

# eNewsletter

• Issue 12 • July 2025 •

# Lancashire

Schools  
Forum



## Schools Forum July 2025

*Welcome to Issue 12, a post Forum Edition of the eNewsletter of the Lancashire Schools' Forum.*

### Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) 2024/25

For the first year, the DSG reserve has reported an overall negative reserve/deficit of £22m due to pressures on the High Needs Block, reflecting pressures in Special Educational Needs. This reflects the national picture across local authorities of insufficient grant resources to meet increasing need.

### School Balances 2024/25

Overall, in 2024/25 school balances decreased from £69.79m to £66.93m, an overall reduction of £2.86m. The reduction in school balances is mainly due to academy conversions throughout the year.

### Clawback at March 2026

The Schools Forum on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 unanimously voted to Implement Clawback to excess balances at March 2025 **at the reduced rate of 8% CFR income**. A letter was sent to all maintained schools on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025, and the Clawback Policy can also be found on the [Schools Forum Website](#).

### Schools Forum Annual Report 2024/25

The Forum have agreed their Annual Report for publication. This report highlights the key issues involving the Forum during the course of the 2024/25 financial year.

A copy of the report is available [here](#).

### Service De-delegations 2026/27

The Forum supported de-delegation proposals being incorporated in the consultation with schools, which will be issued in September 2025 and will include similar proposals to those agreed for 2025/26. There was however no proposal received from service in relation to primary inclusion hubs de-delegation. A summary of de-delegation proposals for 2026/27 are below:

- **Staff costs – Public Duties/Suspensions**
- **Heritage Learning Service (Museum Service) - Primary Schools Only**
- **Schools Requiring additional Support**
- **Children's Champions**



# Schools Forum Updates

## Autumn Term Schools Forum Dates

- Schools Block Working Group 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025
- Early Years Block Working Group 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025
- High Needs Block Working Group 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025
  - Lancashire Schools Forum 14<sup>th</sup> October 2025

The Full Forum schedule is found [here](#).

## Schools Forum Minutes

The draft minutes from the Forum meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 are available on the Schools Forum website [here](#)

## Schools Forum Membership 2025

A membership list can be found on the Forum [website](#).

### Questions?

Remember, if you have any questions about the Schools Forum, please contact [schoolsforum@lancashire.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsforum@lancashire.gov.uk)

