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Financial year 2025-26

# School funding statistics

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This publication provides statistics on school revenue funding from financial year 2010 to 2011 through to 2026 to 2027.

The aim is to provide an overview of trends in school funding over recent years, as well as detailed information about funding allocations for individual schools for 2025 to 2026.

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# Headline facts and figures - 2025-26

The total amount of funding allocated to English schools for 5-16 year old pupils has grown since 2010-11 as the total pupil population has generally also grown.

In cash terms, the total funding allocated to schools through the grants covered in this report is £65.9 billion in 2026-27, an increase of 88% compared to the £35.1 billion allocated in 2010-11.

On a per-pupil basis the total funding allocated to schools for 5-16 year old pupils, in cash terms, in 2026-27 was £8,580, a 65% increase compared to £5,190 allocated per pupil in 2010-11.

When adjusted for inflation, funding per pupil was broadly flat between 2010-11 and 2015-16 at around £7,700 in 2025-26 prices. It then fell by 3.6% over the period 2016-17 to 2018-19, but subsequently increased by 4.6% over the years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22. Since then, funding has increased by a further 7.1% (after adjusting for inflation), including small falls of 0.2% in 2022-23 and 0.1% in 2026-27, and stands at £8,390 in 2026-27 (in 2025-26 prices). Note that the 2026-27 figure does not include additional investment provided for SEND reform at the 2025 Spending Review, due to be announced alongside the Schools White Paper.

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All supporting files from this release are listed for individual download below:

[School funding allocations for 2025-26 \(Excel version\) \(xlsx, 7 Mb\)](#)

An Excel version of the school-level funding allocations data for 2025-26.

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## About this release

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## In this publication

Throughout this annual release, the time periods referred to are financial years unless otherwise stated. The shorthand “2025-26” is used to denote the 2025 to 2026 financial year (i.e. the period from April 2025 to March 2026), and similarly for other years. The shorthand “2025/26” is used to denote the 2025 to 2026 academic year (i.e. the period from September 2025 to August 2026), and similarly for other years.

This publication contains two sets of data:

1. School revenue funding for 5-16 year olds for 2010-11 to 2026-27. This time series data shows national levels of revenue funding for primary and secondary pupils aged 5-16 in state-funded schools in England. This includes mainstream schools, special schools, pupil referral units, local authority alternative provision and non-maintained special schools. Revenue funding is that which is provided to ensure schools have the money needed to deliver their day-to-day functions over the course of each year, and does not include capital funding provided to enable schools to maintain and improve the condition of their buildings and grounds. The data is presented in both cash terms and after being adjusted for inflation (using the GDP deflator). Much of this data is compiled from funding allocation information previously published on the gov.uk website.
2. School funding allocations for 2025-26. This data shows the total funding that has been allocated to each individual mainstream school through several different funding streams, including the schools block of the dedicated schools grant and several other grants. The schools block funding elements of this data for this financial year have not previously been published, but data on funding through the other grants has (see 'Further information is available' section).

All this data relates to the funding that is allocated to local authorities and state-funded schools in England by the Department for Education (DfE) in each year.

This is not the same as the amount of money that is spent in a year by schools and local authorities. Other official statistics reports published by the department provide information on local authority and school spending on education, including academies and children and young people's services. These can be found on the [local authority and school finance page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

The Methodology section provides much more detailed information about each of the datasets.

## Feedback

This is the seventh edition of this annual statistics report and we are keen to receive feedback on the data presented. If you have any feedback or comments on this publication please contact us at:

[schoolfunding.statistics@education.gov.uk](mailto:schoolfunding.statistics@education.gov.uk).

# School revenue funding for 5-16 year olds for 2010-11 to 2026-27

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## Introduction

This section presents time series data on revenue funding for primary and secondary pupils aged 5-16 in England.

The funding covers all state-funded schools: that is, primary and secondary maintained schools and academies; special schools; pupil referral units (including alternative provision academies and free schools); local authority alternative provision; and non-maintained special schools.

For mainstream schools, funding covers pupils in reception through to year 11.

