

Schools Newsletter



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Greetings!

The [Schools Forum](#) acts as a consultative body for the County Council on some financial issues on schools budgets, (e.g. changes to the local funding formula) and a decision-making body on others, (e.g. moving allocations between the funding streams). The total budget for schools in 2018 - 19 is about £454M. Forum comprises mainly representatives from schools and academies from all phases, special, primary and secondary. There is also some representation from organisations, such as nursery and 16 - 19 education providers.

Each of three major budgets (Schools, High Needs and Early Years) is under severe pressure owing to the simultaneous impacts of many factors including salary rises, inflation, increasing numbers of students with high needs and their complexity of need, the Apprenticeship Levy, and recruitment and retention of staff.

Furthermore, the reduction in the lump sum in the Schools Budget has had a particularly significant impact on small schools. This made budget setting for 2018 -19 particularly challenging (and depressing).

As a result of these pressures, Forum decided to start

Quick Links

[Education Directorate Structure Diagram](#)

[SRIB Priorities for SSIF R3](#)

[Cambs Learn Together](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Complete Cambs CPD Listing](#)

[Early Years](#)

[Maths and English Advice](#)

[Knowledge Hub](#)

[Help With Recruitment?](#)

Dates for your diary

Friday 23 March 2018: Deadline to submit [Primary](#)

a new campaign to seek additional funding for all three budget areas. In early March, Forum held a workshop to develop the evidence-base to support our case for more money, and to discuss the most effective way to approach key influencers and decision makers, such as the Secretary of State and his officials and our Members of Parliament. The formal Forum meeting on 9 March endorsed the emerging plans, and set a very tight timetable for the preparation of the evidence and first contacts. Parents and teachers will have a very important role to play in this and we will look forward to engaging with them in the coming months.

Philip Hodgson (Chair) and Alan Rodger (Vice Chair)

Fairer Funding Discussion Paper - Primary Heads

As referred to above, work has started to gather evidence for fairer and reasonable funding for all children in the county. A [discussion paper](#) has been started by the Chair of the primary heads group, Tony Davies.

The paper is a work in progress and aims to gather information, evidence and stories to support the argument that our schools are not adequately funded. It aims to give some idea of the structure of the argument the paper will make. At the Headteacher breakfast meetings in March time will be taken to gather more points/stories that headteachers feel will contribute to this paper.

Tony Davies, Chair of the Primary Heads Group

[Mathematics Teaching for Mastery TRG Application](#)

School survey

Please [click here](#) to go to the Cambridgeshire school survey mentioned last week.

Reminder

Don't forget to complete the online survey on Asbestos Management at your school [here](#).

FFT Aspire collaboration: Please sign the [data sharing agreement](#).

If you have any problems with FFT Aspire please email [Maria Clough](#).

Changes to Review Convening Notices

We wrote to you on the 26th February in relation to the removal of the review convening notices for upcoming review child protection conferences. It was decided to stop sending these notices because we do not have the administrative resources to send out notifications of conferences when the date is included in the minutes, and the plan and is also often set at the preceding conference.

Although this change was agreed by the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) back in September, it was agreed that we would delay implementation in relation to schools until March 2018 in order to allow schools to adopt any changes they need to make.

Police and health colleagues have been operating under these arrangements since September without issue. As noted above, the previous child protection minutes and the child's plan contain the date, so schools will need to capture the information, in order to provide a report for the next conference and attend the meeting.

If schools are not receiving the minutes or plans, please contact [Lisa Reid](#), Interim Head of Service for Partnerships and Quality.

Learning Away research

New research into the impact of [Learning Away](#) is generating new insights about how

and why residential benefits children and young people, teachers and schools. Clear links are found between high quality residential and an array of key measures, including attainment, engagement, resilience, relationships and wellbeing.

Following evaluation of the research, the '[Brilliant Residential](#)' campaign aims to spread the message through provision of a large number of free resources... videos, case studies, advice and guidance... to enable schools to offer more residential to more pupils, more often.

Professional Development Days 2018/19

Legislation empowers Headteachers to require staff to undertake non-teaching duties at school for up to five days during each academic year, usually referred to as professional development days. Individual schools now set all five dates, but we have always asked schools to let us know the dates that they have chosen.

Please click on this [Smart Survey](#) to let us know the dates of the five professional development days that you have chosen to be closed to teaching during 2018/19.

Please complete this survey by **Thursday 29 March**.

We will share this information with colleagues who need to know, such as School Transport.

Please contact the Administration Support Team on (01223) 706133 with any queries.

Returning teachers - career break pilot

Schools are invited to participate in a pilot scheme to support teachers who have taken time out to care for others, to return to the classroom.

Lead schools will be funded to offer an enhanced support package, including mentoring, funding for CPD and NQPs, membership of a professional association, a bursary to cover an acclimatisation period and a range of other measures aimed at tackling the career break penalty, to help people back to work. The package will be available to any eligible returning teacher who secures a role at a participating school.

