

To All Schools

Further to our communication to schools last week and now including Heads, we are writing to restate the position on end of year returns and new year budgets as follows.....

We are aware that this is a very difficult time for everyone and especially schools and we just want to reassure you that the schools advance payments of budget shares and other payments will be made in April and in the months to come.

In terms of closing the accounts for 2019-20, we are aware that this might be challenging too in present circumstances. For those that buy into Ealing's bursarial team, I know you have scheduled visits this week and next week. If there are any problems with meeting with the bursarial team could you let them and us know as soon as possible.

For all schools (including those that do not buy into the Ealing bursarial service) can you email schools accountancy at the usual address : SchoolsAccountancyServices@ealing.gov.uk if you anticipate a problem with returning your closing documents by the 27 March 2020. We would appreciate you letting us know where you have difficulties in completing the returns as we are keen to work with schools to agree a pragmatic approach wherever possible, given that there are likely to be other competing priorities for schools. If you have any other financial concerns related to the current circumstances then also please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

All Schools should now be aware of their budget shares for 20-21 which we sent out to you at the end of February 2020 – this should give you re-assurance as to the level of funds available to continue support any of your key suppliers through this difficult period.

If the new 2020/21 budget cannot be formally agreed as yet due to COVID-19, then it would be acceptable for schools to proceed with any urgent payments etc using the previously agreed limits from the Head Teacher (and/or the Finance Committee or Governing Board) during the 2019/2020 year.

We appreciate also that there may be delays submitting the CFR, SFVS and other returns, but please do not worry about this as there is likely to be an extension from the DFE.

Thank you for you anticipated cooperation.

*Kind Regards
Schools Accountancy*

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