

School Funding/National Funding Formula - March 2017

We, the undersigned, support and acknowledge the following contextual factors relating to school funding and the proposed new National Funding Formula, set to be introduced in April 2018:

- The new National Funding Formula provides an important opportunity to improve funding mechanisms that are currently used to allocate money to schools. The Government's decision to introduce a much needed new formula is welcomed as are the key tenets of fairness, transparency and stability.
- The Government is operating in a challenging financial climate and funding arrangements for schools must take into account the financial constraints faced.
- Currently, school leaders are having to make significant cuts to services which are negatively impacting upon the education provision and care of pupils in schools.
- We recognise that adequate (minimum) funding will be different in different areas of the country.

We, the undersigned, support the following action:

- The government must honour its 2015 manifesto commitment:
"Under a future Conservative Government the amount of money following your child in to school will be protected...there will be a real-terms increase in the schools budget in the next Parliament".
- The Department for Education must find out - and then publish - a clear breakdown of what it costs to adequately fund each child in school (for each Key Stage) and convert this into a minimum school funding guarantee.
- Any new formula will determine that schools in England are funded at different but adequate levels.
- The Department for Education must ensure that in times of austerity overall spending decisions and associated policy directives provide clear and established value for money.
- A new National Funding Formula should not be established in isolation from inflationary cost pressures.

Signed:

All schools and their executive associations:

Brighton (secondary)
Cambridgeshire
Cornwall
Devon

East Sussex
Essex
Hertfordshire
Norfolk

Peterborough
Suffolk
Surrey
Thurrock

Wokingham
West Sussex

