

**NATIONAL SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA 2015/16  
HEREFORDSHIRE CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM**

**Appendix 2**

Please complete the response form by filling in the columns below.

<b>Q1: PRIMARY SECONDARY FUNDING RATIO</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you agree with a continued reduction of £6,000 in the primary lump sum to move the primary secondary funding ratio to 1.22 and the associated funding transfer of £200,000 from primary schools to secondary schools in accordance with the five year funding strategy set out last year in September 2013? i.e. the primary lump sum reduces to £93,000 and the secondary lump sum increases to £130,500.	14	2
If 'NO' please explain why:		
<b>Q2: PRIMARY SPARSITY – Option B(i)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you agree that the sparsity allocation for primary schools should be increased to £28,000 in 2015/16 in order to provide additional funding to qualifying schools?	12	2
If 'NO' please explain why:		
<b>Q3: SECONDARY SPARSITY - Option B(ii)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you agree that sparsity funding for secondary schools should be abolished and to increase the secondary lump sum by a further £1,750?	15	0
If 'NO' please explain why:		

Q4: PRIMARY LOW PRIOR ATTAINMENT	Yes	No
<p>Either Option C(i)</p> <p>That the funding allocation for primary low prior attainment be amended from £228 per pupil not achieving 78 points on the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile to £428 per pupil in 2015/16?</p> <p>Note: Ever-6 Free school meals funding will be correspondingly reduced from £2,860 per pupil to £2,550</p> <p>Or Option C(ii)</p> <p>Alternatively, that the funding allocation for primary low prior attainment be amended from £228 per pupil not achieving 78 points on the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile to £628 per pupil in 2015/16?</p> <p>Note: Ever-6 Free school meals funding will be correspondingly reduced from £2,860 per pupil to £2,260.</p>	<p>8 for £428</p> <p>6 for £628</p>	
<p>If 'NO' please explain why:</p>		
Q5: SECONDARY LOW PRIOR ATTAINMENT	Yes	No
<p>Either Option C(iii)</p> <p>That the funding allocation for secondary low prior attainment is increased from £148 per pupil not achieving level 4 in Maths OR English to £648 per pupil in 2015/16?</p> <p>Note: Ever-6 Free school meals funding will be correspondingly reduced from £2,860 per pupil to £2,113</p> <p>Or Option C(iv)</p> <p>That the funding allocation for secondary low prior attainment is increased from £148 per pupil not achieving level 4 in Maths OR English to £1,148 per pupil in 2015/16?</p> <p>Note: Ever-6 Free school meals funding will be correspondingly reduced from £2,860 per pupil to £1,430</p>	<p>5 for £648</p> <p>8 for £1,148</p>	<p>1 (but prefers £648 as least worst option)</p>

If 'NO' please explain why:		
<b>Q6: NOTIONAL SEN BUDGET</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Do you agree that the basis for the Notional SEN budget is fairly calculated and no further changes are required?	13	
If 'NO' please explain why:		
<b>Q7: BUDGET PROTECTION FOR HIGH NEEDS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
Would you prefer that		
a) the current high needs protection scheme is phased out as planned?		3 (2 high & 1 primary)
b) or continue to provide budget protection at the original level i.e. to cap the additional high needs costs at £60 per pupil?	9	
c) or to provide protection but at a lower level than above?.	1	
If 'NO' please explain why:		

Q8: DE-DELEGATION	Yes	No
Do you agree that for local authority maintained schools, the current de-delegation of funding should continue for		
(a) trade union facilities	13	2*(1
(b) ethnic minority support	14	academy)
(c) free school meals administration	15	1
		0
Please answer individually for each service		
If 'NO' please explain why:		
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### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

