

# Scheme for Financing Schools

**Report being considered by:** Schools Forum on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025

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**Item for:** Decision **By:** All Maintained Schools

## 1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To approve the proposed consultation on the updated Scheme for Financing Schools to go to Schools Forum.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That the updated Scheme for Financing Schools goes out to consultation from 17<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025 and that the updated scheme is adopted after Schools Forum approval.

Is the Schools' Forum required to make a decision as part of this report or subsequent versions due to be considered later in the meeting cycle?	
Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>

## 3. Implications and Impact Assessment

Equalities Impact:	Positive	No Impact	Negative	Commentary
<b>A</b> Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		x		
<b>B</b> Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		x		
<b>Data Impact:</b>		x		

<b>Consultation and Engagement:</b>	It is proposed that a consultation take place with maintained schools between 17 <sup>th</sup> and 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2025.
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#### 4. Introduction/Background

- 4.1 Local authorities are required to publish schemes for financing schools which set out the financial relationship between the local authority and the schools they maintain.
- 4.2 The Department for Education (DfE) issues statutory guidance for local authorities on schemes for financing schools. The DfE guidance lists the provisions which a local authority must, should or may include. Local schemes need not follow the exact format used in the DfE guidance, except for the text of directed revisions. The DfE guidance is updated annually.
- 4.3 Issue 16 was published on 27 March 2025 and can be found at:  
[Schemes for financing local authority maintained schools 2025 to 2026 - GOV.UK](#)
- 4.4 In making any changes to the scheme, a local authority must consult all maintained schools in their area and receive the approval of the members of their schools forum representing maintained schools.
- 4.5 The local authority has reviewed the current scheme to ensure that all sections are still appropriate. The proposed Scheme for Financing Schools (2025 update) and Appendix B highlighting the proposed updates are attached.

#### 5. Supporting Information

- 5.1 The proposed Scheme for Financing Schools is attached to this document, along with a guide to changes that have been made.

#### 6. Proposals

- 6.1 A consultation with maintained schools be undertaken between 17<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

#### 7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A – Proposed Scheme for Financing Schools
- 7.2 Appendix B – Changes from previous version
- 7.3 Appendix C – Consultation cover document