

Consultation on the Schools Block Funding Arrangements and Service De-delegations 2026/27

Summary Document



Summary

- In recent announcements, the Department for Education (DfE) confirmed the school funding arrangements for 2026/27 will be published in the autumn term and issued an initial summary policy document for 2026 to 2027.
- In previous years following consultations, funding has been transferred from the Schools Block to help mitigate pressures in other funding blocks. Due to the ongoing pressures within the High Needs Block, this document also seeks views on a proposed transfer of 0.5% from Schools Block to the High Needs Block in 2026/27. If there are any further proposals to transfer funding between funding blocks in 2026/27 that emerge once we have modelled allocations from the DfE on the schools funding arrangements, a further consultation will be issued seeking schools' views.
- Following a previous consultation with schools and the Schools Forum, Lancashire has adopted the NFF methodology as the local funding formula. The document also seeks views on the level of Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) that should be applied in Lancashire for 2026/27.
- This consultation is also seeking views about the continuation of service de-delegations in 2026/27, which are:
 - Staff costs – Public Duties/Suspensions – Proposals remain the same as 2025/26 with charges increasing by 4%.
 - Heritage Learning Service (Museum Service) - Primary Schools Only – Proposals remain the same 2025/26 and charges are held at the same level.
 - Schools Requiring additional Support – Proposals remain similar to 2025/26, with a change to the usage of the de-delegation, with charges held at 2025/26 rates
 - Children's Champions – Proposals remain the same as 2025/26 and the charge has increased by 4%.

Note – There is no proposal for inclusion hubs to continue as a de-delegation in 2026/27. The LA are looking into options regarding this.

- It is extremely important to the County Council and the Schools Forum to be able to reflect the views of Lancashire schools when making decisions about block transfers, MFG level, and de-delegation arrangements for 2026/27, as these decisions are binding on all primary and secondary schools.
- De-delegations are not permitted for academies, special schools, nursery schools or PRUs, however, some services will be offered as a buy-back and separate information will be provided about these options, where appropriate.
- Please let us know your views on the proposals for 2026/27, by completing the consultation questionnaire available [here](#), by **3 October 2025**, so that responses can be reported and voted on by the Schools Forum on **14 October 2025**

