

## Briefing note

**To:** Michael Johnston,  
Mark Longstaff and SEN  
Working Group

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**Title:** High Needs funding 2016/17 - ASD

**Purpose of paper:**

The purpose of this briefing note is to inform the paper on High Needs Block funding for the Schools Forum financial decision making in December 2015.

**Approach:**

A working group met in the Spring and Summer of 2015 to consider the pressure that had been identified in the provision of places for pupils with ASD.

**Pressures:**

There are currently a small number of young children with ASD requiring specialist provision and there is no capacity in Special Schools. Pupils with ASD can display behavioural needs and as a result there are also a number of children who have been placed in the Silverdale Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Primary ARP, whose prime need is ASD. These pupils are not successfully reintegrating into mainstream provision and as a result are creating a pressure for places in the SEMH Primary ARP. There is now a waiting list for the SEMH ARP.

**Recommendations:**

The support for young children with ASD working group recommends that a “deep dive” into ASD provision funded via the High Needs Block is required, in order that capacity can be realigned to meet current demand.