

Split sites eligibility criteria

For a school to be eligible for split site funding they must have at least one additional site which:

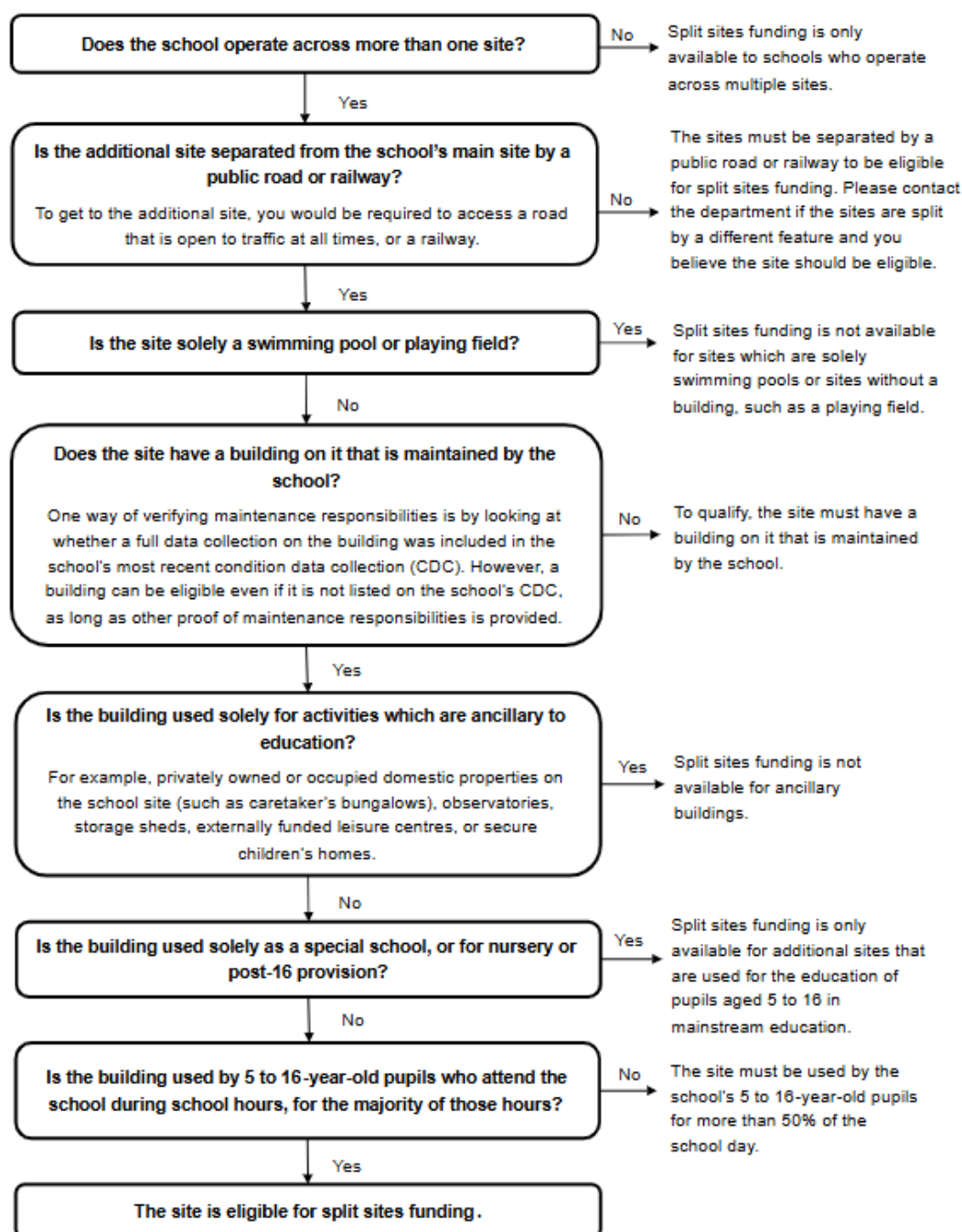
- does not have a different school URN to the school's main site
- is separated from the school's main site by a road or a railway
- has a building on it which is maintained by the school. We are following the definition of a building used by the DfE Condition Data Collection programme (CDC): a block located on a school site which is owned, controlled and/or maintained by the school and which is primarily used for educational purposes. This excludes any 'ancillary' buildings, swimming pools or playing fields
- is used primarily for the educational purposes of 5 to 16-year-olds in mainstream education. Therefore, this excludes any sites used solely for special schools (for example, within the same multi-academy trust), nurseries, or school sixth forms

When we refer to a 'split site school' in this guidance, we mean one which meets the above criteria.

Please use the following chart to assess schools' eligibility for split sites funding.

If the site is eligible for split sites funding. Please fill in the form provided and send to SchoolsFinance@Birmingham.gov.uk

Figure 2: split site funding flow chart



1. As amended by 'The Education (Amount to Follow Permanently Excluded Pupils)(Amendment)(England) Regulations 2001 S.I 2001/870'. [↪](#)
2. More information can be found on the [Condition Data Collection 2 \(CDC\) programme](#). You can check whether a building meets CDC criteria by checking the school's latest CDC Site Plan. [↪](#)
3. Buildings whose use is ancillary to education, including privately owned or occupied domestic properties on the school site, for example, caretaker's bungalows, observatories, storage sheds, externally funded leisure centres, and secure children's homes. [↪](#)

Eligibility checker for specific scenarios

A school currently receives split sites funding from their local authority but does not meet the eligibility criteria outlined in this guidance

Schools that do not meet the eligibility criteria outlined in this guidance would not be eligible for split sites funding from 2024 to 2025. They will, however, have their funding protected through the NFF funding floor, and the MFG in their local formulae.

