



## DEBATE PACK

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# Education in Merseyside

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## Summary

There will be a Westminster Hall debate on education in Merseyside at 2.30pm on Wednesday 19 October 2016. Stephen Twigg will be lead the debate. This House of Commons Library background briefing provides background, recent press and parliamentary coverage and links to further reading.

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The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

# 1. Background

## School Funding

The average amount of per pupil school funding individual local authorities in England receive each year varies. This central Government funding is then passed through a local formula before being given to individual schools. This means that there are differences in the amount of per pupil funding received by individual schools.

Critics argue that these disparities are unfair, and that funding should be based on current area, school and pupil characteristics, rather than on historical spending.

In discussions of how much funding different local authorities receive, per pupil, the figure that's usually referenced is what's known as the 'Schools Block Unit of Funding', or SBUF. This refers to the schools block of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which is the main source of income for school budgets in England. However it is not the only source of funding – the Pupil Premium, for example, is paid outside the DSG. This is additional money to support the education of disadvantaged and service children.

In 2016-17, local authorities' SBUFs varied from just over £4,000 in Wokingham to just under £7,000 in Tower Hamlets. In 2016-17 the SBUF for Merseyside local authorities was as follows:<sup>1</sup>

<b>Local authority</b>	<b>SBUF 2016-17</b>
St Helens	£4,455.73
Knowsley	£4,831.60
Halton	£4,863.77
Liverpool	£5,064.44
Sefton	£4,451.82
Wirral	£4,533.28

On 7 March 2016, then- Education Secretary Nicky Morgan announced the first of two consultations on the introduction of a new national funding formula. The precise nature of the formula will be the subject of a further consultation expected later in 2016. It's difficult to say how particular areas will be affected until the second phase consultation is released.

The new national funding formula is now scheduled for phased introduction from 2018, one year later than originally intended. Some

<sup>1</sup> DfE, [Schools block units of funding 2016 to 2017. Technical note](#) (July 2015), p. 5

areas have raised concerns about this delay, arguing that their schools will struggle to meet costs in the meantime.

## Early years funding and maintained nursery schools

### Maintained nursery schools

As the name suggests, maintained nursery schools are supported and funded by the local authority. They provide early education and care for children aged two to five, sometimes alongside other family services. Unlike other pre-school settings, they are required to employ qualified school teachers and also have a head teacher.

There are around 400 maintained nursery schools in England; around 200 have closed or amalgamated with other providers since the late 1980s.<sup>2</sup> The Government says that the majority are located in disadvantaged areas.<sup>3</sup>

At 31 August 2016, 60 % of these schools were graded 'Outstanding' by schools' inspectorate Ofsted at their last inspection, and almost all others were graded 'Good'.

### Introduction of early years funding formula

The Government is currently reforming the way that local authorities are funded for their early years entitlement provision. The current universal entitlement is to 15 hours per week of term-time free early education and care from the term after a child turns three. Some disadvantaged 2 year olds are also entitled.

The Government plans to extend the entitlement to 30 hours per term-time week for qualifying working parents, across England, from September 2017. It ultimately intends to introduce a common base rate of funding for all settings offering the entitlement, regardless of type.

The Government says it wants to "minimise disruption and reassure maintained nursery schools on their position". As such, it will provide £55 million each year as supplemental funding to local authorities for maintained nursery schools, in recognition of the higher operating costs they often face. This will be provided for at least two years, while "they explore how to become more sustainable in the longer term, including exploiting scope for efficiencies [...] we will consult on further detail in due course".<sup>4</sup>

Although the Government's funding reform proposals have been broadly welcomed in the childcare sector, the union, Unison, has raised concerns about the potential impact on maintained nurseries. In an [article](#) in Nursery World in August 2016, Ben Thomas of the union, is reported as saying:

The proposals could threaten the very future of maintained nurseries if there is to be universal funding rates for all types of provider [...] The promise of two years' funding protection will be of little consolation.