1. Kingsland letter – agrees with overall principles but concerned about pupil premium and considers deprivation funding in school funding formula should be reduced as pupil premium increases.
2. Pembridge- More work needed to support and fairly fund rural schools. Rural schools need greater funding to ensure their pupils get equivalent opportunity to those in City. Alongside work on viability of each individual school. Need strategic decision about how to plan for next 5, 10, 15 years. Schools may need to federate or close. Needs process that is planned and not done in emergency . Herefordshire still underfunded despite DfE increase. Apply more pressure to DfE.
3. St Mary's High - Ethnic Minority Funding should be charged as SLA for those schools using the service.Happy to pay FSM admin costs through de-delegation but would not expect an additional charge per pupil during the year.
4. Brampton Abbots – Primary Secondary Funding ratio - so long as we are only moving to an average ratio of the similar type of local authority in our family. A continuation to provide budget protection for high needs pupils is greatly appreciated. I also believe that this approach creates 'anti-inclusion' as it can be seen as 'detrimental' (financially) to schools to accept high needs pupils that have not been budgeted for.
5. St Francis Xavier Primary Schools are going to suffer more with the increase in pension contributions for support staff as generally they have a larger pupil support staff ratio than secondary schools. Primary sparsity – No because middle to larger schools have lower funding per pupil and are having to have larger classes in order to meet budget requirements.
6. Almeley & Pembridge - More work needs to be done to support the rural nature of Herefordshire and fund fairly the many Rural Schools. Rural schools need greater funding to ensure our pupils receive the equivalent opportunities to those in the city. Many rural families are disadvantaged enough already through lack of services,

opportunities etc. There is a national gap in progress made by rural pupils, we have to have more funding to close this gap. To run alongside this extra funding there needs to be work carried out by the LA to look at the viability of each individual school. There needs to be strategic decisions made about how to plan for the next 5, 10, 15 years etc. Schools may need to federate, share teachers, other staff and heads. This needs to be a process that is planned for and not done in an emergency. Despite the increase in funding from the DFE we are still underfunded, more pressure needs to be applied to the DFE to get fair funding for all Herefordshire Schools.

7. Almeley - Pressure needs to be applied on the DFE to ensure our SEN pupils are properly funded. No school should have to pay the first £6000 regardless of their size. The most needy pupils are disadvantaged enough without this. Schools with larger numbers of SEN pupils are then disadvantaged by this unfair system. Small schools with a strong reputation for success with SEN pupils are then doubly disadvantaged.
8. Earl Mortimer - Small schools with high needs pupils struggle to meet the cost of individual learning support from the budget. The economies in larger schools are not available in small settings. Where a small school takes, say, just 2 high needs pupils the cost of the first £6k for each child amounts to a significant % of the school's total budget. When planning provision for other potential high needs pupils or for LCHI SEN in the school, concerns turn to affordability rather than the optimum support for the pupils. Suggest the additional high needs should cost primaries no more than £120 per pupil.
9. Hereford Academy has a high proportion of Ever 6 students and the net effect of this adjustment will hit The Academy the hardest of all schools in Herefordshire – projected figure is -£70k with likelihood of more adjustments to areas of deprivation in following years. We would request assistance to be able to adjust to these proposed cuts.
10. Fairfield - It is clear that Herefordshire is out of step with national comparators and change is needed. Increasing numbers of low prior attainments have been joining Fairfield over the past few years whereas FSM have not really moved. It is felt that this situation is unlikely to change in the near future and thus additional funding should be directed to low prior attainment.
11. Bishops – De-delegation -Union members already pay for their representation therefore we should not have to find this from our budget.
12. Weobley primary - As this amount will ultimately reduce to £75K – our fixed costs are more than this amount so additional funds will have to be found in other ways putting additional strain on our budget.  
It remains a concern for myself and the Governing Body at the continued reduction in funding and services given the higher expectations on schools to provide high levels of support for children and families. As services and funding is cut in other areas such as Social Care, it is falling more and more to schools to provide vital support.

- 13 As an educator, I am passionate about providing the best opportunities for children in our schools both to support their learning and other needs. With the squeeze yearly on budgets and available funds, this is becoming increasingly difficult to do which is a great sadness and concern. The 5 year reduction of £30K on Primary schools is crippling. Free schools that have been allowed to open when no need for extra places was an issue are also having a detrimental effect on our school budget and indeed the budgets of all Herefordshire schools.
  
14. Credenhill primary – would like Schools Forum to use the mobility factor in the funding formula due to high numbers of transfer in/outs of service children Know this would be supported by Stretton Sugwas too.