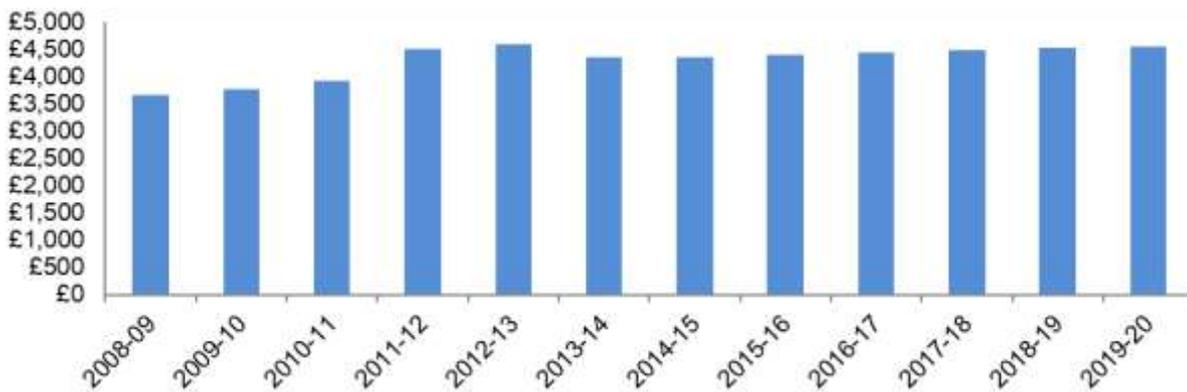




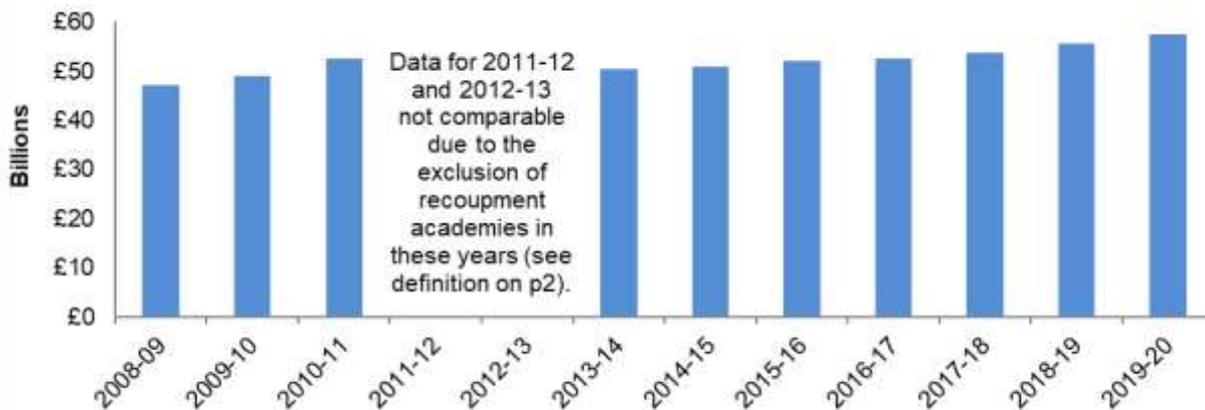
# Planned expenditure on schools, education and children's services by local authorities in England, 2019-20

26 September 2019

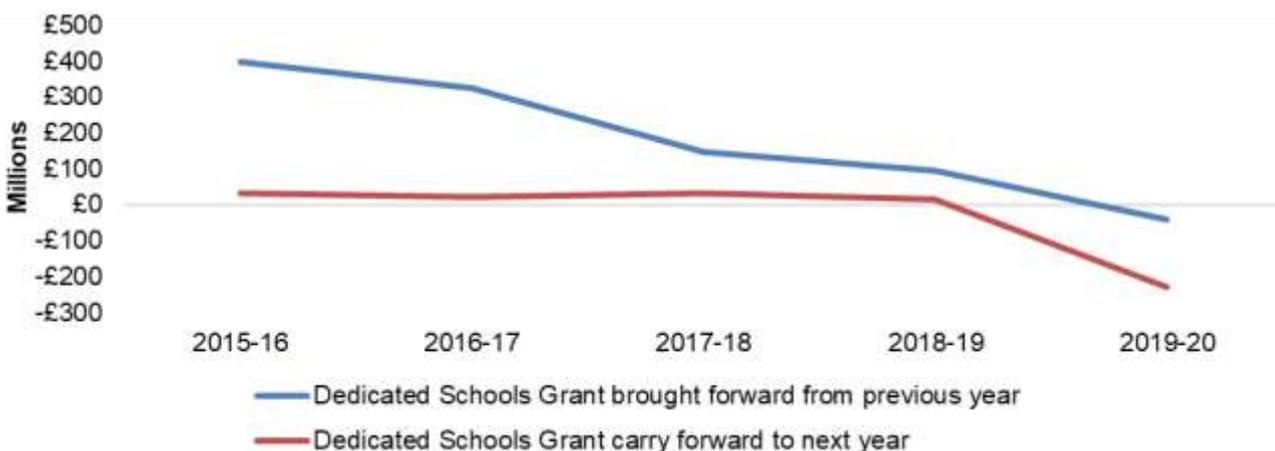
## Individual Schools Budget: Planned spend per pupil is nearly back to 2012-13 levels in cash terms



