



# NUT Newsletter

## East Riding of Yorkshire NUT



*£320m for new Free Schools as funding crisis grows*

# Government under pressure as schools face cash crisis

**The school funding campaign is growing and putting the government under increased pressure.**

Across the country, through a combination of public meetings, school gate discussions, street stalls, demonstrations and social media the message is getting louder – that schools are facing a cash crisis and that more money is needed if we are to avoid a meltdown in education provision for young people.

Figures from the government's own *National Audit Office* and the independent *National Governors Association* highlight the scale of the problem:

- 8% cut in real terms spending between 2014 and 2019 as a result of cost pressures
- £3bn of savings required by mainstream schools to counteract cost pressures
- 98.5% of schools face a cut in per-pupil funding
- 60% of secondary academies spent more than their income in 2014/15
- 60% of schools plan redundancies this year

Already we are beginning to see the effect of these figures in the East Riding as they translate into:

- **Increased class sizes**
- **TA posts being cut**
- **Some subjects and courses being cut**
- **Clubs and extra provision being cut**
- **Less support for children with special needs**
- **TLR posts being cut and teachers expected to do more for less**

These are the worst education cuts for more than twenty years and they are hitting our poorest children hardest.

Against this background it beggars belief that the government announced, in the recent Budget, that they are putting £320m aside to fund more Free Schools, some of which can be grammar schools.

### **These cuts can be stopped and you can help**

These cuts are not set in stone and they do not have to happen; if we apply enough pressure to the government we can force them to change their spending plans.

That is why, across the country, teachers, parents, head teachers, governors and local councillors are coming together to speak up and are making the news.

A new parents group, *Fair Funding For All Schools*, has been set up and is making contact with parents in many

towns and cities.

In some places hundreds have turned out for public meetings, in others schools have held smaller, local, meetings for parents. In Shrewsbury over one thousand parents demonstrated. **This is a campaign that can be won. see below how you can be part of it.**

### **GOVERNMENT FUNDING MYTHS**

***"We are spending more money on schools"***

Yes, but there are thousands more pupils in the system. In fact spending is being cut in real terms.

***"No school will lose more than 3% under the new funding arrangements"***

Correct again, but these schools will be in "debt" and will not get a cash increase for many years.

### **Campaign steps and useful links**

Here are some very simple things we can all do to help the campaign and useful links to websites:

- 📄 Call a meeting in your school
- 📄 Talk to your head about holding a parents meeting
- 📄 Contact your local NUT association
- 📄 E-mail your MP
- 📄 Use the Twitter #schoolsjustwannahavefunds
- 📄 Talk to your friends and family

#### **Joint union cuts website**

[www.schoolcuts.org.uk](http://www.schoolcuts.org.uk)

#### **Fair Funding For All Schools**

### **Have you seen this poster?**

This poster has been sent to all schools by the DfE in response to growing concerns about teacher workload.

Make sure it is discussed in your school and used to reduce your workload.

Go to [www.teachers.org.uk](http://www.teachers.org.uk) for more information.

