

Guidance Notes: Education Improvement Grant (EIG) 2019-20

*Welsh Government Terms and Conditions &
Frequently Asked Questions*





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1.1 Purpose of the Funding

The purpose of the funding is to support the delivery of the aspirations and priorities for schools and education outlined within *Ambitious and Learning* from our national strategy, *Prosperity for All*, and our plan of action for education, *Our national mission*.

The funding must be used to provide support in delivering against the national priorities for education, at the centre of which is a transformational curriculum and a focus on four key enabling objectives:

- Developing a high quality education profession
- Inspirational leaders working collaboratively to raise standards
- Equity and well-being
- Assessment, evaluation and accountability

1.2 School Development Plans

Individual school-level grant spending plans are no longer required.

Schools will use their School Development Plans to iterate how they will use their Funding to achieve their outcomes. A template is provided & schools are requested to complete it as part of their school improvement planning process & to share it with their Supporting Improvement Adviser.

Consortia Supporting Improvement Advisers will provide support and challenge to schools to ensure their school development plans appropriately reflect their improvement journey and local priorities.

1.3 Specific conditions

The Education Improvement Grant includes funding to support schools in undertaking certain elements of their statutory duties. A brief summary of these requirements are set out below:

Foundation Phase element

The Funding must be used to support the Foundation Phase staff to learner ratios as part of the delivery of a high quality and effective Foundation Phase curriculum.

Welsh in Education Strategic Plans

The Funding must be used to support the delivery of local authority Welsh in Education Strategic Plans in working towards the aims of Cymraeg 2050.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

FAQ 1: Has the funding reduced in 2019/20?

In cash terms no, however the grant in real terms, due to rising costs has reduced by approximately 4.5%.

FAQ 2: What is the delegation rate to schools?

The Terms and Conditions of the EIG require a minimum delegation of 80% to schools. For 2019/20, 89.68% of the grant is delegated.

FAQ 3: What enabling objectives will the grant support?

The funding will support the strategic objectives set out in our national priorities for education:

- Developing a high quality education profession
- Inspirational leaders working collaboratively to raise standards
- Equity and well-being
- Assessment, evaluation and accountability

Initiatives supported by the grant must be sustainable, learner focused and in line with the Well-being of Future Generations Act.

FAQ 4: Will the overall figure for EIG have to be allocated against literacy, numeracy, Welsh in education etc in the school improvement plan?

Schools are not required to classify spend in relation to the Purposes of the Grant. It is for individual headteachers in consultation with their supporting improvement adviser to determine how much and on which priority area they wish to spend the grant. Details must be incorporated into the school development plan.

FAQ 5: Will I have to produce a separate costed annual plan?

School-level grant spending plans are not required, however there is a clear expectation for schools to provide a breakdown on their EIG in their SDP.

FAQ 6: Will the consortium provide a template?

GwE provides a template for schools to use. You are asked to complete this as part of your school development planning process and to share it with your Supporting Improvement Adviser with a copy sent to your local authority finance team. You are also required to upload a copy of your School Development Plan & template (if used) to G6.

FAQ 7: Foundation Phase

Will I receive a separate allocation to meet the required ratios within Foundation Phase?

No, the allocation of funding will be left to each headteacher to determine. They must however be mindful of the requirements within the grant terms and conditions that schools should work towards achieving the recommended ratios.

How has this funding been distributed?

The funding has been delegated to individual LAs & the mechanism for the distribution of this grant is determined at individual LA level.

Non-Maintained Foundation Phase Settings - How has this funding been distributed?

The funding has been delegated to LA's and the mechanism for the distribution of this element of the grant is determined at LA level.

FAQ 8: Welsh in Education

How has this funding been distributed?

The funding has been delegated to individual LAs and the mechanism for the distribution of this element of the grant is determined at local authority level.

FAQ 9: 14-16 Learning Pathways

How has this funding been distributed?

The funding has been delegated to individual LAs and the mechanism for the distribution of this element of the grant is determined at local authority level.