

Proposed update to the Scheme for Financing Schools

Consultation Document for Schools 17th June to 26th June 2025

- 1.1 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.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 Issue 16 was published on 27 March 2025 and can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schemes-for-financing-schools/schemes-for-financing-local-authority-maintained-schools>
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 The local authority has reviewed the current scheme to ensure that all sections are still appropriate. Following on from this review four updates are proposed. The proposed Scheme for Financing Schools (2024 update) and Appendix A highlighting the proposed updates are attached to this email.
- 1.6 In order to respond to this consultation, please email your comments to lisa.potts@westberks.gov.uk stating the corresponding paragraph number(s) at the start of each comment you make.
- 1.7 If a response is not received it will be assumed that the school has no comment to make and agrees the updated scheme.
- 1.8 The timetable for this consultation is as follows:

17 th June to 26 th June 2025	Consultation with Schools
1 st July 2025	Heads' Funding Group review responses
14 th July 2025	Schools' Forum approve revisions
15 th July 2025	Revised scheme comes into operation