



Falling Rolls Fund – 2014/15

Business Case for Hallfield Primary School

Hallfield Primary School would like to apply for additional resources from the *Falling Rolls Fund* and, therefore, we are submitting this business case to explain how our school is meeting criteria 4 and 5.

Criteria 4: Formula funding available to the school will not support the provision of an appropriate curriculum for the existing cohort.

Hallfield Primary School is a three-form entry school with a Nursery unit. Our maximum capacity is 630 pupils (not including nursery) and the October 2013 census indicates we are receiving funding for 526 pupils – that is, funding for 104 fewer pupils.

Our budget forecast for next 2 financial periods (see *Budget Summary Report* in page 2) shows current levels of funding will not support appropriate curriculum provision and the use of our surplus balance will be quite substantial.

Budget Summary Report

I/E Group	Description	2014-15	2015-16
Pupil Numbers		526	518
Income			
I01 - I04 / I14	Individual School Budget	2,972,910	2,945,555
I05	Pupil Premium	453,700	453,700
I06 - I07 / I18	Other Grants	13,700	7,700
I08 - I17	Other Income	29,570	29,570
Total Income:		3,469,880	3,436,525
Expenditure			
Total Expenditure:		3,660,254	3,794,583
In Year Surp/(Def):		-190,374	-358,058
Surp/(Def) B/Fwds:		607,703	417,329
Cumulative C/Fwds:		417,329	59,271

Pupil numbers for 2015-16 based on 2 full reception classes (60 pupils) – current estimation based on Local Authority admissions team.

Increase in expenditure includes 1% inflation for salaries and £80k for development of playgrounds.

The local authority list for reception places from September 2014 shows that we are expecting only 56 pupils, although numbers tend to rise as we approach September. The projected enrolment for is the equivalent of two classes but not enough to be a full reception year (ie 3 classes or 90 children). This will mean another decrement in our delegated budget (518 pupils) expected for 2015-16.

Criteria 5: *Recognition of the projected surplus balance position and its interaction with setting the 2014/15 budget position. A reasonable balance position is assumed to the 8% for Primary schools in line with previous threshold applied for the claw-back mechanism.*

From 2013-14 to 2014-15 our reserves have increased by £42k as we stopped some ICT improvements due to the pupil trend. Therefore, we started this financial year with a surplus balance of £607,703 or 20% of our delegated budget. Some of this balance is committed to the ongoing upgrading and development of Reception and Year 6 playgrounds and it is already included in the projected expenditure.

Looking at the Budget Summary Report, at projected levels of expenditure and income, we are facing a deficit of £190k in 2014-15 and our surplus balance will be reduced to £59k during 2015-16.

Ways forward

We trust that our latest Ofsted Inspection and National Curriculum results will help attract more pupils to Hallfield. In addition Governors and senior staff have developed a marketing strategy to promote our school more widely.

To reduce our expenditure until pupil numbers increase, we have agreed the following strategies:

- Our average classroom has 25 pupils and therefore we cannot reduce staffing levels in classrooms, although we have not appointed for five recent vacancies. This will stretch current staff, especially at senior level where we have a couple of vacancies, and we are **holding this recruitment** to reduce the staffing expenditure.
- We are experiencing higher number of 'SEN' pupils without a statement enrolled after the census, many of whom need 1-1 support. We know, in most cases, that these children will leave the school at the end of July when their statement is approved, and the school will not see any additional funding to cover costs for the 1-1 support provided. To make efficiencies in this area we are **restructuring the roles of support staff**.
- Emphasise the **re-tendering contracts** and services before expiring and look at ways of gaining efficiencies in our purchases.
- Promote school for **lettings**.

Given that our reserves will only support our school for the next 2 financial years, if pupil intake does not increase by November 2014, we will need to start the consultation process to reduce the school size to a two-form entry.

Access to the full Falling Rolls Fund 2014-15 (proposed £115,000) would give us additional time to maintain the current three-form entry position in the face of the pupil trend predicted in Central London. It will also give us more flexibility when recruiting and training teachers as we don't want to compromise the teaching quality and need to keep our school in the path to outstanding.