Find out more [here](#).

Application deadline: Thursday 29 March 2018 at 5pm.

Preparation for Key Stage 2 SATs

With just six weeks to go before KS2 SATs week there are a few reminders I would like to draw your attention to:

- Support disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils to be emotionally, as well as academically, ready for the assessments
- Ensure a balance between fluency and reasoning in maths
- Recap key objectives, where gaps exist, from all KS2 year groups - as the test covers curriculum content from Years 3-6 (over 50% of content on tests was from Y3-5 last year)
- Target pupils to achieve a scaled score of 105, instead of 100, to ensure progress
- Ensure problem solving in various contexts
- Download the Assessment and Reporting Arrangements (ARA) and Test Administration Guidance documents
- Deadline for requesting additional time for pupils is Monday 23 April.

Look at the powerpoint [here](#) as a reminder of the presentation that Emma Fuller (Lead

Do you want to be part of an EEF project?

16 [EEF-funded projects](#) are currently looking for schools, as well as post-16 settings, to take part in trials of high-potential projects, including

1. SMART Spaces: testing the effect on GCSE outcomes of teachers delivering the same content across multiple sessions, with breaks in between (spaced learning)..
2. Realistic Maths Education: trialling an approach to teaching mathematical problem solving.
3. EAL in the mainstream classroom: developing and testing EAL training for classroom teachers at GCSE.
4. Same Day Intervention: Shanghai-style teaching and same-day feedback in Key Stage 2 mathematics.
5. Maths-for-Life: supporting teachers to re-engage GCSE re-sit learners and cement their understanding of fundamental areas.

DfE: improving teacher supply agencies' standards and transparency

The DfE are working on a commercial framework for agency supply teachers with Crown Commercial Services aimed at increasing agencies' standards and transparency. There is an [expression of interest page](#) here for schools who are potentially interested in the deal, to sign up to receive updates on its progress.

The DfE have also asked us to share a short survey which is targeted at schools, to understand how they're currently managing their short, medium, and long term absences. The survey can be found [here](#). Please send completed responses back to EOI.SUPPLYAGENCYFRAMEWORK@education.gov.uk.

Horizon scanning

The [@edudatalab](#) have released a blogpost looking at **the relationship between Key Stage 1 attainment and Key Stage 4 outcomes**. Read more [here](#).

[Schools Minister Launches Programme to Boost Leadership](#)

School Standards Minister, Nick Gibb, announced this week that Teach First's two-year 'Leading Together' programme has been launched to support schools with teachers' development.

The programme is designed to offer staff at schools in areas of disadvantage the skills and support they need to succeed and deliver improvements for pupils' education - at no cost to the school. This programme will be funded through the DfE's Teaching and Leadership Innovation Fund.

New appointments

Great and Little Shelford Primary School is pleased to announce that Mr Chris Grey has been appointed to the position of Headteacher.

Training Courses, Events and Conferences

For a list of all current training courses provided by the Local Authority and Teaching schools [click here](#).

Success with SSIF Bids

Monday 26 March, 16.00 to 18.00, Littleport Community Primary School, CB6 1JT. Designed by the Education Endowment Foundation and Research Schools who have been involved in 15 successful SSIF bids, and led by East Cambs and Fenland Research School, this 2 hour workshop can help you maximise success in SSIF bids. Free of charge.

To book a place email lead.ecambsresearchschool@gmail.com.

Pool Carers Courses

April 2018, The Grove Primary School, CB4 2NB. Two day courses for new pool carers and one day update courses available.

Teaching RSE

Monday 30 April - 13.30 to 16.30pm, Stanton Training Centre, Huntingdon.

This course supports staff in primary and special schools, especially those new to teaching Relationships & Sex Education (RSE).

PE Convention

Tuesday 1 May, 13.00 to 16.15, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Schools - Hinchingsbrooke School, Huntingdon. Provide Senior Leaders & PE practitioners with guidance and resources related to PE and Schools Sports provision, and the Primary PE and School Sport Premium funding.

Outdoor Adventurous Activities

Wednesday 9 May, 09.15 to 16.00, Stukeley Meadows Primary School. This workshop will consider a range of approaches for OAA, and their application across all curricular areas.

Leading Mathematics Briefings

Monday 21 May to Thursday 24 May 2018, at venues across Cambridgeshire, 13:30-16:30. Enabling Maths Subject Leaders to network and develop subject-specific skills. Free for schools with Element 2.

Addressing Challenging Relationships Between Girls

Thursday 7 June, 09.15 to 16.00, Cambridge Professional Development Centre, Trumpington. Designed to support the development of positive relationships between girls.

Secondary Relationship & Sex Education

Monday 18 June 2018, Stanton Training Centre, Huntingdon. Developing & Teaching RSE in secondary schools. Can attend all day, or just the AM or PM. See website for full details.

Tell us what you think of this Newsletter or if you want to add someone to the distribution list - email schools.news@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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