capacity of the behaviour team to address concerns of a number of high challenge students including the engagement of an additional member of staff from the existing, highly effective existing sport/mentoring organisation BADU sports
 - £29,450 to Highgate Hill to address overall attendance challenges and persistent absences by adding capacity to the pastoral function of the school through the engagement/secondments of an attendance officer from a suitable organisation on a fixed term contract

Accountability

7. While Academies are responsible for their own financial management, they are subject to public standards of accountability. Therefore, as with all funds, governors hold the accountability function and the responsibility for ensuring appropriate spend complies with the financial accountability framework and assurance arrangements. Governors have been advised to ensure that the standards as set out in the Financial Management and Governance Self-Assessment (FMGS) are applied.
8. The schools will report the impact of this expenditure as part of the annual Evaluation and Impact cycle that is reported to Education Board in November/December 2022.

Conclusions and recommendations

9. Members of the Education Board are asked to note the allocations of the 'January round' of the City Schools Premium grants.

Key Data

10. This funding allocation was based on school data analysed as part of the Standards Scrutiny meetings and presented to the Education Board in December 2021.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

11. As a basic principle, the City Premium Grant is to support 'additionality' to the education offer. This additionality is targeted to ensuring the schools as organisations of the City of London meet or exceed the City's Corporate and Strategic goals.
12. The accurate measurement of impact and clear reporting enables the City Corporation to monitor the effectiveness of its organisations.

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