

# Spending Review 2021 – Education Headlines

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## Core school budget

- Allocation of an additional £4.7 billion for the core school budget, over and above the spending commitments made in 2019
- Broadly equivalent to cash increase of over £1,500 per pupil by 2024-25 compared to 2019-20
- Core school budget will increase from £49.8 billion in 2021-22 to £56.8 billion in 2024-25, a real terms increase of 2.5%
- The Institute of Fiscal Studies indicates that this allows for a 4% increase in school spending per pupil in 2022-23 and 1% in 2023-24 and 2024-25
- Extra funding will go towards supporting the pledge to raise new teacher starting salaries to £30,000, though there is no indication of when this will become a requirement
- The end of the public sector pay freeze would suggest the new funding settlement will need to cover any future pay increases
- Settlement “includes public sector compensation for employer costs of Health and Social Care Levy”, i.e. the increase in national insurance contributions of 1.25% from next April

## Education recovery

- Spending review includes an additional £1.8 billion for education recovery, on top of the £3.1 billion already announced [this compares with the £15 billion that the Government’s catch-up commissioner Sir Kevan Collins advised was required]
- Of this, £1.0 billion will fund the ‘recovery premium’ for the next two academic years “to help schools to deliver evidence-based approaches to support the most disadvantaged pupils”
- Primary schools will continue to receive an additional £145 per eligible pupil, while the amount for secondary schools will “nearly double”
- An average secondary school of 1,000 pupils will receive up to £70,000 per year, while an average primary school of 200 pupils will receive £6,000
- This appears to be an extension of the current school-led tutoring fund, but could also cover the costs of after-school provision and summer schools
- Balance of £0.8 billion will “ensure all 16-19 students will benefit from an additional 40 hours of education across the academic year – the equivalent of one additional hour per week in school or college”, to be used for extra teaching and learning depending on students’ individual needs

## SEND places

- £2.6 billion capital funding over next three years to create 30,000 new school places for pupils with SEND in both mainstream and special schools - includes improvements in the suitability and accessibility of existing buildings as well as new special and alternative provision free schools

## Holiday Activities and Food Programme

- Will continue to be funded at over £200 million a year covering Easter, summer and Christmas holiday periods in 2022 and future years

## Early Years

- Reaffirmed plans to invest £150 million in the training of early years staff to “support children’s learning and development”

- An additional £160 million in 2022-23, £180 million in 2023-24 and £170 million in 2024-25 announced for the funding paid to nurseries and early years providers for state-backed nursery places “to increase the hourly rate paid to early years providers to deliver the Government’s free hours offers”
- Settlement confirmed plans to spend £18 million on a network of ‘family hubs’ and £20 million of parenting support