

Support for SEND in Slough

Right support, right time, right place

Have your say:

Review of additional “top up” funding
for children and young people with
SEND

February 2019

Your views matter

Slough Borough Council wants to hear your views on changes it plans to make to how it provides the additional (top up) funding for children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

A group of head teachers, Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs), local authority officers and specialists has developed a new model to help make the way that funding is used to support children and young people with SEND is fair and as easy to understand as possible.

What is “top up” funding?

“Top up” funding is the amount of **extra** money given to a school to help them meet the needs of a child or young person with SEND. The more severe and complex the needs, the higher the rate of funding given.

The current model uses a number of levels or “bands” to provide a range of funding (from £2,000 to £50,000 per child, although very few children in Slough have SEND that are so severe and complex that they require the highest bands). A different band range is used depending on whether a child or young person attends a mainstream school, specialist resource base, Littledown school, Arbour Vale school or Haybrook College. This is shown on the next slide

The current model

BAND	SETTING	TOP UP
1	Mainstream	Nil
2		£2,000
2A		£4,000
3		£6,000
4		£10,000
5		£14,000
6		£18,000
2	Resource Base	£4,000
3		£9,000
4		£14,000
5		£19,000
6		£24,000
2	Littledown School	£10,000
3		£15,000
4		£20,000
5		£25,000
6		£30,000
7		£40,000
8		£50,000

BAND	SETTING	TOP UP
2	Haybrook College	£6,000
3		£11,000
4		£16,000
5		£21,000
6		£26,000
7		£36,000
8		£46,000
2	Arbour Vale School	£5,000
3		£10,000
4		£15,000
5		£20,000
6		£25,000
7		£35,000
8		£45,000

Why is a new approach needed?

The current model is very complicated and it can be difficult for parents and professionals to understand. A new approach is needed that:

- Aligns with the SEND Code of Practice (2015)
- Offers a single banding framework across educational settings and independent budgets that is fair and transparent
- Provides transparency in how the LA assigns monetary values at each Band
- Helps shape how the LA and colleagues in schools understand SEND and specialist support/provision

What is the new model?

1. A Matrix of “needs descriptors” that professionals can use to decide what kind of SEND a child or young person has and how severe and complex their needs are.

The Matrix also includes suggestions of:

- the evidence that professional can use to help them assess the child or young person’s needs
 - The kind and level of support and provision that is likely to be needed to meet those needs
2. One set of funding bands that can be used for mainstream, resourced mainstream and special schools

The Matrix

Need descriptors for each of the 4 main SEND categories, across 6 levels of severity and complexity

Sensory and/or physical			Communication & interaction		SEMH	Cognition & learning
PD, PNI, SP, Ind.	Hearing	Vision	S&L	Social Communication ASD		

PD = Physical Disability

PNI = Persistent Neurological illness

SP = Sensory Processing

Ind = Independence

S&L = Speech and Language

ASD = Autistic Spectrum Disorder

SEMH = Social, emotional or mental health

Funding Model

The following slides describe proposals for a single Funding Matrix that:

