

Ask for: Heather Flinders
Email: Heather.flinders@walthamforest.gov.uk
Direct line: 020 8496 3205
Date: 11th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: FURTHER CONSULTATION ON ALLOCATION OF HIGH NEEDS BLOCK (HNB) BUDGET FUNDING 2020-21.

You will be aware that we have undertaken an extensive consultation around the High Needs Block. The High Needs Block (HNB) is the funding provided by the government for the Local Authority (LA) to support pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), Alternative Provision (AP) and a range of SEND services.

I enclose with this letter the '**FURTHER CONSULTATION ON ALLOCATION OF HIGH NEEDS BLOCK (HNB) BUDGET FUNDING 2020-21**' document which sets out the current situation surrounding the funding for HNB, action that has taken place up to now to address the issues; and a proposal I invite you to respond to. We have set out two proposed models that we want your views on, and have identified the preferred option with actions that allows us to provide a high quality SEND service which can be delivered each year within our allocated budget whilst still meeting our statutory obligations to individual children with EHCPs. The consultation outcome and officer recommendations following the consultation will be considered by the Leader of the Council and Councillors at the Cabinet meeting on 16 January 2020.

Details of this matter are available on our website:

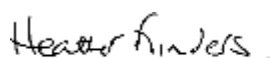
<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/consultation-proposed-changes-funding-bands-education-health-care-plans>

The consultation survey can be accessed here: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HNB041119>

Please take this opportunity to share your views on this proposal. We are keen to move forward in a collaborative and transparent way to ensure that we can achieve the best outcomes for our most vulnerable children.

Please note that the consultation ends on 2nd December because we will produce a report to be submitted to Schools Forum by 4th December for their meeting on 11th December.

Yours Faithfully



Heather Flinders
Strategic Director of Families (DCS/DASS)
London Borough of Waltham Forest