## Important note on GDP deflators

To calculate inflation-adjusted school funding figures in this report, we use the GDP deflator, for which the most recent figures were published in January 2026 by HM Treasury (HMT).

The GDP deflator is the broadest measure of inflation in the domestic economy. It is commonly used to measure price changes in public sector expenditure and is the most suitable inflation measure for this national-level time series, which is looking at funding levels for English schools as a whole. Price inflation experienced by individual schools may be different.

The GDP deflator series displays atypical year-on-year movement in the data for years 2020-21 and 2021-22, which has arisen as a result of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The latest deflator series indicates like-for-like price increases of about 5.5% over the two year period overall, equivalent to increases of 2.7% in each year.

Given the atypical year-on-year movement in the deflator data, we have considered

inflation-adjusted changes over that two-year period as a whole, rather than for each of the individual years, and the commentary in this publication is written from that standpoint.

## Coverage of the figures

The following funding elements in 2026-27 are included in the figures:

- Dedicated schools grant (including the schools block, most of the high needs block, safety valve funding, the central school services block (CSSB), recoupment gap funding, and some funding not yet allocated at the time of publication of these statistics; but excluding the early years block and post-16 funding in the high needs block);
- Funding for the City of London, Isles of Scilly and two city technology colleges;
- Pre-16 high needs place funding in non-maintained special schools, special and alternative provision free schools;
- Consolidated core schools budget grant for high needs, incorporating the previously separate core schools budget grant (CSBG), teachers' pay additional grant (TPAG), teachers' pension employer contribution grant (TPECG), National Insurance contributions (NICs) grant, and schools budget support grant (SBSG);
- Pupil premium;
- Early career framework grant;
- Business rates contingency;
- Free School Meals expansion grant.

This coverage has been chosen both to capture core funding for schools and to ensure the series is as comparable over time as possible, despite changes to the specific grants allocated to schools over the years shown.

In this publication, the figures for years 2010-11 to 2025-26 are mostly based on the latest funding allocations that have been issued to schools and local authorities.

The figures for 2026-27 are based on a combination of published funding allocations, the 2025 Spending Review funding settlement, and some estimates of small grant and high needs spending. Note that, for this edition of the funding statistics, we have not yet been able to include some additional funding provided for SEND reform at the 2025 Spending Review, on top of the DSG allocations published in December 2025. The forthcoming 2026 Schools White Paper will set out details of this investment. The

2026-27 figures will be revised as appropriate in next year's edition of these statistics.

More detailed information on the funding covered by the figures in this section can be found in the Methodology section.

## Total funding 2010-11 to 2026-27

The total amount of funding allocated to English schools for 5-16 year olds is closely linked to the number of pupils in attendance, and has grown since 2010-11 as the total pupil population has generally also grown, though total pupil numbers have started to decrease since 2024-25.

In cash terms, the total funding allocated to schools through the grants listed above was £65.9 billion in 2026-27, an increase of 88% compared to the £35.1 billion allocated in 2010-11.

