

Plantation Primary School & Nursery

'Love to learn, aspire to achieve'



Plantation Primary
School & Nursery
Hollies Road, Halewood,
Knowsley, L26 0TH



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15th March 2017

Dear Parent



Schools and High Needs Funding Formula

As you may be aware, the government is planning to introduce a new 'National Funding Formula' for all schools from April 2018. There is now a major consultation taking place on **fundamental changes to school, high needs and local authority funding** and the DfE is seeking views (**on 2 sets of proposals**) by Wednesday 22 March 2017. Knowsley's DSG Resource Group met on 22 February 2017 and has concerns on some of the proposals which have **far reaching consequences for schools and academies in Knowsley** as well as for the Local Authority. In addition our school has concerns and some of those concerns are:

- fundamentally there is insufficient funding within the education system nationally and locally to allow schools to meet the budgetary pressures they now face;
- the planned reduction in the percentage of funding allocated to each pupil and to the school lump-sum is of great concern because they are the key that underpin the funding to all schools;
- the proposals represented a lost opportunity to introduce a Funding Formula based on the actual costs of educating a child, regardless of where they live rather than being based on historical spend and use of national averages
- the strength of feeling in the Country on the proposed changes and the possibility that amendments that result from the consultation process may not be good for Knowsley's family of schools

Consequently it is vital that Knowsley's voice is heard on both consultation responses and we are appealing to you to submit both responses to the DfE .

We would like your support in our attempts to get the government to change its mind and amend the planned new Formula so it delivers what it set out to achieve and does not treat areas such as Knowsley unfairly. Over the page are the links to the two consultations which will be considered when the DfE make their final decisions.



Headteacher: Mr.Simon Hanley, B.Ed(Hons), M.Sc, NPQH, LLE

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Please respond to both as both set of proposals have an impact on the funding available for Knowsley's community of schools.

Schools: <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

High Needs: <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/high-needs-funding-reform-2/>

You can also make representation via email or letter to your local MP- Rt Hon George @ Howarth george.howarth.mp@parliament.uk.

 House of Commons, Westminster, London SW1A 0AA

Yours sincerely

Mr S Hanley
Headteacher



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