

ΠΑΝΤΑ ΙΣΧΥΩ ΕΝ ΤΩ ΕΝΔΥΝΑΜΟΥΝΤΙ ΜΕ ΧΡΙΣΤΩ
I AM STRONG THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

Headteacher: Mrs Vasoula Baron

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs Mary Mantilas

Assistant Headteacher: Mrs Angelina Adrien

ST CYPRIAN'S



GREEK ORTHODOX PRIMARY ACADEMY
CO-EDUCATIONAL SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AGED 3-11

Ακαδημία Άγιος Κυπριανός

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Dear Parents/Carers,

5th April 2017

There are government spending cuts proposed for Primary Schools including ours. You may recall I wrote to you all some weeks ago. The estimated cut to funding for St. Cyprians is around £190,000 for the school year 2018/19. While this is over a year away it will have big impact on our ability to meet the needs of our children.

I wrote to the Prime Minister, Secretary of State for Education and our local MP to express the Governing Body's objection to these cuts. I have received a response from the Department for Education and I have attached this for information. That letter offers suggestions on saving money but does not really offer any hope of maintaining the funding level. So it is now more important than ever that we make our voice heard by Government and persuade them to "*think again*" before slashing primary education funding.

As a consequence of this I ask that you now take your own direct action to make known your support for our children's education by opposing these budget cuts. You can do this by going on-line to sign a petition, the link is below.

www.change.org/fairfundingforallschools

Thank you

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Broadberry
Chair of Academy Trust



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Our ref: 2017-0018860
31 March 2017

Dear Mr Broadberry

Thank you for your letter of 24 March, addressed to the Prime Minister, about the National Funding Formula. Your letter has been passed to this department as we are responsible for the policy in this area and I have been asked to reply.

The government has protected the core schools budget in real terms overall. This year, it is the largest ever on record, totalling over £40 billion. This is set to increase to £42 billion by 2019-20 as pupil numbers rise over the next two years.

The current funding system is, however, based on data that is a decade or more out of date and does not support the government's ambition for all children to be able to fulfil their potential and succeed in adult life. Similar local areas and schools receive very different levels of funding, with little or no justification. The government is committed to introducing a national funding formula for schools in 2018-19 that will calculate schools' funding allocations consistently and transparently, using an up-to-date assessment of need.

Introducing a national funding formula is a major reform and the government has consulted widely on its proposals. The department has made available a significant amount of data to help schools, governors, local authorities and parents to understand the impact of the proposed formula, if it had been introduced in 2016-17. The illustrative figures can be found at:

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

We are grateful to everyone who has taken the time to highlight their views on school funding and the proposed formula as part of the formal consultation. The department has received a significant number of responses, which will be reviewed in detail. The government will publish its response to the consultation in the summer.

The introduction of a national funding formula will mean a fairer distribution of funding between schools. The government does know, however, that schools are facing increasing cost pressures. As in other public services, these pressures will include salary increases, the introduction of the National Living Wage, increases to

employers' National Insurance and pension scheme contributions, and the apprenticeship levy.

The government will continue to provide advice and support to schools to help them use their funding in cost-effective ways, and improve the way they procure goods and services so that they get the best possible value for their pupils. The department has published a wide range of tools and support to help schools, and these are available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/schools-financial-health-and-efficiency>.

Schools could save, on average, up to 10 per cent by making use of the government's national energy deal, and over 40 per cent by using the national deal for printers and photocopiers. There is also well-established evidence, from the Education Endowment Foundation, of significant scope for better deployment of staff in schools. The department has also launched a school buying strategy to support schools to save at least £1 billion by 2019-20 in non-staffing costs. The strategy can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-buying-strategy>.

Thank you again for writing.

As part of our commitment to improving the service we provide to our customers, we are interested in hearing your views and would welcome your comments via our website at: www.education.gov.uk/pctsurvey.

Yours sincerely



David Deakin
Ministerial and Public Communications Division