

Leadership School Funding Update – England

DfE allocations to schools and local authorities – devolved capital funding for 2017/18 and capital funding for growth in pupil numbers for 2019/20

The Department for Education (DfE) has announced devolved capital allocations for schools and local authorities for **2017/18**. The announcement is available via www.gov.uk/government/publications/capital-allocations.

The DfE has published data on the quantum of devolved capital allocations for:

- local authorities;
- voluntary aided schools as a group within individual local authorities;
- multi-academy trusts;
- sixth-form colleges;
- non-maintained special schools;

but has not yet published the data for all schools. Full school-level data will be available in May 2017. Until then, individual schools can use a ready reckoner, available via the link above, to estimate their own devolved capital allocation.

The DfE has also published details of capital funding to local authorities for **2019/20**, to address the increase in pupil numbers in many local authorities (known as 'basic need' funding). Details are available via www.gov.uk/government/publications/basic-need-allocations.

The funding allocation is derived from the Government's survey of school capacity which is available via www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-capacity-academic-year-2015-to-2016. This includes forecasts of future school capacity up to 2019/20.

The basic need funding of £980 million can be used by local authorities to expand existing local authority maintained schools to ensure sufficient capacity for increased pupil numbers. The NASUWT has taken action against the Government's policy of total academisation since 2010 and welcomes the Government's recognition of the continuing role of local authorities as providers of education, together with the provision of additional funding for this role.

However, the NASUWT has always been clear that this additional funding does not increase the Government's per pupil spending on schools, but instead provides for additional pupil numbers. School funding remains static and the NASUWT will continue to campaign for a significant real-terms investment in education funding.

For further information about school funding, please see www.nasuw.org.uk/advice/leadership/budgets-funding/england.html.