Chart

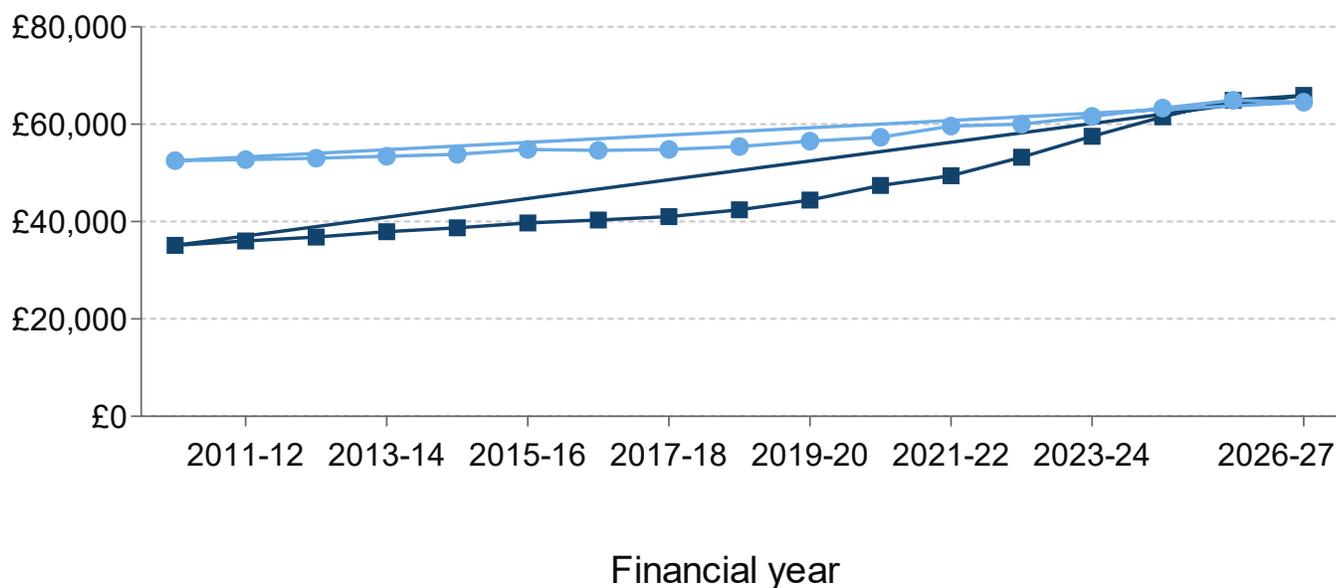
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**Figure 1.1: The total amount of funding in cash terms allocated to English schools for 5-16 year olds has grown since 2010-11 as the total pupil population has generally also grown**

England, 2010-11 to 2026-27

School  
funding, £m



- School funding, cash terms, £m (England)
- School funding, 2025-26 terms, £m (England)

## Footnotes

1. Funding includes the following: dedicated schools grant (excluding early years and post-16 high-needs funding); grants outside the DSG to the City of London, Isles of Scilly and City Technology Colleges; pre-16 high-needs funding in non-maintained special schools, special and alternative provision free schools; pupil premium (all pupil ages); schools supplementary grant (reception to year 11); mainstream schools additional grant; supplementary free school meals grant; teachers' pay grant & teachers' pay additional grant (reception to year 11); teachers' pension employer contribution grant (reception to year 11); core schools budget grant; consolidated core schools budget grant (high needs providers); National Insurance contributions grant; schools budget support grant; historic teachers' pension/pay grant (for non-maintained special schools); free school meals expansion grant; safety valve high needs funding; recoupment gap funding; business rates contingency; further core schools budget funding to be allocated in 2026-27.
2. State-funded providers, including mainstream primary and secondary schools, special schools, alternative provision, pupil referral units and non-maintained special schools.

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Source: Department for Education

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## Per-pupil funding 2010-11 to 2026-27

On a per-pupil basis the total funding to be allocated to schools for 5-16 year olds, in cash terms, in 2026-27 is £8,580, a 65% increase compared to £5,190 allocated per pupil in 2010-11.

After adjusting for inflation, funding per pupil was broadly flat between 2010-11 and 2015-16 at around £7,700 in 2025-26 prices. It then fell by 3.6% over the period 2016-17 to 2018-19, but subsequently increased by 4.6% over the years 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22. Since then, funding has increased by a further 7.1% (after adjusting for inflation), including small falls of 0.2% in 2022-23 and 0.1% in 2026-27, and stands at £8,390 in 2026-27 (in 2025-26 prices). Note that the 2026-27 figure does not include additional investment provided for SEND reform at the 2025 Spending Review, due to be announced alongside the Schools White Paper.

