

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure you are aware of the media coverage of the government's proposed National Funding Formula changes for schools, these will come into schools from April 2018 onwards. These proposals have also come at a time of greatly increased pressure on school budgets.

Mr Sands, our Chair of Governors and I have taken the decision to write to you about these changes, in their proposed form, as together with school budget pressures, these will have serious impact – not just on our school, but many, many more schools locally and nationally.

As parents you have the opportunity to respond to these proposed changes - make your views heard!

The National Funding Formula *should* mean a fairer process of allocating funds across all schools, meeting the needs of all pupils. However, this cannot overcome an **overall** shortage of funds at a time when school budgets are stretched, under immense pressure.

With the proposed formula it is estimated by **2019** our school could lose approximately **£439** per pupil, equating approximately to **£46977!** (Schoolcuts.org.uk website)

Schools' budgets are already under pressure:

- School budgets have remained the same over 3 years; effectively this is a cut as other costs continue to rise.
- The cost for National Insurance rises, living wage and pay increases has to be met by schools with no extra funding coming into budget to meet this. Abolition nationally of the Education Services grant (£600million) means that school services such as HR, H&S have to be bought in, as a traded service, at extra cost to school.
- Rising costs of goods and services some that now have to be bought in.

All of the above amount to an 8% extra cost pressure to be met out of an unchanging budget.

Plus factors such as:

- Reduced eligibility for Free School Meals, leading to less Pupil Premium
- The increased cost of funding the services needed for children with additional needs.

The pressure on budgets already felt will continue and worsen with the government's proposed funding formula. For the past year, schools have already been making cuts at many and different levels, to continue to provide the best for their children. As in many schools, our cuts and cost saving have been seen in staff training reduction, resource procurement, reduction in bought-in services.

What can we do?

- Write to our local MP Rt Hon Lindsay Hoyle MP 33-39 Market St , Chorley PR7 2SW (MP for Chorley)
- Email Lindsay Hoyle MP Hoyle Lindsay.hoyle.mp@parliament.uk
- Visit the schoolcuts.org.uk website to sign the online petition.
- Complete the Schools National Funding Formula consultation by 22nd March, either google or follow this link

I will be working with our Governors, to ensure we do whatever we can to limit the effect of these cuts where/ if possible and will also be writing to our local MP Lindsay Hoyle about the negative impact that such cuts would have on our school.

Thank you for taking the time to read these concerns.
Please help!

Yours sincerely

Mrs L J Carter-Clavell