A school's sites are separated by a road that is closed during the day

The road must be a throughway for vehicular traffic at all times, so the school would not be eligible for split sites funding.

A school's sites are separated by a road that leads to our school car park

The road must be a throughway for traffic at all times, so the school would not be eligible for split sites funding.

A school's second site is separate from their main site, but on the same side of the road

If pupils and/or teachers have to leave the school site and walk alongside a road in order to access the additional site, the school would be eligible for split sites funding.

A school's second site is separated from their main site by a feature that is not a public road or railway

If a school's sites are separated by a feature not covered in the eligibility criteria, but you believe they should be eligible for split sites funding, please contact us with details of the school's circumstances at la.disapplications@education.gov.uk.

A school has a sixth form or nursery which operates on a separate site

Split sites funding is only available for sites that are used primarily for educating pupils aged 5 to 16. For a site which is used by both school-aged pupils and post-16 pupils, or both school-aged pupils and pre-school pupils, eligibility will depend on how a school uses the site. If the site is primarily used by 5 to 16-year-old pupils that attend the school during school hours, alongside other aged pupils, the site would be eligible.

A school has an additional site that is used to support pupils with any behavioural or additional needs

A site used to support 5 to 16-year-old mainstream pupils on the school roll, who have behavioural or additional needs, would be eligible for split sites funding.

A school has an additional site that is used to support mainstream pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)

A site used to support 5 to 16-year-old mainstream pupils on the school roll who have SEND, including a site used exclusively for a special unit or resourced provision, would be eligible for split sites funding.

A school has an additional site that is shared with pupils from another school

A site shared with mainstream pupils from a different school but is used primarily by 5 to 16-year-old pupils on the school's roll that owns it, controls and/or maintains the site, would be eligible for split sites funding.

A school has a playing field on a separate site that has a storage unit

To be eligible for split sites funding, the additional site must have a building not including those classed as 'ancillary'. Therefore, an additional site that is a playing field, even if it has a storage shed on it, is not eligible for funding.

A school has a sports centre on an additional site that is rented out to the community after school and during weekends

If the sports centre is owned and managed by the school and is used by 5 to 16-year-old pupils at the school during the majority of school hours for educational purposes, the school would be eligible for split sites funding.

A school's second site is a swimming pool

In line with longstanding government policy, additional sites that are only swimming pools are not eligible for split sites funding. If the additional site includes a swimming pool alongside other buildings such as classrooms or sports facilities used by pupils during the school day that meet the eligibility criteria, the school would be eligible for funding.

A school rents a building that is on a separate site from our main site

If the building is rented by the school from another entity, but the school has maintenance responsibilities for the building and the building is primarily used by 5 to 16-year-old pupils that attend the school during the school day for educational purposes, the school would be eligible to receive split sites funding.

A school owns a building on a separate site from their main site that is leased out to another entity full time

If the school is leasing out a building to another entity full time, the school would not be eligible to receive split sites funding.

A school owns a building on a separate site from their main site that is leased out to other entities part of the time

If the school is leasing out a building to another entity part of the time, the school has maintenance responsibilities for the building, and the building is used primarily by the school's 5 to 16-year-old pupils during the school day for educational purposes, the school would receive split sites funding.

Split sites funding calculation

For 2024 to 2025 split sites funding must be calculated using the same formula as used in the 2024 to 2025 NFF.

The split sites factor is made up of two parts, both of which are compulsory:

- basic eligibility funding: schools attract a lump sum payment for each of their additional eligible sites – up to a maximum of three additional sites.
- distance funding: additional eligible sites that are separated from the school's main site by more than 100 metres attract distance funding on top of the basic eligibility funding – up to a maximum of three additional sites.

Funding for the 'distance' element will be allocated through a tapered approach, beginning at 100 metres (sites must be at least 100m apart to qualify for "distance" funding), with allocations increasing linearly up to 500 metres, from which point schools should receive the total maximum funding available.

The NFF lump sum for basic eligibility is £55,294, and the NFF maximum distance funding is £27,697. Local authorities are required to uplift these values with their respective ACA in their local formulae – subject to the 2.5% mirroring threshold. For the 5 local authorities partially within the London fringe the lower ACA should be used and the additional funding for those schools within the fringe area will be allocated through the London fringe factor.

The final funding rates will be published in the Schools Forum reports on 15 January 2026.

For each site that meets the criteria for split sites distance funding, we calculate a distance weighting. This tapers the proportion of the distance funding unit value according to how close to the main distance threshold their split site road distance is.

The distance weighting for schools with a split site distance greater than or equal to the main distance threshold is 1.

The distance weighting for split site schools with distances between the main and tapered thresholds is calculated as follows:

$$W = 1 - ((500 - d) / (500 - 100)), \text{ where } d > 100$$

where:

W is the distance weighting

500 relates to the distance threshold in metres

100 relates to the tapered distance threshold in metres

d is the school's split site distance

The worked example below shows how split site funding for schools is calculated.

The example is based on a local authority with an area cost adjustment of 1.

A school with 2 additional sites, the first is 300 metres from the main site and the second is 50 metres from the main site.

Basic eligibility:

$$2 \text{ sites} * £55,294 = £110,588$$

Distance weighting:

$$\text{first site} = 1 - ((500 - 300) / (500 - 100)) = 0.5$$

$$\text{second site} = 0 \text{ (the distance is less than 100 metres)}$$

Distance funding:

$$\text{first site} = £27,697 * 0.5 = £13,849$$

$$\text{second site} = £0$$

Total split sites funding:

$$£110,588 + £13,849 = £124,437$$