<sup>2</sup> Source: DfE, *Edubase*. Captured September 2016.

<sup>3</sup> DfE, DfE, [An early years national funding formula](#), 11 August 2016, p. 37

<sup>4</sup> DfE, [An early years national funding formula](#), 11 August 2016

Nursery schools are one of the great successes of state education. This consultation will recklessly put their future at risk.<sup>5</sup>

### **Reaction to wider early years funding reforms**

In the Spending Review of November 2015, the Government announced an extra £300 million to increase the national average funding rate for free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds to £4.88 (although the actual rate paid to providers will be determined by local authorities), as well as allocating £50 million from the DfE's capital budget to support the creation of early years places.

There are some concerns that childcare providers might struggle to provide the additional hours, with recent surveys of childcare providers finding around a fifth to a quarter of respondents are not planning to offer the extended entitlement, and a further third to a half unsure if they would.

Further details about the 30 hours proposals can be found in a separate library briefing paper:

- House of Commons Library briefing paper, [Children: Introduction of 30 hours of free childcare \(England\)](#)

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<sup>5</sup> ['Sector response: Early years national funding formula,'](#) in *Nursery World*, 11 August 2016.

## 2. Ofsted press release

### [Chief Inspector calls for education to be central to Manchester and Liverpool's strategies for growth](#)

23 February 2016

#### **Sir Michael raised concerns about declining secondary school performance and pupil attainment in Liverpool, Manchester and surrounding areas**

The Northern Powerhouse will “splutter and die” if youngsters in Manchester and Liverpool lack the skills to sustain it, Her Majesty’s Chief Inspector, [Sir Michael Wilshaw said in a speech today.](#)

Sir Michael spoke out amid concerns about declining secondary school performance and pupil attainment in the 2 cities and many of their surrounding towns.

Three in 10 secondary schools in Manchester and 4 in 10 in Liverpool are judged by Ofsted to be inadequate or require improvement.

The proportion of Manchester’s pupils gaining 5 GCSEs grade A\* to C, including English and mathematics, declined from 51% 2 years ago to 47% currently. In Liverpool the percentage fell from 50% to 48% over the same period.

In his [Annual Report published in December](#), Sir Michael called England “a nation divided at age 11”, referring to the discrepancy between the performance of schools in the North and Midlands and those in the South. In today’s speech to the Institute for Public Policy Research (IPPR), Sir Michael said that the extent of this underperformance presents a very real risk to the government’s vision of a Northern Powerhouse.

He said:

Manchester and Liverpool are at the core of our ambitions for a Northern Powerhouse. They are the engines that could transform the prospects of the entire region. But as far as secondary education is concerned they are not firing on all cylinders. In fact they seem to be going into reverse.

Comparing the performance of secondary schools in the capital with those in the North West’s 2 major cities, Sir Michael said:

Yes, London has advantages that other cities lack, but what of Liverpool or Manchester? Are you really telling me that they lack swagger and dynamism? That they cannot succeed in the way London has succeeded? These are the cities that built Britain. They pioneered a modern, civic education when students at certain other universities spent most of their time studying the New Testament in Greek.

Sir Michael called on all those with power and influence to make a real difference in galvanising change and supporting much-needed improvements in secondary education across Manchester and Liverpool.

He said:

I am calling on local politicians, be they mayors, council leaders or cabinet members, to stand up and be counted, to shoulder responsibility for their local schools, to challenge and support them regardless of whether they are academies or not. I'm calling on them to be visible, high-profile figures that people can recognize as education champions. I am calling on them to make education in general – and their underperforming secondary schools in particular – a central target of their strategy for growth.

Unless they do, I fear Manchester and Liverpool will never become the economic powerhouses we want them to be. We cannot fight for social mobility with political immobility. Politicians need to act. It requires grit, imagination, faith and bloody mindedness – qualities that, fortunately, I really don't think are less common in the North than they are down South.

