
Scheme for Financing Schools

Report being considered by: Schools' Forum

Date of Meeting: 15 June 2026

Report Owner: Ashley Milum

Report Author: Kirsty Bray/Edith Cheng

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

Consulted by:
Section 151 Officer/Deputy
Service Director

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 To approve the proposed consultation on the updated Scheme for Financing Schools.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the updated Scheme for Financing Schools goes out to consultation from 15 to 25 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:

No:

3. Implications and Impact Assessment

Equalities Impact:				Commentary
	Positive	No Impact	Negative	

Scheme for Financing Schools

A Are there any aspects of the proposed decision, including how it is delivered or accessed, that could impact on inequality?		X		
B Will the proposed decision have an impact upon the lives of people with protected characteristics, including employees and service users?		X		
Data Impact:		X		

4. Executive Summary

- 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 17 was published on 26 March 2026 and can be found at:
[Schemes for financing local authority maintained schools 2026 to 2027 - 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 (2026 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 to be undertaken between 15 and 25 June 2026.

7. Appendices

- 7.1 Appendix A – Proposed Scheme for Financing Schools
-

Scheme for Financing Schools

7.2 Appendix B – Changes from previous version

7.3 Appendix C – Consultation cover document