



Sutton-in-Craven C.P.School
Bridge Road
Sutton-in-Craven
Near Keighley
North Yorkshire BD20 7ES

March 2017

Dear Parent/Carers

School Funding

You may have heard a number of stories in the news about school funding. Some of these stories may have caused concern and we felt it important that we let you know, as far as we are able to at this stage, how this will affect our school.

School budgets across the country have been under pressure for some time. The Senior Leadership Team at Sutton-in-Craven CP School continues to deal with these funding challenges. As we begin to review the school budget for the next academic year, it is likely that we will have to make some tough decisions.

Our school is not alone. The National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT) has shown that more than half of school leaders felt that their budget would be very challenging by 2018/19. The National Audit Office estimates a £3 billion real terms cut across all phases and in all schools. This does not just affect us.

The recent headlines have been caused by a proposed new funding formula for schools, designed to create a fairer allocation. With increasing costs placed onto all schools, the new formula will not bring the benefits that we had hoped to see. We do not know the exact impact of the new proposals on our school. However, we are certain that the funding position for all schools will continue to remain challenging.

We are working hard to ensure that the continued improvement of teaching and learning is prioritised, despite the challenges that the cuts present. However, rising costs and a frozen budget mean that tough decisions will have to be taken. Please be assured that we will take the utmost care with budgets to ensure all the money we have is spent effectively on your children. We are also letting the Local Authority and Government know just how serious the funding crisis has become.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your continued support of our school.

Yours sincerely
Amanda Palfreman - Chair of Governors
Fiona Beetles - Headteacher