

Dear Parent or Carer,

School Funding

You may have seen stories in the press recently regarding school funding. There have been worrying headlines and we felt it important to let you know, as far as we are able at this stage, how this may affect our school.

School budgets across the country have been under pressure for some time and many schools have already had to make difficult decisions to cut staffing and reduce resources in order to balance their school budgets. The National Association of Headteachers (NAHT) has shown that seven out of ten school leaders think that their budgets will be unsustainable by April 2019.

Our school currently remains in a secure financial position but this is largely due to the additional money we receive from the Pupil Premium funding. This funding is provided to school for any pupils who are entitled to free school meals and the school continues to receive this money for up six years (even if the child was only registered for free school meals for a few weeks).

Currently, this funding supports 11 additional members of staff across school. There is a full report about how we spend this money, and how much school currently receive, on our school website (Our School/Policies & Reports/Pupil Premium Report 2017-2018 and Pupil Premium Strategy 2018-2019).

However, since the introduction of a free meal for all infant children (universal free meals) we have seen a significant reduction in the number of families registering for full entitlement and therefore school has been receiving less money from the Pupil Premium allocation. We must maintain this top up funding at the maximum level possible so we can continue to provide the current level of staffing and resources.

If you are entitled to any benefits then school can receive an additional £1320 per child every year. Please help us to receive as much as we can from the Pupil Premium funding and therefore hopefully avoid any cuts to our school provision. Over the next few weeks we will be contacting parents or carers of every child who is currently not receiving Pupil Premium funding to check if they may be entitled to this additional funding.

If you want to find out now if your child may be entitled then please speak to Mrs Bozward or Miss Oliver in the school office.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs P Farnell (Headteacher)



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