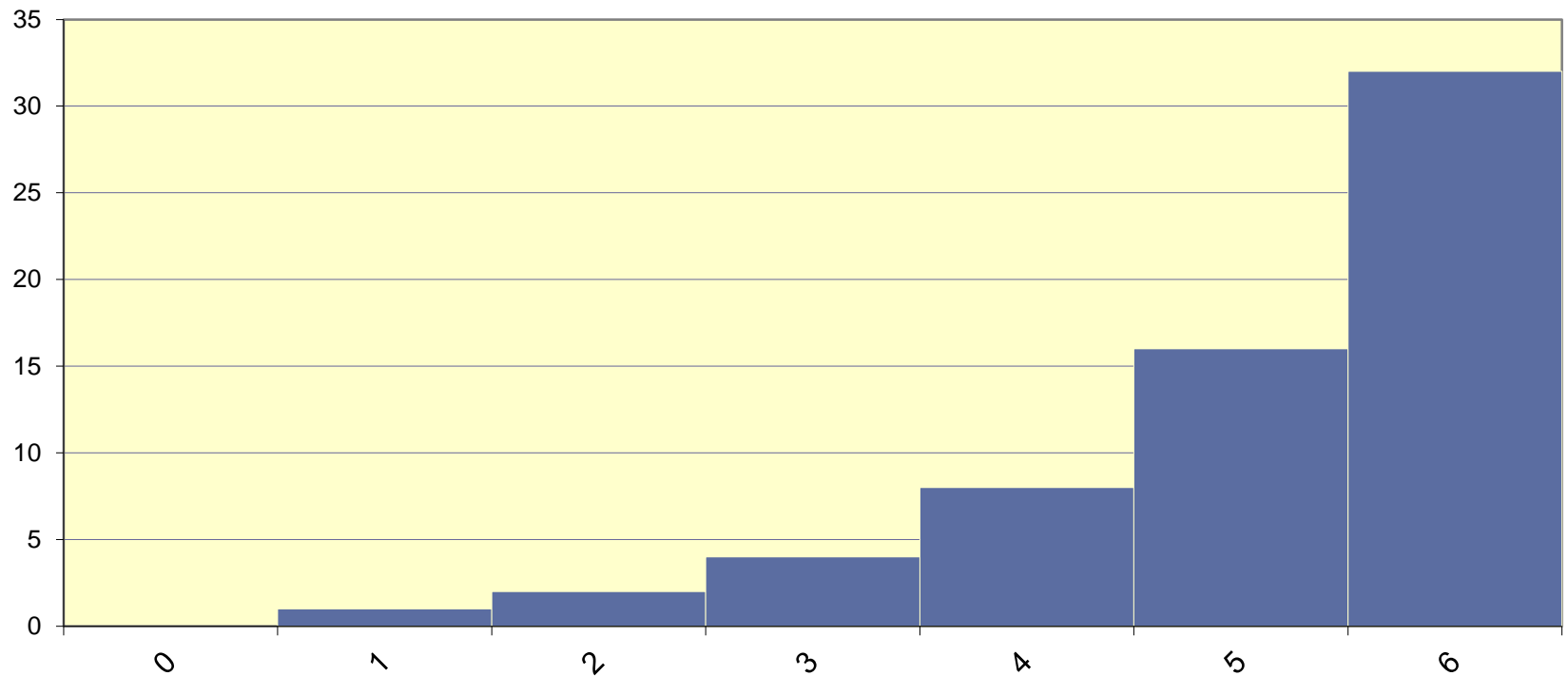
- Can be applied across, mainstream, resourced mainstream and specialist provision
- Translates the 6 levels across 4 categories within the Needs Descriptor Matrix to 11 bands within Funding Matrix