Ofsted's Regional Director for the North West, Chris Russell, has echoed Sir Michael's concerns in an [open letter sent today to all those responsible for overseeing education provision across Greater Manchester](#).

In this letter, Mr Russell says too many pupils attending secondary schools in places like Salford, Rochdale, Oldham and Manchester itself are being left ill-prepared for the next phase of their education, training or employment.

This level of performance presents not only a worrying picture for the employment prospects of young people in one of the United Kingdom's major cities, it also presents a real risk to the economic and social stability of the area as a whole.

The decline in the attainment of secondary school pupils is particularly disappointing given the significant level of investment through the Greater Manchester Challenge. This was established to improve outcomes for children and young people, but the legacy of the £50 million campaign appears to be one of decline rather than improvement.

Mr Russell has written a similar [open letter to those responsible for education provision in Knowsley](#), where there is not a single good or outstanding secondary school. In 2015, almost two thirds of Knowsley's school leavers failed to achieve 5 or more GCSE grades A\* to C, including English and mathematics.

Notes to editors:

Read [Sir Michael's speech to the IPPR](#).

Read the [letters to Greater Manchester and Knowsley](#).

## 3. Press articles

### School funding

**The Guardian, 6 October 2016**

[School funding shakeup: headteachers share their hopes for a fairer system](#)

Schools are waiting to find out how their funding will change: some anticipate welcome news of extra cash, but others fear they will lose out

The current school funding system is out-of-date and unfair – and for years the government has promised to fix it. But designing a funding formula that satisfies all schools is a challenge. And, given that there's very little extra cash being promised for schools, it's expected reforms will simply shift money away from London and the cities towards rural areas.

**The Guardian, 5 October 2016**

[Why is the school funding system so unfair? – explainer](#)

**The Guardian, 5 October 2016**

[Cramped classes and staff cuts: school budgets pushed to breaking point](#)

**Times Educational Supplement, 2 October 2016**

[Heads warn budget cuts could mean schools going down to a four-day week](#)

**The Times Educational Supplement, 29 July 2016**

[We need local solutions to achieve fairer funding](#)

**Liverpool Echo, 18 July 2016**

[Rotheram in vow to keep A-level open](#)

**The Guardian, 23 May 2016**

[Northern secondary schools receive £1,300 less per pupil than London](#)

**The Guardian, 15 April 2016**

[Secondary schools face sharpest cuts to funding since 1970s, says thinktank](#)

**The Times Educational Supplement, 4 March 2016**

[Schools 'going to the wall' if funding formula delayed](#)

**The Guardian, 5 April 2016**

[Schools 'running on empty' hit by deprivation funding changes](#)

**The Times Educational Supplement, 4 March 2016**

[A completely fair funding system is a weighty issue](#)

**Liverpool Echo, 21 January 2016**

[GCSE results: Top 10 schools in Merseyside revealed](#)

**The Guardian, 23 February 2016**

[Underperforming schools 'putting northern powerhouse plans at risk'](#)

Government ambitions to build a northern economic powerhouse will "splutter and die" unless underperforming secondary schools in Manchester and Liverpool improve, Ofsted's chief has warned.

Sir Michael Wilshaw said that secondary education in these cities was going into reverse. He called on local politicians to act urgently and champion their schools in a demonstration of "grit, imagination, faith and bloody mindedness".

**The Telegraph, 4 December 2015**

[School debt doubles in two years, figures show](#)

**The Guardian, 24 November 2015**

[Fairer funding for schools: the potential winners and losers](#)

**The Times Educational Supplement, 20 November 2015**

[Why heads will have to get used to shrinking budgets](#)

## Early education, maintained nursery schools, and childcare

**St Helen's Star, 6 October 2016**

['It's a disgrace': Outrage at child funding](#)

The government has been accused of "short changing" St Helens children and parents over early years education.

