

## HEREFORDSHIRE SCHOOL FUNDING

1. The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) from central government is paid as a ring-fenced specific grant and must be used in support of the Schools Budget. It is the main source of income for the Schools Budget and can be used for no other purpose. It is based upon a per pupil formula using the January School Census data.
2. National funding reflects factors such as deprivation which affect urban and rural areas in different ways. The county has one of the lowest funding levels of the nationally distributed DSG at an overall ranking of 147 out of 149.
3. Pupil numbers in the county are decreasing annually.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Pupil Reduction</b>	<b>Amount per pupil £</b>	<b>DSG Reduction £</b>
06/07 - 07/08	Actual	278	3,523	979,394
07/08 - 08/09	Actual	326	3,687	1,201,962
08/09 - 09/10	Actual	342	3,830	1,309,860

The total reduction in pupils over the period is 946 and the DSG reduction is cumulative. So in this financial year, if the pupil numbers had remained at 2006-7 levels, the authority would have had £3,623,180 additional funding.

4. The total small schools protection element in 2008-9 was £958,609.
  - i. 69 schools receive some form of protection
  - ii. In Primary Schools it is £109.80 per pupil below 200 on roll (63 schools).
  - iii. In High Schools it is £215.35 per pupil below 655 on roll (6 schools).
5. Every school receives a fixed base allocation for management and premises as shown below :

	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Special</b>
<b>2008-9</b>	29,292	13,681	11,876
<b>2009-10</b>	30,083	14,051	12,196

6. Maintaining the status quo in terms of numbers of settings means that every school in the authority has reduced levels of funding and overall pupil entitlement is compromised in relation to that of other authorities. A strategic evaluation of existing provision is required in order to achieve the most effective use of resources available, by reducing levels of funding currently maintaining individual premises in various forms of protection and by increasing funding to directly support teaching and learning in schools. It is evident that any school reorganisation producing fewer schools will result in a combination of savings including fixed costs for individual premises and the small schools protection element. All remaining schools will benefit from these savings as they will stay within the ISB for redistribution via the funding formula across a smaller number of schools.