Weighting the descriptor levels

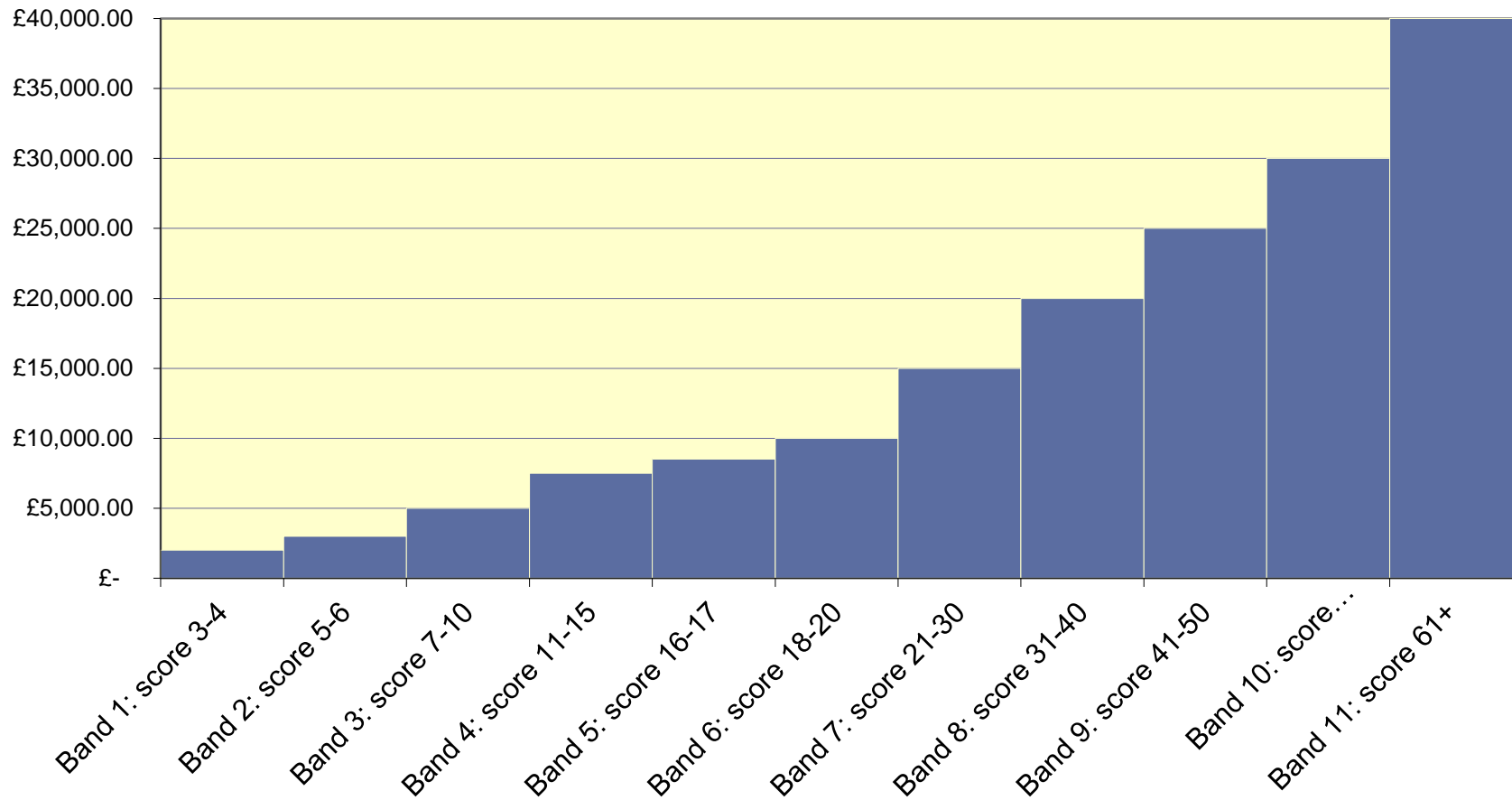
The 6 levels have been weighted to ensure that scores reflect increasing complexity of need and associated support/provision required:

Level	Sensory/Physical	Communication & Interaction	SEMH	Cognition & Learning
	Scores			
0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	4	4	4	4
4	8	8	8	8
5	16	16	16	16
6	32	32	32	32