Conor McGinn, the St Helens North MP, slated the funding for three and four year old children, who get less money than nearly every other area on Merseyside and is now demanding a more equitable slice of the funding.

**The Telegraph, 29 September 2016**

[Nursery bills set to rise after stealth cut in cash for 'free' childcare - study](#)

**Liverpool Echo, 12 September 2016**

[Liverpool and Knowsley two of the worst places to be a girl study claims](#)

**The Independent, 26 August 2016**

[Parents may face charges for 'free' UK childcare scheme, nurseries warn](#)

**The Telegraph, 14 July 2016**

[80,000 disadvantaged children not using free early years education. Ofsted warns](#)

**The Telegraph, 15 June 2016**

[MPs warn Government's 30-hour free childcare plan is at risk](#)

**The Guardian, 20 April 2016**

[Nurseries 'could close' due to government's 30-hour free childcare plan](#)



**Liverpool Echo, 14 April 2016**

[Liverpool childcare costs have soared under the Conservatives, says Labour minister](#)

**The Guardian, 29 March 2016**

[Academy sixth-form closure to end A-level provision in UK borough](#)

**The Independent, 2 March 2016**

[Funding for childcare has been cut in real terms, National Audit Office reveals](#)

**The Independent, 24 February 2016**

[More than 40,000 pre-school children 'missing out on free childcare promised by the Government'](#)

**The Guardian, 24 February 2016**

[Thousands miss out on free childcare as local authorities struggle to fund places](#)

**Liverpool Echo, 21 December 2015**

[Revealed: Six Merseyside nurseries and children's clubs under fire](#)

Four nurseries, one playgroup and an after-school club in the region are currently slapped with "inadequate" tags by Ofsted

## 4. Parliamentary coverage

### 4.1 PQs

#### Early years

##### [Departmental Allocations](#)

**Asked by:** Jack Dromey

Nursery schools give children the best possible start in life. Now, as a consequence of the review of the funding formula, the funding in Birmingham could be cut by up to half, closing nursery schools all across the city. Does the Secretary of State not recognise the immensely damaging consequences that would flow from that, not least for social mobility? If we kick away the ladder of opportunity when a child is three or four, they might never recover.

**Answered by:** Justine Greening

The reality is that we are providing an additional £55 million for maintained nursery schools for at least two years while we consult with the sector. We are looking at children's centres at the same time.

10 Oct 2016 | Oral questions - 1st Supplementary | House of Commons | 615 cc4-6

##### [Topical Questions](#)

**Asked by:** Tulip Siddiq

I would like to come back to a point made by my hon. Friend the Member for Manchester Central (Lucy Powell). The fairer early years funding plan has created a ticking time bomb for nurseries. Figures revealed by the Secretary of State's own Department show that 25% of local authorities across the country will lose out financially. I am afraid that her earlier answer will do nothing to reassure the National Association of Head Teachers, which believes that that will lead to the closure of hundreds of nurseries. Will she today commit to a funding pledge for nurseries for provision for after the first two years, so that the pledge of 30 hours of free childcare will be honoured for all?

**Answered by:** The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Education (Caroline Dinenage)

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the hon. Lady to her place on the Opposition Front Bench. I can reassure her that the funding formula that we have consulted on will make funding fairer, more transparent and more sustainable. Indeed, she is misinformed: our proposals mean that 88% of local authorities and their providers can expect to see their funding rates increase.

10 Oct 2016 | Topical questions - Supplementary | 615 c19

##### [Departmental Allocations](#)

**Asked by:** Lucy Powell Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I have made a special journey down here today to ask the Secretary of State a

question. There is another group of schools that offers real social mobility and in which the education gap is the most narrowed. More than 98% of these schools are rated good or outstanding, yet they are in the areas of highest deprivation and the majority of their children are eligible for free school meals. They are our much-valued nursery schools, but their funding is putting their ongoing viability at risk. Would it not be better if she focused on their continued attainment, rather than on grammar schools?