Chart

Table

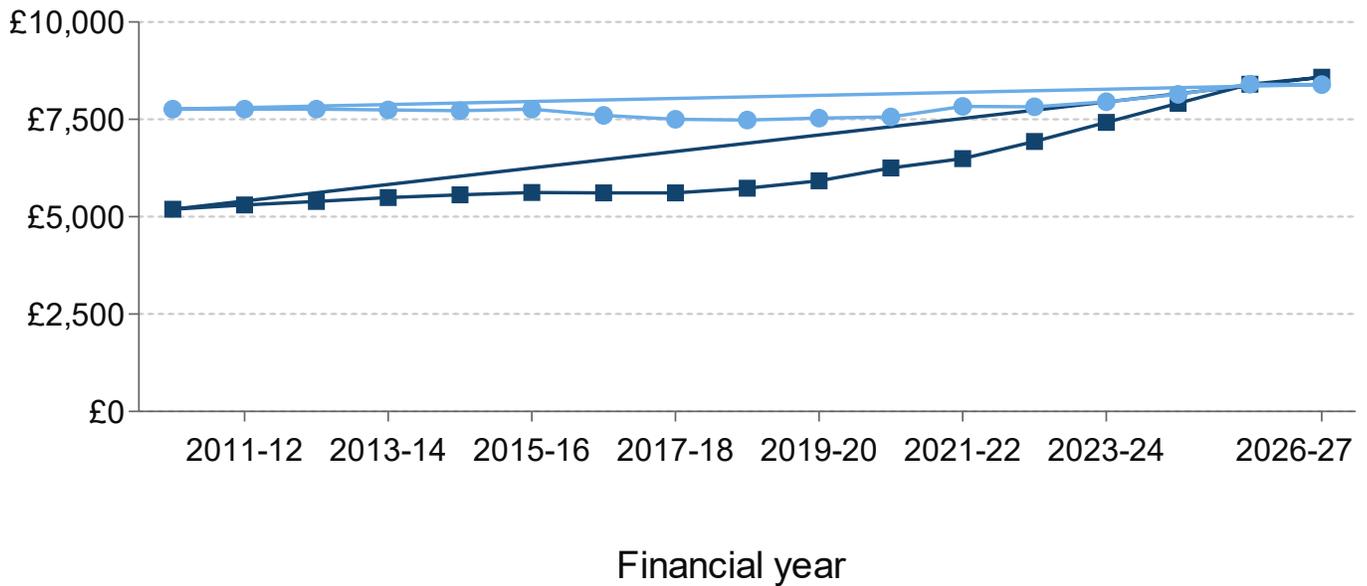
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**Figure 1.2: Per-pupil funding for 5-16 year olds in English schools is expected to be 8.1% higher in 2025-26 than in 2010-11, when adjusted for inflation**

England, 2010-11 to 2026-27

Per pupil

funding, £



- Per pupil funding, cash terms, £ (England)
- Per pupil funding, 2025-26 terms, £ (England)

## Footnotes

1. Funding includes the following: dedicated schools grant (excluding early years and post-16 high-needs funding); grants outside the DSG to the City of London, Isles of Scilly and City Technology Colleges; pre-16 high-needs funding in non-maintained special schools, special and alternative provision free schools; pupil premium (all pupil ages); schools supplementary grant (reception to year 11); mainstream schools additional grant; supplementary free school meals grant; teachers' pay grant & teachers' pay additional grant (reception to year 11); teachers' pension employer contribution grant (reception to year 11); core schools budget grant; consolidated core schools budget grant (high needs providers); National Insurance contributions grant; schools budget support grant; historic teachers' pension/pay grant (for non-maintained special schools); free school meals expansion grant; safety valve high needs funding; recoupment gap funding; business rates contingency; further core schools budget funding to be allocated in 2026-27.
2. State-funded providers, including mainstream primary and secondary schools, special schools, alternative provision, pupil referral units and non-maintained

special schools.

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Source: Department for Education

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## Funding for 2022-23 to 2026-27

Taking account of some small differences in coverage, these figures are comparable to the school funding settlements announced in the 2021 Spending Review, which covered the financial years 2022-23 to 2024-25, the 2024 Autumn Budget which covered 2025-26, and the 2025 Spending Review, which covered 2026-27 to 2028-29.

