

Section 251 Budget Statement

Key Contacts

Name	Telephone	Email
Martyn Scott Finance Manager Finance	0121 303 5107	fairfunding@birmingham.gov.uk
Justin Pinkney Senior Business Analyst Fair Funding Team	0121 675 9302	fairfunding@birmingham.gov.uk
Sue Beer Head of Schools Financial Services	0121 303 2678	sue.beer@birmingham.gov.uk

Postal Address:

PO Box 16306
Birmingham
B2 2XR

Section 251 Budget Statement

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Section 251 School Budget Statement

1 Background

- 1.1 Before the beginning of each financial year, Local Authorities are required, under Section 251 of the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009, to prepare an education and children and young people's services budget statement for that year.
- 1.2 Section 251 gives the Secretary of State power to make regulations prescribing the form of these budget statements, additional content and the timing and manner of their publication. The Education (Budget Statement) Regulations are published annually as a Statutory Instrument and prescribe to the above particulars.

2 Purpose of the Financial Statement

- 2.1 The Financial Statement is the means of informing schools and the public in general about spending plans for the year. The Local Authority has a statutory duty to publish the Statement as prescribed in the regulations.
- 2.2 The Statement therefore provides a clear picture of the Local Authority's planned spending.

3 General Financial Statement Details

- 3.1 The Local Authority's Statement, published under Section 251 of the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009, in the format prescribed under the regulations, is called the 'Birmingham Schools' S251 Budget Statement'.
- 3.2 The Birmingham School Budget Statement is available on the Birmingham.gov website via the following link:
[Budgets for schools in Birmingham](#).
- 3.3 It comprises the following sections:
 - LA Table – Total Planned Children Services Spending By The Local Authority.

- Table 2: School Table – special and hospital schools / pupil referral units
- The early years collection and the pro forma

3.4 LA Table – Total Planned Spending By The Local Authority

- This table provides a full analysis of the Fair Funding budgetary framework.
- It allocates costs for the Schools and Children Services budget (gross, income and net) and across the early years, primary, secondary, special, alternative providers/ pupil referral units and post school sectors (where appropriate).

3.5 Table 2: School Table – special and hospital schools / pupil referral units

This table shows the delegated budgets (place funding only) for special schools and pupil referral units (PRUs).

3.6 The Early Years Pro Forma

- The early years pro forma records the total local authority DSG spending on early years statutory funded early learning for two, three and four year olds, including the 30 hours funding coming into force from September 2017 for working parents of three and four year olds.
- The pro forma also includes any other DSG expenditure on early years including the early year's pupil premium and the new special educational needs inclusion top up fund and disability access fund.