**Answered by:** Justine Greening

I agree with the hon. Lady that early years provision is a vital part of the education system, which is precisely why we have been consulting on how we can have a sensible approach to its funding, but I disagree with her characterisation that we are cutting funding. That is simply not correct.

10 Oct 2016 | Oral questions | House of Commons | 615 c4

[Pre-school Education: Finance](#)

**Tabled by:** Chalk, Alex

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, whether the Government plans to consider extending the transitional funding for maintained nurseries to include children's centres providing early years education as part of the Early Years National Funding Formula review.

**Department:** Department for Education

07 Oct 2016 | Written questions | Tabled | House of Commons | 47053

[Pre-school Education: Finance](#)

**Asked by:** Mackintosh, David

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how she plans to ensure that the forthcoming review of fair funding for early years education will include measures to help close the attainment gap at age five.

**Answering member:** Caroline Dinenage

This Government is committed to narrowing the gap in attainment between the most disadvantaged children and their peers, including in the early years. We will be investing over £1 billion more per year by 2019-20 to fund our commitments on the early years entitlements – this includes £300 million per year from 2017-18 for a significant increase to the hourly rate paid for the two, three and four year old entitlements.

The 2014-15 Early Years Foundation Stage Profile results tell us that the proportion of children achieving a good level of development continues to increase – 66% in 2015, compared to 60% in 2014 and 52% in 2013. Furthermore, a higher proportion of children eligible for free school meals are achieving a good level of development – 51% in 2015 compared to 45% in 2014.

We need to continue this improvement. This is why we propose an additional needs factor in our new early years national funding formula, in order to channel funding towards local authorities with a higher

relative proportion of children with additional needs. Our consultation on early years funding reform is currently open, and I would encourage my Honourable Friend and his constituents to submit their views.

The Government already provides additional funding for the most disadvantaged three- and four-year olds through the Early Years Pupil Premium. This will continue as a separate funding stream, additional to the early years national funding formula.

16 Sep 2016 | Written questions | 45680

[Children: Day Care](#)

**Asked by:** Dromey, Jack

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment her Department has made of the ability of maintained nursery schools and children's centres to remain financially viable following recent changes to their funding.

**Answering member:** Caroline Dinenge

There have been no changes to the funding of maintained nursery schools and children centres. We are currently consulting on the introduction of an Early Years National Funding Formula to ensure a fairer allocation of early years funding to local authorities. The consultation document sets out our intention to provide supplementary funding for maintained nursery schools for at least two years in order to provide stability to the nursery school sector while they explore how to become more sustainable in the longer term, including exploiting the scope for efficiencies.

Local authorities have a duty under the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure sufficient children's centres to meet the needs of local families. Local authorities must meet their statutory duties on children's centres from funding that forms part of the Department for Communities and Local Government Business Rates Retention Scheme. In addition, other Government funding, including that for public health, adult skills training and troubled families may also be used locally to support services delivered wholly, or in part, through children's centres. Local authorities must consult fully before any significant changes are made to children's centre services.

12 Sep 2016 | Written questions | 45260

[Pre-school Education: Finance](#)

**Asked by:** McCabe, Steve

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what assessment she has made of the implications for her Department's funding of free early education of the conclusions of the report of the Family and Childcare Trust, *Driving High Quality Childcare: the role of local authorities*, published on 11 August 2016, on the proportion of local authorities which use such funding to encourage graduate-led care.

**Answering member:** Caroline Dinénage

We recognise that high quality childcare improves children's long-term educational outcomes and helps close the gap in attainment between the most disadvantaged children and their peers. We want to enable all children, whatever their background and individual needs, to access high quality early education. Investment has an important part to play in achieving continued improvements in quality. We have committed over £1 billion more per year by 2019-20 to fund the early years entitlements – this includes £300 million per year from 2017-18 for a significant increase to the rate paid for the two, three and four year old entitlements.

