



2nd February 2017

Dear Parents

The Government is imposing real terms funding cuts on schools by freezing the amount of money that is allocated to schools for each pupil at the same time that inflation, the contributions that schools have to make towards their employees pensions and National Insurance contributions have risen significantly. This affects all schools and academies alike, both primary and secondary. Whilst the amount of money coming into schools from government has remained static, the amount going out on expenditure due to government imposed changes has risen considerably.

Schools across the country are funded differently, and have been for many years. Generally, schools in rural areas are funded at a lower level than those in cities. This government has been brave enough to try and address these differences and introduce a new National Funding Formula, and the initial details were announced just before Christmas. **However, rather than help rural areas such as Cornwall, it is now clear that many schools will actually lose funding; there will be an average cut in funding of £339 per pupil in primary schools across the Country.** Some Cornish schools have already made staff redundancies over the last three or four years, class sizes have already increased.

We do not want children in this county to miss out on being taught a full curriculum in a school which has sufficient teachers and support staff to give children the attention they need to make the best of their education. The current Government was elected on a manifesto that promised to protect school funding, which is not being honoured in real financial terms.

We are asking our MPs to press the Chancellor to use the Budget to announce increased education spending. We are also asking our MPs to stress the impossible financial situation that Cornwall's schools are facing when meeting with the Secretary of State for Education, Justine Greening and her ministers.

What can parents do to help and support their school?

The more people that raise their concerns with their MP, the more likelihood there is that changes may be made. The government is currently consulting on their funding reforms, so now is the time for Cornish parents to make their voice heard. You can do two things:

- Sign a national online petition by clicking on this link: <http://www.schoolcuts.org.uk/#/contact-us> AND
- Email your MP; you can use this link if you wish: <http://www.schoolcuts.org.uk/#/email-your-mp>

Your local MP will be expecting to hear from you – they know that we are sending this letter to you all!

Best wishes

Mr T Wherry
Headteacher



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