



28th February 2019

Dear Parent / Carer

As a collective group of Head Teachers, we feel it is our duty to provide parents with a clear and accurate view of school funding other than the misleading, over optimistic and often inaccurate picture described by the government. All state schools in England are funded by a central government grant that is administered by the Department for Education. This grant has not kept pace with inflation and schools across the Country are now facing extremely difficult decisions.

House of Commons Data, published by the government a few weeks ago, indicates that since 2013/14, school funding in Westmorland & Lonsdale has been cut by £2.4m which is equal to -£190 per pupil across our region. As Head Teachers, collectively we are saying this is simply not good enough.

With these cuts, schools across Kendal have been faced with some difficult choices. These include cutting back on:

- teaching and non-teaching staff;
- support for the most vulnerable pupils;
- small group work for children who need additional support;
- teaching resources and equipment;
- subject choices in Secondary schools;
- the range of activities at Primary schools;
- repairs to school buildings;
- renewal of resources and equipment.

Parent campaign groups are setting up across the country and our County with many Facebook and Twitter campaigns being organised. If you wish to see the loss for each individual school, please visit School Cuts website at <https://schoolcuts.org.uk>

If you think this government should fund schools sufficiently and fairly, please show your support by adding your name to the petition 'Increase Funding for Schools', as well as encouraging your family and friends to do so via the link below:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/232220>

The petition has now nearly reached 100,000 signatures and it will be debated in Parliament on the 4th March. Please show your support by signing as soon as possible.

Please be assured all school leaders are working extremely hard to minimise the impact of these cuts in our schools.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Headteachers from:

Castle Park Primary School
Crosthwaite C E Primary School
Ghyllside Primary School
Grayrigg C E Primary School
Heron Hill Primary School
Kendal Nursery School

St Thomas's C E Primary School
St Mark's C E Primary School
St Oswald's C E Primary School
Selside C E Primary School
Dean Gibson R C Primary School
Stramongate Primary School

Vicarage Park C E Primary
Kirkbie Kendal School
Queen Katherine School
Sandgate School