We know that high quality childcare has the most significant impact on those from disadvantaged homes. Therefore it is important that funding is targeted at those areas and children who need it most. This is why we propose an additional needs factor in the early years national funding formula, on which we are currently consulting. This will channel funding towards local authorities with a higher relative proportion of children with additional needs.

Whilst we know funding plays a role in the quality of childcare, we also recognise the importance of the early years workforce in improving quality and delivering better outcomes for children. That is why we are committed to publishing an early years workforce strategy. The Government currently delivers early years initial teacher training places in England. We fund eligible graduates to undertake the training, and provide student bursaries. Information about training routes is available on the Get into Teaching website at:

<https://getintoteaching.education.gov.uk/>

12 Sep 2016 | Written questions | 44489

[Children: Day Care](#)

**Asked by:** McGinn, Conor

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how much funding per head is received for childcare in (a) St Helens North, (b) Merseyside and (c) the UK in the latest period for which figures are available.

**Answering member:** Caroline Dinénage

Local authorities in Merseyside (including St Helens) currently (2016-17) receive the following funding rate per child per hour from central Government for delivering the two year old and three and four year old entitlements:

<b>LAs</b>	<b>Three and Four year old entitlement</b>	<b>Two year old entitlement</b>
St Helens	£3.61	£4.87
Halton	£3.54	£4.93
Knowsley	£4.49	£4.87
Liverpool	£5.24	£4.87

Sefton	£4.03	£4.87
Wirral	£4.02	£4.87

In 2016-17 the national average hourly rate paid by the Department of Education to local authorities in England is £4.56 for three and four year olds and £5.09 for two year olds. This includes the early years pupil premium.

The figures given above relate to England. Childcare policy for Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland is devolved.

We are currently consulting on proposals to change the way we fund free childcare and early years education. Our consultation can be found at: <https://consult.education.gov.uk/early-years-funding/eynff>

08 Sep 2016 | Written questions | 45020

[Children: Day Care](#)

**Asked by:** Zeichner, Daniel

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many (a) nursery schools, (b) day-care facilities and (c) children's centres have closed due to funding shortages in each of the last three years.

**Answering member:** Mr Sam Gyimah | **Party:** Conservative Party | **Department:** Department for Education

The department does not collect information on the reasons for the closure of nursery schools, day-care facilities or children's centres.

**Nursery schools**

The number of closed nursery schools are given by year in the table below.

Calendar Year	Number of MNS Closures
2013	3
2014	4
2015	5

Local authorities have a duty to secure sufficient childcare in their local area. In consultation with their Schools Forum, they are responsible for deciding how best to distribute early years funding across their locality.

There is a presumption against the closure of any maintained nursery school. The local authority must consult on any proposed closures, clearly demonstrating the rationale for so doing.

**Day-care facilities**

The childcare market has steadily expanded. The latest figures from the Childcare Providers Survey (September 2014) shows that the:

number of registered places in full day care settings rose by ten per cent between 2011 and 2013.

long term increase in the number of full day care providers continued in 2013. In total there were 17,900 full day care settings in 2013 (compared to 17,600 in 2011).

### Children's centres

Local authorities have a duty under the Childcare Act 2006 to ensure sufficient children's centres to meet the needs of local families. Local authorities must meet their statutory duties on children's centres from funding that forms part of the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) Business Rates Retention Scheme. In addition, other government funding, including that for public health, adult skills training and troubled families may also be used locally to support services delivered wholly, or in part, through children's centres. Local authorities must consult fully before any significant changes are made to children's centre services.

There is a strong network of children's centres. At 31 December 2015, there were 2,605 main children's centres open and 731 additional sites offering access to early childhood services. The numbers of closed children's centres are given by year in the table below:

Calendar Year	Number of main children's centres closed by year
2013	32
2014	83
2015	144

09 Jun 2016 | Written questions | House of Commons | 38640

### School funding

[Schools: Finance](#)

**Asked by:** Seema Malhotra

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, when the new National Funding Formula for schools will be introduced.