## Local Authority planned spend on schools, education and children's services is set to exceed £57 billion in 2019-20



## Dedicated Schools Grant brought forward and forecast carry forward turned negative



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## About this release

This release summarises planned expenditure by local authorities (LAs) on schools, education and children and young people’s services for the financial year April 2019 to March 2020.

All figures in this release are presented in cash terms and are not adjusted for inflation.

## In this publication

The following tables are included in the statistical release:

- Budget tables (Excel .xlsx)

The accompanying methodology document provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data.

## Section 251 Budget Return

Local authorities are required to provide the Department for Education with a Section 251 Budget Return of planned expenditure covering schools, education and children’s and young people’s services. This ensures LAs provide financial data in a consistent manner that can support comparisons and benchmarking with other LAs. See the [Section 251 budget guidance for LAs](#) for further information on the data reported.

## Recoupment academies

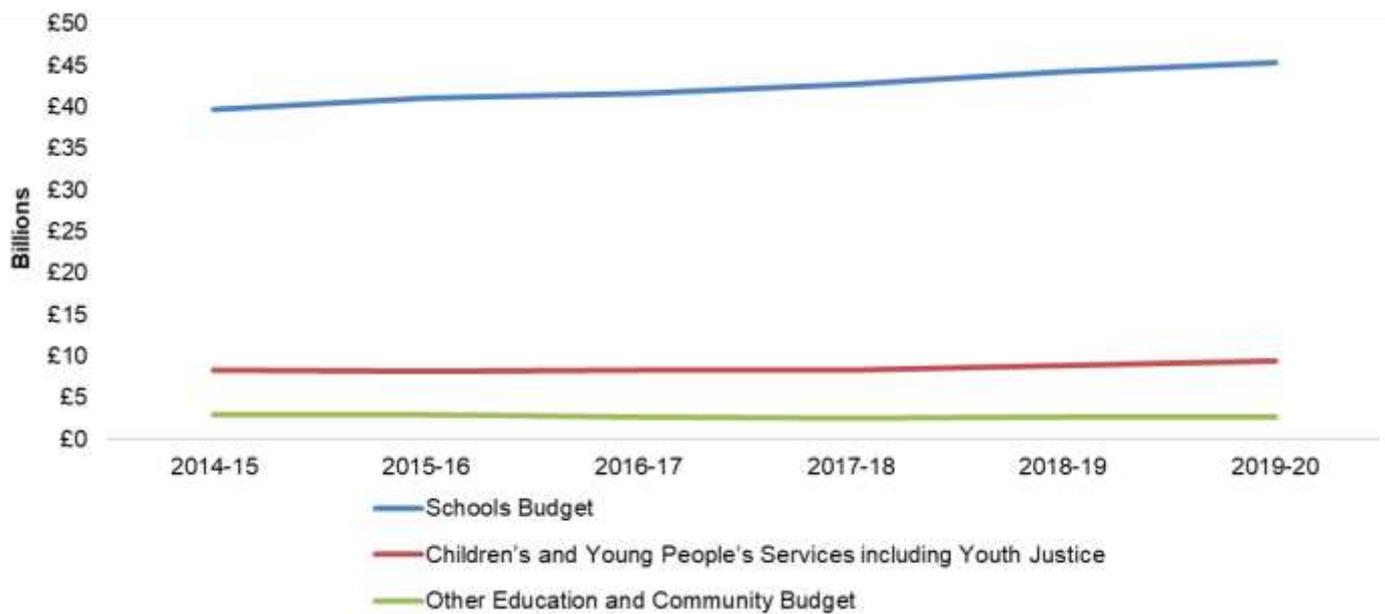
Recoupment is a method of adjusting a dedicated schools grant to take account of the conversion of a maintained school into an academy. From 2017 to 2018 this also includes new provision academies and free schools from their date of opening. Further information is in the [Academies and dedicated schools grant: recoupment guide](#).

