

FAQs – Music Education Hub Funding Allocations

Updated December 2022

How is the funding formula calculated?

Each Hub lead organisation will receive a proportion of the overall funding amount based on the number of eligible pupils in their local authority area(s). 90% of the funding is distributed based on the total number of pupils registered on roll and the remaining 10% is distributed based on the numbers of pupils eligible for Free School Meals (FSM).

Is 10% of the funding designed to support disadvantaged pupils?

10% of the budget is allocated according to Hubs' share of the total number of pupils who are eligible for FSM. This recognises that these pupils will need greater support from Hubs than others in order to take up certain musical opportunities. It is up to Hubs to decide how to use their budgets to carry out their roles, but Hubs should be ensuring that clear progression routes are available and affordable to all young people.

Who calculates the funding allocation?

The Department for Education provides the funding allocation figures to the Arts Council.

Why might a Hub's allocation have changed?

Each Hub lead organisation receives a proportion of the overall funding amount based on the number of eligible pupils in their local authority area(s).

A Hub's allocation will change if its share of the total number of pupils nationally (and/or total number of FSM pupils) changes.

It is therefore possible that a Hub's allocation will reduce even though the number of pupils in its area has increased. Changes can sometimes also be affected by local authority boundary changes where this impacts on the total number of pupils in that area.

Why are there allocations shown for two funding periods at the same time?

Music Education Hub funding agreements for 2022-23 are being extended to cover 1 April – 31 August 2023, which will enable future funding agreements to run to an academic year cycle (i.e. from September 2023 onwards). Current Hub lead organisations will be funded during the 2023-24 academic year ahead of the new Music Hub programme in September 2024. As both the extension period and the 2023-24 academic year period will use funding allocations derived using the same January 2022 census information we have been able to publish funding allocation figures covering 1 April 2023 – 31 August 2024.

Why aren't 17–18-year-olds included in the pupil count?

Although the funding is intended to also support provision for 17–18-year-olds, the funding formula does not include them because reliable pupil figures are not available, unless they are in schools. Some local authority areas have very few 17–18-year-olds in schools (for example, where they are concentrated in 6th forms or further education colleges). It is therefore fairer to count only the 5–16-year-olds.

Who counts as an 'eligible pupil' for the funding formula?

The pupils included in the headcount are:

- All pupils sole or dual main registered at a school in Year 1 to Year 11 or aged 5 to 16 as at 31st August in the year before funding is distributed
- where dual registration applies, all young people registered on roll at their main school

- FSM eligible pupils in year groups 1 to 11 or aged 5 to 16 as at 31st August in the year before funding is distributed (e.g. 31 August 2022 for 2023-24 funding)

Figures are taken from the latest available January School Census (or School Level Schools Census) for the following types of schools:

- Academy 16-19 Converter
- Academy Alternative Provision Converter
- Academy Alternative Provision Sponsor Led
- Academy Converter
- Academy Special Converter
- Academy Special Sponsor Led
- Academy Sponsor Led
- City Technology College
- Community School
- Community Special School
- Foundation School
- Foundation Special School
- Free Schools
- Free Schools - 16-19
- Free Schools - Alternative Provision
- Free Schools Special
- General Hospital
- Non-Maintained Special School
- Pupil Referral Unit
- Studio Schools
- University Technical College
- Voluntary Aided School
- Voluntary Controlled School

Pupils at the following school types will not attract funding in the calculations:

- LA Nursery School
- Miscellaneous
- Other Independent School
- Other Independent Special School

NB: Academy 16-19 converters and sponsor led, and free schools 16-19 are included in the list but have no eligible pupils as the pupil count only includes 5–16-year-olds.

Can the grant only be used to support the eligible pupils from the schools listed above?

No. The list above is used for calculating each Hub's funding amount only. The grant should be used to meet the core and extension roles as outlined in the [National Plan for Music Education](#), which seeks to ensure that *all* children aged 5-18 have the opportunity to experience a high-quality music education.

Hubs are expected to undertake regular needs analysis to audit provision and to inform their role and strategy locally, based around pupils' needs both in school and more widely.

When confirming the continuation of the funding formula to 2020, the former Minister of State for Schools indicated in a letter to the Arts Council in March 2017 that Hubs should “focus particularly on provision that is accessible and appropriate for disadvantaged pupils, those with disabilities and those with special education needs”.

Funding to Hubs does not replace funds allocated to schools to deliver the music curriculum, and Hubs may provide services/teachers to schools on a chargeable basis. In most cases, DfE funding will be only one of several funding sources available in a local area that the Hub, and their partner organisations, will draw upon.

Has the formula changed?

The formula for calculating how funding is distributed has remained the same since Music Education Hubs first began operating in 2012 though initially there was some transitional protection as Hubs moved to the new formula.