**Answered by:** Nick Gibb

In July, the Secretary of State committed to introduce national funding formulae for schools and high needs from the financial year 2018-19. We will set out detailed proposals later in the autumn, and make decisions early next year, for the new system to be in place from April 2018.

10 October 2016 | Written questions | 47866

[Universities: Admissions](#)

**Asked by:** McGinn, Conor

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, how many school leavers in (a) St Helens North constituency, (b) Merseyside, (c) the North West and (d) the UK who were (i) entitled and (ii) not entitled to free school meals went to university in the last five years for which information is available.

**Answering member:** Edward Timpson

Information is given on the number and percentage of students completing key stage 5 study (A level and other level 3 qualifications) in mainstream state funded schools and colleges and progressing to study at a UK Higher Education Institution for at least two terms the following year; in each of the last four years for which information is available.

The tables below show comparable figures for: a) St Helens North constituency; b) Merseyside metropolitan county (comprising Liverpool, Knowsley, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral); c) The North West region; and d) England. The department does not hold information on students leaving schools in other constituent countries of the UK. Numbers of pupils are shown rounded to the nearest ten, as published. Percentages are calculated on unrounded figures.

In each of the last four years, around 10 students in St Helens North constituency who had been eligible for free school meals in year 11 (FSM) and completed key stage 5 study progressed to higher education. These represented between 31% and 52% of the FSM students completing key stage 5 study. For students who had not been eligible for free school meals (non-FSM) between 110 and 160 students in St Helens North progressed to higher education each year, representing between 48% and 63% of such students completing key stage 5.

Information on pupil destinations at local authority, regional and national level is published annually on gov.uk at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-destinations>

**a)**

St. Helens North constituency	Number of students completing KS5		Number at UK Higher Education Institution		% at UK Higher Education Institution (calculated on unrounded figures)	
	(rounded to nearest 10)		(rounded to nearest 10)			
	FSM	Non-FSM	FSM	Non-FSM	FSM	Non-FSM
2013/14 (2012/13 KS5 cohort)	40	250	10	120	31%	48%
2012/13 (2011/12 KS5 cohort)	30	200	10	110	52%	56%
2011/12 (2010/11 KS5 cohort)	20	250	10	160	47%	63%



2010/11 (2009/10 KS5 cohort)	30	250	10	140	41%	55%
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## b)

Merseyside metropolitan county	Number of students completing KS5		Number at UK Higher Education Institution		% at UK Higher Education Institution (calculated on unrounded figures)	
	(rounded to nearest 10)		(rounded to nearest 10)			
	FSM	Non- FSM	FSM	Non- FSM	FSM	Non- FSM
2013/14 (2012/13 KS5 cohort)	1,340	7,950	520	4,180	39%	53%
2012/13 (2011/12 KS5 cohort)	1,250	8,020	520	4,280	41%	53%
2011/12 (2010/11 KS5 cohort)	1,300	8,290	520	4,800	40%	58%
2010/11 (2009/10 KS5 cohort)	1,320	8,500	520	4,490	39%	53%

## c)

North West	Number of students completing KS5		Number at UK Higher Education Institution		% at UK Higher Education Institution (calculated on unrounded figures)	
	(rounded to nearest 10)		(rounded to nearest 10)			
	FSM	Non- FSM	FSM	Non- FSM	FSM	Non- FSM
2013/14 (2012/13 KS5 cohort)	5,460	44,440	2,290	23,310	42%	52%
2012/13 (2011/12 KS5 cohort)	5,230	44,190	2,210	23,010	42%	52%
2011/12 (2010/11	4,680	43,310	2,110	24,790	45%	57%

KS5  
cohort)

2010/11 (2009/10 KS5 cohort)	4,450	44,190	1,930	23,640	43%	53%
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d)