## Feedback

We are changing how our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at: [finance.statistics@education.gov.uk](mailto:finance.statistics@education.gov.uk)

# 1. LA Planned Spend on Schools, Education and Children's Services

(Table 1)

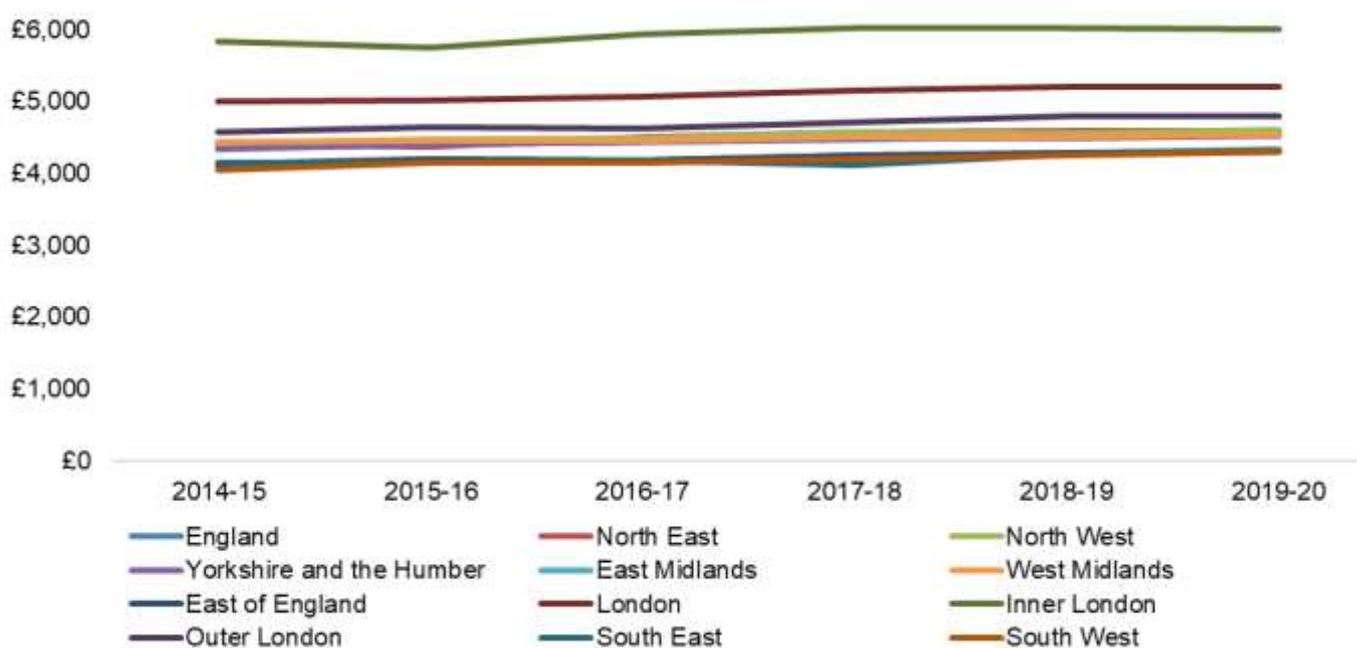


Planned gross spending by local authorities in England on Schools, Education and Children's Services changed in cash terms from 2018-19 to 2019-20 as follows:

- £1.1bn **increase** to £45.3bn for Schools Budget
- £0.6bn **increase** to £9.4bn for Children's and Young People's Services including Youth Justice
- £0.1bn **increase** to £2.7bn for Other Education and Community Budget

At £2.7bn, total planned gross spend on Other Education and Community Budget in 2019-20 is still lower in cash terms than in 2014-15 when it was £3.0bn.

