

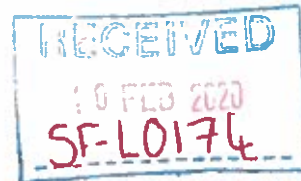


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**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards

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Councillor Sean Fielding  
Leader of Oldham Council  
Room 347, Level 3  
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West Street, Oldham  
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7 February 2020

*Dear Councillor Fielding*

Thank you for your letter of 13 January, addressed to the Secretary of State, regarding school funding. I am replying as the Minister of State for School Standards.

We are investing an additional £2.6 billion to core schools funding next year, with increases of £4.8 billion and £7.1 billion in 2021-22 and 2022-23 respectively, compared to 2019-20. This is in addition to the £1.5 billion per year we will continue to provide to fund additional pension costs for teachers over the next three years, meaning the total core schools budget will rise to £52.2 billion by 2022-23. This delivers on the Prime Minister's promise to increase school funding by £4.6 billion above inflation by 2022-23.

This investment means that funding for schools is increasing by 5 per cent next year compared to this year. The national funding formula will continue to ensure that this funding is distributed based on schools' and pupils' needs and characteristics. It will also ensure that per pupil funding for every school can rise at least in line with inflation next year, and faster than inflation for most. We will deliver the greatest gains to areas which have been historically underfunded, while levelling up the lowest funded schools to ensure that every secondary school gets at least £5,000 per pupil next year. We will also ensure every primary school receives at least £3,750 per pupil, increasing to at least £4,000 the following year.

Oldham will receive 4.5 per cent more per pupil in school funding next year, above the national average increase of 4.2 per cent per pupil.

No child or young person should be held back from reaching their potential, including those with complex special needs. That is why we have allocated £780 million of additional high needs funding for next year, which is an increase of 12 per cent compared to this year, bringing the total amount for supporting those with the most complex needs to £7.2 billion.

Every local authority will see an increase in high needs funding, of at least 8 per cent per head of population aged 2 to 18, with some seeing gains of up to 17 per cent per head. This will be the largest year on year increase since the high needs funding block was created in 2013. However, we recognise the need to look at how children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities are supported in the current system, and have launched a cross-government review to that end.

With best wishes.

*In mine*  
*Nick Gibb*