

# Wilmslow High School

Headteacher: J.H. Pullé, BA (Hons), Ph.D, PGCE, NPQH

Holly Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 1LZ

Tel: 01625 526191 • Fax: 01625 536858 • Email: [reception@wilmslowhigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:reception@wilmslowhigh.cheshire.sch.uk)



10th February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Educational excellence for ALL in Cheshire East threatened by proposed National Funding Formula**

The campaign encouraging the government to reconsider its proposed weighting of the different elements of the new National Funding Formula for schools is undoubtedly having impact.

Media coverage both locally and in many other areas of the country has been extensive and the issue is expected to remain in the headlines for weeks to come.

[http://www.wilmslowguardian.co.uk/news/15078794.REVEALED\\_Wilmslow\\_schools\\_stand\\_to\\_lose\\_1\\_8\\_million\\_a\\_year\\_in\\_funding\\_by\\_2019/](http://www.wilmslowguardian.co.uk/news/15078794.REVEALED_Wilmslow_schools_stand_to_lose_1_8_million_a_year_in_funding_by_2019/)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-38557843>

<https://www.tes.com/news/school-news/breaking-news/funding-prime-minister-told-one-headteacher-running-great-north-run>

MPs have received many letters from their constituents and I am very grateful to all of you who have already written; it is clearly leading to substantial backbench pressure on the government. For example, recently the Prime Minister was reported as saying that she knew the National Funding Formula was an “important point” on the minds of a number of MPs, and added:

*“In looking at these reforms, I can assure my honourable friend we want to get this right. It is why we are consulting, and it’s why we will look very closely at the responses to that consultation.”*

We have secured a strong statement of support from our MP, George Osborne, and his letter to parents is reproduced below.

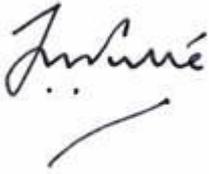
The consistent message is that at this stage we need to prepare to respond to the Department for Education consultation: <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

However, this is not a straightforward document and to help you to respond we will be providing guidance after half-term on what we believe to be the main lines of argument. Before then the key message is that the NFF, as proposed, will seriously limit our ability to educate all children to the level necessary to enable them to reach their full potential because the **basic per pupil funding values are too low**.

Please check our dedicated school website page at <http://www.wilmslowhigh.com/parents/impact-of-national-funding-formula/> for further information and updates.

In the meantime, if you have any particular queries or proposals for how to build support for change please do not hesitate to use the following email address: [nff@wilmslowhigh.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:nff@wilmslowhigh.cheshire.sch.uk).

Yours faithfully



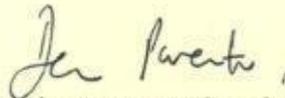
Dr James Pullé  
Headteacher



**THE RT HON GEORGE OSBORNE CH MP**

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
Telephone: 020 7219 8214 Email: [george.osborne.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:george.osborne.mp@parliament.uk)

3 February 2017



I understand your concern about the changes to the National Funding Formula and how it might affect schools in Wilmslow and across East Cheshire.

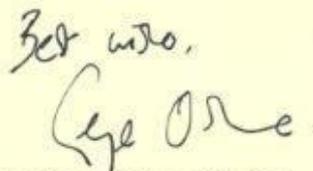
I have read the detailed letter from James Pullé and David Bennett and clearly there are real issues that need to be addressed. As their letter says, we all want to see a fair, transparent funding formula for schools that reflects the different needs and challenges they face. No one thinks the current formula is fit for purpose, which is why I've been arguing for changes since I first became your local MP - and I've joined forces with other Cheshire MPs to do so. The question is: how do we achieve that?

The Department for Education is currently consulting on its initial proposals. These are the proposals that have caused such concern and are the basis for James and David's calculations. That consultation has not yet closed and it remains open until 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

As James and David suggest - and I agree - it's important that any parents who are concerned about the funding changes takes part in the consultation. The strength and weight of voices in these government consultations can make a real difference. You can take part in the consultation by using this web link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/schools-national-funding-formula-stage-2>

I will also be making representation to the Department and responding to the consultation. I will work with the other local MPs to make sure the case for Cheshire is properly considered. We will then await the results of the consultation and once we know where we stand - we can plan our next step.

I am determined that the voice of Cheshire's schools will be heard.



Rt Hon George Osborne CH MP

Working for the constituents of Tatton

Constituency telephone: 01565 873037 Website: [www.georgeosborne4tatton.com](http://www.georgeosborne4tatton.com)