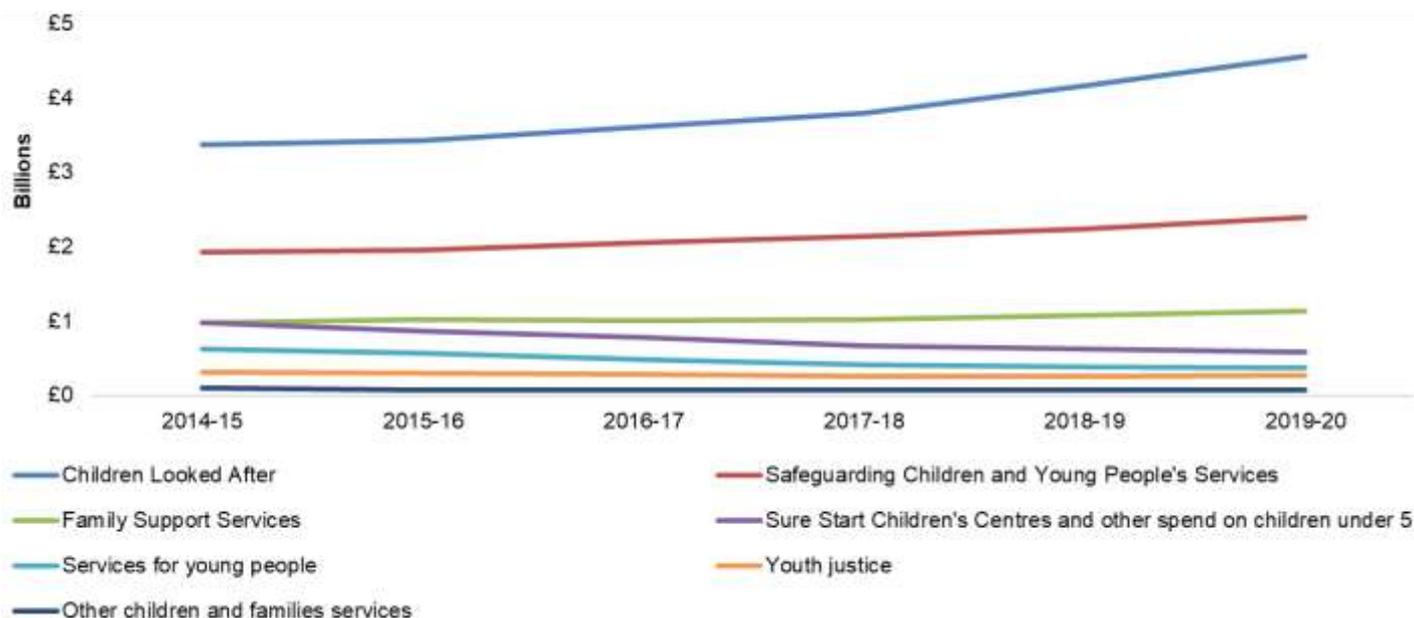
## 2. Individual Schools Budget per capita (Tables 1 & 4)



Spending per capita remain highest in London, where staffing costs are higher.

### 3. Children's and Young People's Services, including Youth Justice

(Tables 1, 2, 3 & 6)



Planned gross spending by local authorities in England on Children's and Young People's Services, including Youth Justice, changed in cash terms from 2018-19 to 2019-20 as follows:

- Children Looked After to **increase** £391m (9.4%) to £4.6bn
- Safeguarding Children and Young People's Services to **increase** £154m (6.9%) to £2.4bn
- Sure Start Children's Centres and Other Spend on Children Under 5 to **decrease** £47m (-7.5%) to £583m
- Services for Young People to **decrease** £9m (-2.4%) to £375m

### 4. Other Education and Community Budget (Tables 1, 2, 3 & 5)

Three of the four largest increases in planned gross spending, in cash terms from 2018-19 to 2019-20, on Other education and community budget are in transport expenditure:

- Home to school transport (pre 16): SEN transport expenditure will **increase** £92.6m (15.3%) to £698m
- SEN administration, assessment and coordination and monitoring to **increase** £9m (6.2%) to £154.2m
- Home to post-16 provision: SEN/ LLDD transport expenditure (aged 16-18) to **increase** £6.5m (9.8%) to £28.5m
- Home to school transport (pre 16): mainstream home to school transport expenditure to **increase** £5.7m (1.6%) to £358.9m

Planned expenditure for some areas of the Other education and community budget has reduced (before taking account of inflation). This is partly due to the increased number of schools, which have converted to academy status. Areas set to see spending decreases include:

- Statutory/Regulatory duties - education to **decrease** £10.6m (-6.4%) to £155.1m
- Other Specific Grant to **decrease** £5.0m (-15.6%) to £26.8m
- Home to post-16 provision transport: mainstream home to post-16 transport expenditure to **decrease** £4.6m (-16.4%) to £23.3m
- Central support services to **decrease** £4.6m (-3.1%) to £144.3m

## 5. High Needs Place Funding (Table 7)

Planned expenditure on high needs places (in addition to the planned spend on high needs from budgets retained centrally by local authorities) has been affected by the number of schools converting to academy status. Since 2018-19, special places in units in mainstream schools are now included. This should be taken into account when making comparisons over longer periods.

