



1st February, 2017

Dear parent/carer,

School Funding

We are writing to you to highlight the funding challenges that our school faces, and will face in the coming years. You may have seen a number of stories in the media around this issue, and we wanted to inform you about how our own school is affected.

In recent years it has become apparent that current budgets are unsustainable. The senior leadership team at Pinfold Street has been grappling with the funding challenges, leading to a number of tough decisions being made. The Local Authority have increased charges for services that were previously free (e.g. swimming and library services) and off-loading charges onto schools that we have previously not had to pay for (most recently Safeguarding checks and a request to pay the salaries of the crossing patrol personnel.)

Moves to a national funding formula for schools, creating a fairer funding system, will not bring the benefits to our school that we had hoped to see. The School Cuts website, analysing DfE funding data, projects that our school, along with other schools in the local authority, will lose £155,000 in the next two years. This is equivalent to four teachers. (Visit the schoolcuts.org website where you can lobby Valerie Vaz, MP and sign a petition requesting better funding for education.)

Our school is not alone. The National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) has shown that more than half (55%) of school leaders in a recent survey felt that their deficit would be untenable by 2018/19. Funding pressures are being felt across all phases and in all schools, not just our own.

The school works hard to ensure that cuts have the least amount of impact on teaching as possible. However, rising costs and a static budget mean that many tough decisions have had to have been made. In the future, we cannot guarantee that such cuts will not impact on core teaching, despite doing our utmost to prevent this.

Please be assured that the school will take the utmost care with budgets, to ensure all the money we have is spent effectively on your children.

We promise to let you know you in plenty of time if our budget means we'll have to take a significant decision on staffing or activities.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Pearce
Chair of Governors

Sally-Ann Sinclair
Headteacher

SCHOOL



Pinfold Street Primary School

Walsall

Unless the Government allocates more money, schools will lose £3 billion a year in real terms by 2020.

98% of schools' costs are rising faster than their income.

60% of secondary schools are running deficit budgets.

[View local authority totals for Walsall.](#)

GET INVOLVED

IMPACT



-£155,171

Budget change by 2019 ^[1]



-£376

Per pupil ^[2]



-4

Teachers ^[3]

More information available on the www.schoolcuts.org website

Just enter the school postcode: WS10 8PU