Weighting the descriptor levels

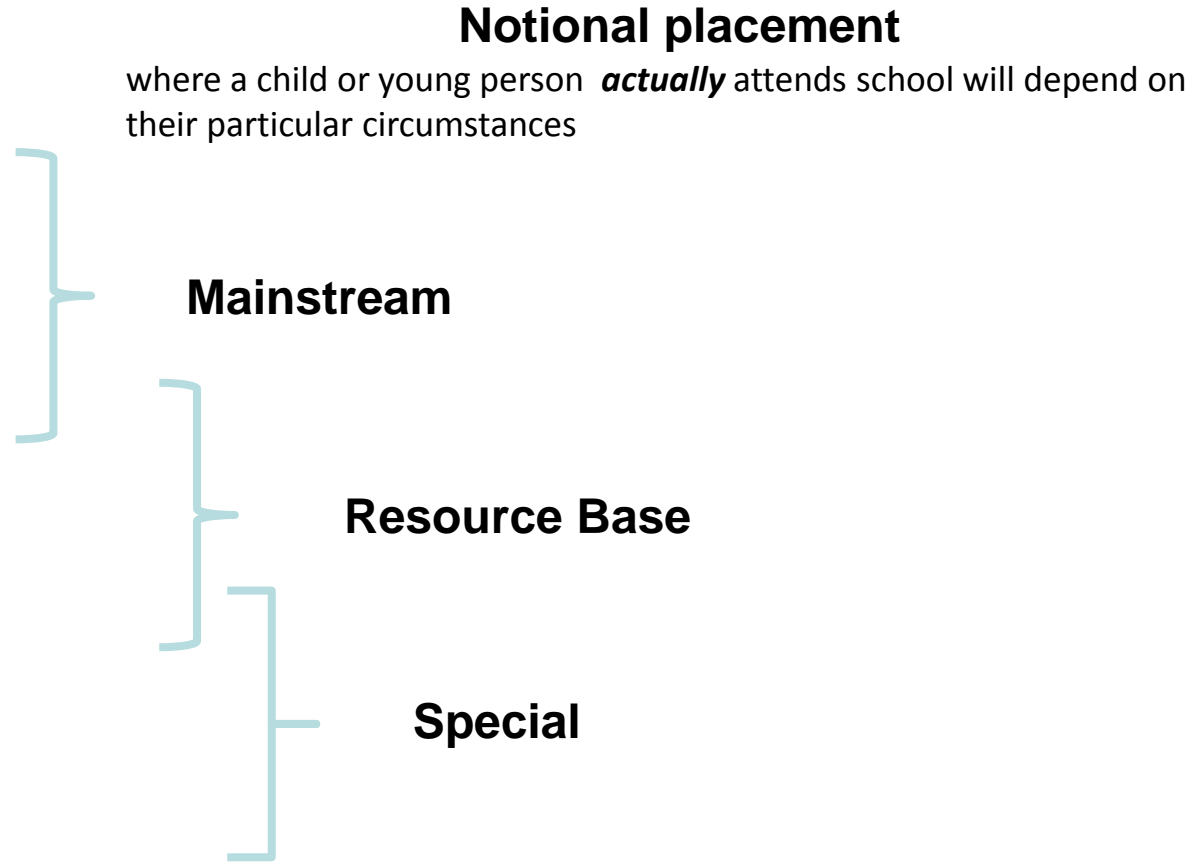


Matrix scores map onto 11 progressive levels of funding



Funding within a single banding model

Boundaries		Top Up
Band	Range	
1	3-4	2,000
2	5-6	3,000
3	7-10	5,000
4	11-15	7,500
5	16-17	8,500
6	18-20	10,000
7	21-30	15,000
8	31-40	20,000
9	41-50	25,000
10	51-60	30,000
11	61+	40,000



Top-up funding above Band 11 considered on a case-by-case basis for children and young people who's SEND are so severe and complex that they cannot be met within Band 11. 2 children in Slough currently receive a top-up of more than £40,000

Examples for illustration

E.G.1	Sense and/or phys.			Comm & interact		SEMH	Cog. & learn	Total (range)	Band	Value
	PD, PNI, SP, Ind.	Hearing	Vision	S&L	Soc, Comm/ ASD					
Level	1	0	0	2	1	1	3			
Score	1			2		1	4	8	3	5,000

(Highest level taken to create score)

(Weighting based on slide 9)

Examples for illustration

E.G.2	Sense and/or phys.			Comm & interact		SEMH	Cog. & learn	Total (range)	Band	Value
	PD, PNI, SP, Ind.	Hearing	Vision	S&L	Soc, Comm/ ASD					
Level	3	0	0	1	4	5	3			
Score	4			8		16	4	32	8	20,000

What happens next?

We hope to begin to implement the changes from the beginning of April 2019.