England	Number of students completing KS5		Number at UK Higher Education Institution		% at UK Higher Education Institution (calculated on unrounded figures)	
	(rounded to nearest 10)		(rounded to nearest 10)			
	FSM	Non-FSM	FSM	Non-FSM	FSM	Non-FSM
2013/14 (2012/13 KS5 cohort)	35,390	323,580	15,550	157,220	44%	49%
2012/13 (2011/12 KS5 cohort)	31,670	314,120	14,140	150,300	45%	48%
2011/12 (2010/11 KS5 cohort)	28,770	306,720	13,540	163,010	47%	53%
2010/11 (2009/10 KS5 cohort)	27,250	313,940	12,130	152,490	45%	49%

05 Sep 2016 | Written questions | 43624

[Schools: Finance](#)

**Asked by:** Phillips, Jess

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, what estimate she has made of the number of schools that may be in deficit by 2020 as a result of changes to the schools funding formula.

**Answering member:** Mr Sam Gyimah

It is important that school funding is allocated fairly and transparently according to need. The proposed national funding formula will put an end to the unfair arrangements whereby pupils who live in one local area attract more funding than pupils, with the same characteristics, who live in another area. In the first stage of the consultation we set out

the principles behind the formula, and the factors we propose to include. We will set out further details in the second stage of the consultation which will launch later this year.

09 May 2016 | Written questions | 36130

[Schools: Finance](#)

**Asked by:** Timms, Stephen

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, pursuant to her financial statement of 16 March 2016, Official Report, column 963, how the £500 million funding will be used to speed up the introduction of a fair national school funding formula.

**Answering member:** Mr Sam Gyimah

The Chancellor announced at the Budget that £540 million would be provided to the Department for Education to support the school reform agenda. This will supplement the department's Spending Review settlement.

We will spend around £500 million over the Spending Review period, over and above the per pupil protection of the core school budget, to accelerate the introduction of a fair national funding formula. All of this funding will be provided to support children's education.

The funding means that the government will be able to accelerate gains for schools that are due to see funding increases under the formula, while continuing to offer a minimum funding guarantee for all schools. We are currently consulting on the principles and funding factors that should define the national funding formula for schools. A second consultation, later this year, will address the weighting attached to those factors and transitional arrangements, including the use of this funding.

A link to the consultation can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/schools-national-funding-formula>.

22 Mar 2016 | Written questions | 31704

[Schools: Finance](#)

**Asked by:** Umunna, Mr Chuka

To ask the Secretary of State for Education, when her Department plans to publish the findings of the first phase of its consultation on a national schools funding formula; and when the second phase of that consultation is planned to commence.

**Answering member:** Edward Timpson | **Department:** Department for Education

We received a high number of responses to the first stage of our consultation on the principles and building blocks of the schools national funding formula. Those will inform our detailed proposals for the design of the formula, which we will put forward later this year. We

must allow appropriate time to consider what would be significant reforms, and we remain committed to introducing the formula from 2017-18 so that schools can start to benefit from fairer funding as soon as possible.

19 Jul 2016 | Written questions | 42318

## 4.2 Debates

### [School Funding](#)

HC Debate 21 Jul 2016 613 cc968-976

### [Early Years Development and School-Readiness](#)

HC Deb 12 July 2016 613 cc27-53WH

### [Education, Skills and Training](#)

HC Debate 25 May 2016 611 cc542-644

### [Life Chances Strategy](#)

HL Debate 11 May 2016 771 cc1748-1772

## 5. Further reading and reports

Library Debate Pack: [Children's early years development and school readiness](#)

[Early years funding: changes to funding for 3 and 4 year olds - Department for Education - August 2016](#)

[Family and Childcare Trust, response to DfE's early years funding proposals, undated](#)

[Schools national funding formula - Department for Education - March 2016](#)

[Implications of a national funding formula for schools in England, Institute for Fiscal Studies presentation, May 2016](#)

[Long-run trends in school spending in England, Institute for Fiscal Studies, April 2016.](#)

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