The 2021 Spending Review confirmed an additional £4.7 billion by 2024-25 for the core schools budget in England, over and above the schools settlement for 2022-23 secured at the 2019 Spending Round. The 2022 Autumn Statement confirmed an additional £2.0 billion in funding for 2024-25, on top of the original 2024-25 settlement announced at the 2021 Spending Review. In 2023, we announced additional funding via the teachers' pay additional grant of £482.5 million in 2023-24 and £827.5 million in 2024-25, for mainstream schools and high needs providers. In 2024, we announced additional funding of approximately £1.1 billion that was allocated via the core schools budget grant, to support schools with overall costs including pay awards. Overall, the core schools budget totalled £61.6 billion in 2024-25.

The Autumn Budget 2024 confirmed an additional £2.3 billion for the core schools budget for 2025-26 compared to 2024-25 and £1.4 billion to support schools and high needs settings with the increases to employer National Insurance contributions (NICs) from April 2025 and the 2025 staff pay awards. This means that core schools funding reached £65.3 billion in 2025-26.

The 2025 Spending Review set the core schools budget for the three years 2026-27 to 2028-29. School funding is increasing by £1.7 billion in 2026-27, meaning that core school budgets will total £67 billion compared to £65.3 billion in 2025-26. The core schools budget will see an above real terms per pupil increase in funding across the SR period. These figures include additional investment for SEND reform, for which the forthcoming 2026 Schools White Paper will set out the details.

The Methodology section explains why the table shows funding figures which are slightly different to these core schools budget totals.

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## School funding allocations for 2025-26

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### Coverage of the data

The data in this section is presented in two ways.

First, if you are interested in seeing the data for an individual school, the easiest way to access this is using the table tool: this can be found higher up this page by selecting 'Explore data' and then 'View or create your own tables'.

Alternatively, data for all schools can be accessed by downloading the data file (which is in Excel format) associated with this release entitled 'School funding allocations for 2025-26 (Excel version)'. This can be found in the 'Additional supporting files' section.

The data shows the total funding that has been allocated to each individual mainstream school through several different funding streams for 2025-26. This covers funding allocated to mainstream schools for their running costs for pupils aged 5-16, that was provided through some of the funding streams covered in the other main section of this report, "School revenue funding for 5-16 year olds for 2010-11 to 2026-27":

- Core funding through the schools block of the dedicated schools grant;
- Pupil premium;
- Schools budget support grant;

- National Insurance contributions grant.

The school funding allocations data also includes several other funding streams for schools that are not included in the figures in the previous section. This funding is provided to schools for specific functions and pupils of other ages in attendance. Detailed school allocations through these funding streams have been previously published for 2025-26, but they are included here to show schools' data in a single place:

- Universal infant free school meals (UIFSM);
- PE and sport premium.

## **Funding years**

For core funding, the data shows financial year 2025-26 allocations for local authority maintained schools, and academic year 2025/26 allocations for academies (including free schools). This is because these are the time periods for which maintained schools and academies receive their budgets.

For the other grants, the data primarily shows allocations for financial year 2025-26. More information about this data and the different elements of funding presented is provided in the Methodology section.

## **Consistency with the 2010-11 to 2026-27 time series data**

The totals of the figures in this section do not match those for 2025-26 shown in the time series dataset, for several reasons.

First, the figures presented in this section relate to mainstream schools only, whereas the time series dataset also includes funding for age 5-16 pupils attending other types of institution, such as special schools, non-maintained special schools and alternative provision settings.

Second, these school-level figures for 2025-26 include some funding (the PE and sport premium and universal infant free school meals) which are not included in the time series, for the reasons explained above.

## **Schools included in the data**

Please note that schools listed in the data are as at 31 March 2025. The figures do not

reflect where schools have changed their name, opened, closed, or have been subject to other changes since that date.

## **Other publications**

For years prior to 2019-20, these data were published by the former Education and Skills Funding Agency in a separate annual report 'Schools block funding allocations'. However, those previous reports presented data for core funding only. The more recent school funding statistics reports also include data on schools' allocations for the pupil premium, UIFSM and other grants as listed above.

## **Comparison with national funding formula data**

The figures presented here are the funding schools received in 2025-26. These are not the same as illustrative allocations under the national funding formula (NFF) in 2025-26 that the DfE has previously published.