**Table 1: Year-on-year comparisons of the local authority planned expenditure on high needs**  
England, 2018-19 and 2019-20

	2018-19 (millions)	2019-20 (millions)	Nominal change between 2018-19 and 2019-20 (millions)
High needs places: Special school and SEN places	£917	£874	a decrease of £42
Pupil referral unit places	£113	£144	an increase of £30
Hospital education places	£23	£25	an increase of £3

## 6. Early Years Education (Table 8)

Some elements of the planned spend on two, three and four year olds is also included in the planned central expenditure on children under five.

In calculating the average funding rate per hour for 3 and 4 year olds, this only shows the average hourly rate for planned funded hours for the Government's entitlement hours: universal 15 hours and additional 15 hours. For local authorities who have reported extra local hours above the Government's entitlement hours, this budget is shown separately. The average funding rate this year also includes funding for special educational needs inclusion fund paid directly to providers for 2 year olds and 3 and 4 year olds.

**Table 2: Year-on-year comparisons of local authority planned expenditure on early years education**  
England, 2018-19 and 2019-20

	2018-19 (millions)	2019-20 (millions)	Nominal change between 2018-19 and 2019-20 (millions)
EYSFF spend:			
Two year olds	£472	£455	a decrease of £17
Three and four year olds	£2,860	£2,870	an increase of £10
Non EYSFF spend:			
Contingency budget			
Two year olds	£5	£4	a decrease of £1
Three and four year olds	£40	£30	a decrease of £10
Centrally retained budget			
Two year olds	£8	£9	an increase of £1
Three and four year olds	£119	£118	a decrease of £1
Early years pupil premium			
Three and four year olds	£31	£29	a decrease of £2
Disability Access fund			
Three and four year olds	£13	£14	an increase of £2
SEN inclusion fund			
Two year olds	£3	£3	an increase of £1
Three and four year olds	£50	£62	an increase of £12

## 7. Accompanying tables

The following tables are available in Excel format on the [department's statistics website](#).

### National tables

- 1 Overview of planned expenditure by local authorities, 2014-15 to 2019-20
- 2 Schools budget by sector, 2019-20

### Local authority and regional tables

- 3 Planned expenditure by local authority, 2019-20
- 4 Planned spend of net expenditure of individual schools budget by local authority, 2014-15 to 2019-20
- 5 Planned spend of net expenditure on other education and community budgets by local authority, 2018-19 to 2019-20
- 6 Planned spend of net expenditure on children's and young people's services including youth justice by local authority, 2014-15 to 2019-20
- 7 Planned spend on high needs by local authority, 2019-20
- 8 Planned spend on early years education by local authority, 2019-20

When reviewing the tables, please note that:

- **We preserve confidentiality**  
The Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires we take reasonable steps to ensure that our published or disseminated statistics protect confidentiality.
- **We round numbers**  
Because of this rounding, totals in text and in tables may not always equal the sum of their component parts. Similarly, differences quoted in text may not always be the same as differences shown in tables. This is consistent with the [departmental statistical policy](#).
- **We adopt symbols**  
Symbols are used in the tables as follows:
  - . not applicable
  - .. not available

## 8. Further information is available

- [Budget figures for previous years](#).
- [Section 251 Outturn statistics for previous years](#). Whereas this release focuses on planned expenditure, outturn statistics focus on actual expenditure by LAs (and their schools).
- We publish information on income and expenditure in schools on the [Schools Financial Benchmarking website](#). This includes download files for all schools: Consistent Financial Reporting data (CFR, covering local authority maintained schools) and Academies Accounts Return data (AAR, covering academy schools).
- Local authority revenue expenditure and financing England published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government including service expenditure including education and children's social care: [2019-20 Budget and 2018 to 2019 provisional outturn](#).
- The Scottish Government, Welsh Assembly and Northern Ireland Government publish revenue budget data:
  - Scotland <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics/Browse/Local-Government-Finance/POBESats>
  - Wales [stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Local-Government/Finance/Revenue](http://stats.wales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Local-Government/Finance/Revenue)
  - Northern Ireland [www.communities-ni.gov.uk/topics/local-government](http://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/topics/local-government)

## 9. Planned expenditure: methodology

A methodology note accompanies this statistical release. This provides further information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data, including how it is validated and processed.

## 10. Official statistics

These are Official Statistics and have been produced in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

This can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics are:

- managed impartially and objectively in the public interest
- meet identified user needs
- produced according to sound methods
- well explained and readily accessible

Find out more about the standards we follow to produce these statistics through our [Standards for official statistics published by DfE](#).

## 11. Get in touch

### Media enquiries

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### Other enquiries/feedback

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Department  
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email [psi@nationalarchives.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gov.uk)  
write to Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU.

Reference: Section 251 Budget 2019-20



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