



SHILLINGSTONE C.E. V.A. PRIMARY SCHOOL

GROWING TOGETHER · TOGETHER WE LEARN

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Dear parents/carers,

School Funding

You may have seen a number of stories in the press around school funding. There have been worrying headlines. School budgets across the country have been under pressure for some time. The headteacher and governing board at Shillingstone Primary School have been grappling with the funding challenges, leading to a number of tough decisions being made to reduce costs and make efficiencies.

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 untenable by 2018/19. The National Audit Office estimate a £3 billion real terms cut across all phases and in all schools. This doesn't just affect us.

The recent headlines have been caused by a proposed new funding formula for schools, designed to create a fairer allocation. However, with increasing costs placed onto all schools the new formula will not bring the benefits that we had hoped to see. The School Cuts website outlines the losses we are expecting in the next financial year.

Please be assured that, as usual, we will take the utmost care with budgets, to ensure all the money we have is spent effectively to ensure your children continue to make effective progress. We are also writing to the local authority and government to let them know how difficult it is to run a school on the money we are allocated.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J. Whitehouse-Sharpe