The NFF is a single, national formula which calculates an illustrative allocation for all mainstream schools in England based mainly on their pupils' needs and characteristics. However, schools' NFF allocations for 2025-26 were in most cases not exactly the same as the funding they actually received.

For each local authority in England, the schools NFF calculates overall per-pupil amounts at primary and secondary level, which are then multiplied by the latest pupil numbers to give a total allocation to the authority. Each local authority then determines schools' final allocations for the year through setting a local funding formula.

It is schools' final funding as indicated by their authority's local formula which is shown in this report.

## **Types of schools**

The data shows figures for 20,158 mainstream schools in England. Of these, 9,530 are maintained schools, meaning that they are overseen by the local authority, and 10,628 are academies, meaning they operate independently of local authority control and receive their funding directly from the DfE.

## **Core funding**

The basic entitlement factor in authorities' local formula gives every school a basic

amount of funding for every pupil, and authorities could specify different per-pupil amounts for primary age pupils, for pupils in key stage 3 (years 7 to 9), and for pupils in key stage 4 (years 10 and 11).

Differences between schools' basic entitlement funding reflect where they had different numbers of pupils and where their respective local authorities decided to set different per-pupil rates in their 2025-26 local formulae.

In their local formula, authorities also use several other 'pupil-led factors' – these are factors where the amount of funding a school receives depends on the number of pupils with appropriate characteristics that attend the school. Descriptions of each factor can be found in the Methodology section.

Differences in the amount of funding that schools received through the pupil-led factors in 2025-26 were due to several reasons, such as: where schools had different numbers of pupils who were eligible to attract funding through the factor, and where the local authority set different per-pupil rates in their local formula.

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## Further information is available

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The DfE already publishes a large amount of information about funding allocated to schools. This section indicates where some of this further information can be found.

### National funding formula for schools

Since 2018-19, school funding has been distributed according to a formula based on the individual needs and characteristics of every school in England. In 2025-26, the national funding formula (NFF) was used to determine the total schools block funding for each local authority, but local authorities continued to be responsible for distributing that money between the schools in their area using a locally-agreed formula. The school-level figures presented in this report are mainstream schools' final funding allocations, calculated using their respective local formulae. More information about the schools NFF in 2025-26 can be found on the [DfE website \(opens in new tab\)](#). In many

cases the final allocations presented here will differ slightly from the NFF figures for 2025-26, including because the latter are based on schools' pupil counts and characteristics from an earlier period (as explained in more detail in the school-level chapter).

## **Pupil premium**

Details of pupil premium funding to schools in 2025-26 can be found on the [allocations and conditions of grant page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

## **PE and sport premium**

Details of PE and sport premium funding allocated in 2025-26 can be found on the [conditions of grant page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

## **Universal infant free school meals**

More information about universal infant free school meals funding for academic year 2025/26 can be found on the [UIFSM allocations page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

## **Schools budget support grant**

More information about schools budget support grant funding for financial year 2025-26 can be found on the [allocations and conditions of grant page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

## **National Insurance contributions grant**

More information about National Insurance contributions grant funding for financial year 2025-26 can be found on the [allocations and conditions of grant page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

## **Data on school spending**

While this report focuses on funding provided for schools, the department already publishes official statistics reports on how schools and local authorities spent their funding on education, children's services and social care. These can be found on the [local authority and school finance page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

## **Other data**

Data on trends in school spending is published by the IFS as part of their annual report on all education spending, but is not directly comparable to our time series on funding, primarily due to different coverage. Their 2025-26 report can be found on the [IFS website \(opens in new tab\)](#).

Public Expenditure Statistical Analysis (PESA) data is published by HM Treasury and can be found on their [PESA page \(opens in new tab\)](#).

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## Contact us

If you have a specific enquiry about School funding statistics and data:

### Schools and Funding Analysis Division

Email: [schoolfunding.statistics@education.gov.uk](mailto:schoolfunding.statistics@education.gov.uk)

Contact name: Paul Lucas

### Press office

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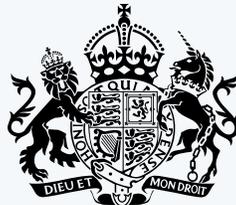
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