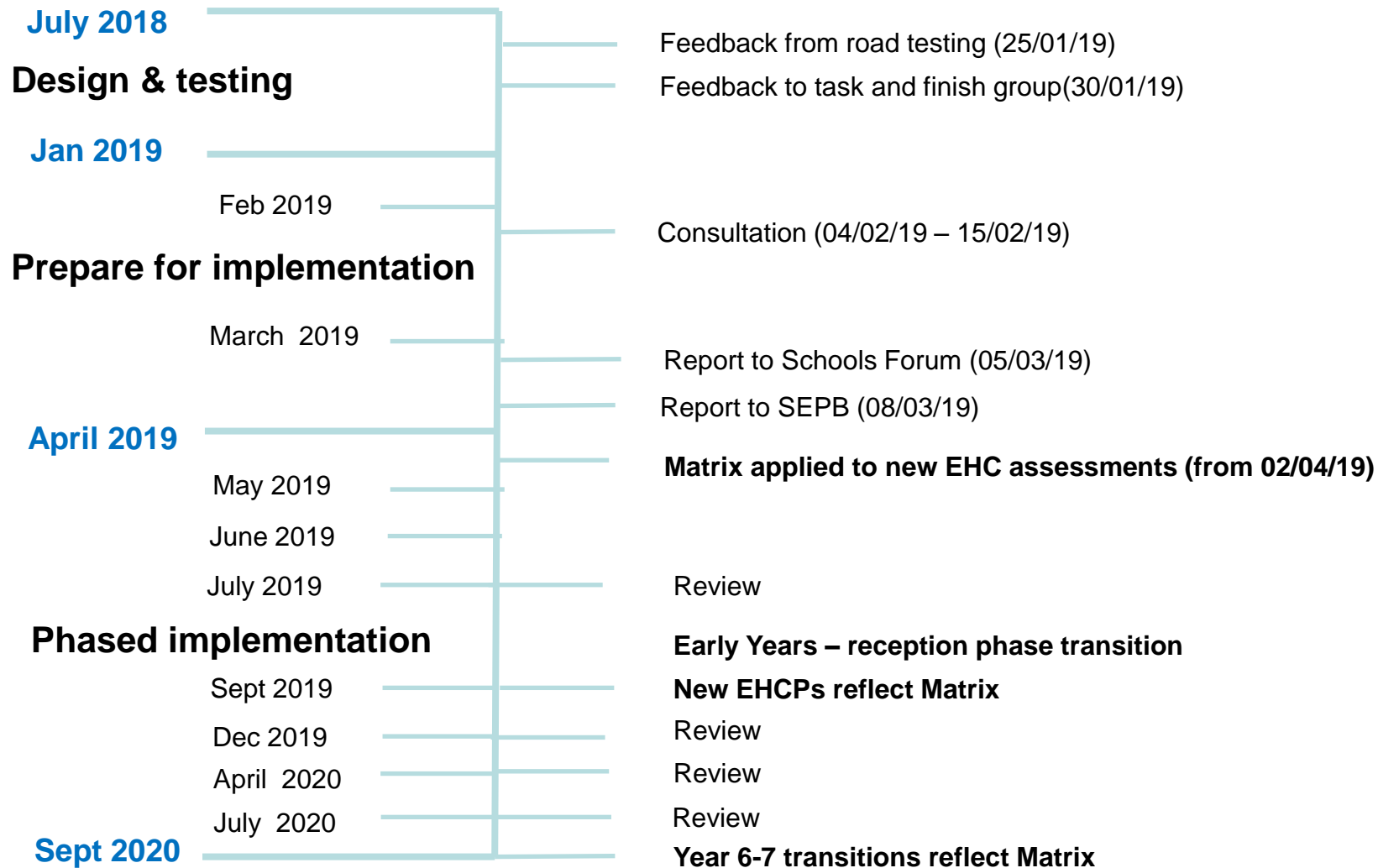
From 2nd April, the new model will be used for:

- All **new** Education, health and care assessments, including children entering school for the 1st time in September 2019
- Children who already have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) who move from primary to secondary school in September 2020 – that is children who are currently in Year 5

If a child already has an (EHCP), there will be **no change** to his or her funding unless or until:

- They transition to the next phase of education (from 2020)
- Their needs change and a re-assessment is required.

Milestones and timelines



Next steps

We are determined to implement the changes very carefully to make sure that we learn from experience along the way and, also, that no child or young person is disadvantaged as a result of the changes.

We will review how the model is working in July and December 2019 and also in April and July 2020

We want to know what you think. Please take the time to answer the short survey. The survey also provides an opportunity for you to ask any questions or raise concerns. We will publish answers to the most frequently asked questions on the Local Offer and The Link