

## **Additional financial support available to schools up to the end of the summer term from DfE**

Summary for the School funding: exceptional costs associated with coronavirus (COVID-19) for the period March to July 2020 issued yesterday: [Covid 19 Financial support for schools](#)

- Funding will be available for all state-funded mainstream and special schools, and alternative provision and does not affect usual core funding allocations already confirmed to continue for all schools, regardless of periods of partial or full closure
- LAs to continue to receive high needs budgets and should continue to pay top-up and other high needs funding to schools, just as schools should continue to pay top-up or other funding for pupils attending alternative provision (AP), or other SEND or AP services
- Funding will be available for specific and necessary items to support those children currently in school, where costs can't be met from existing resources
  - Schools are not expected to draw on current reserves, but should not make a claim if anticipating they will be adding to their reserves in the 2020-21 financial year
- Schools to meet the additional costs from their existing budgets in the first instance and maintain suitable expenditure records for local audit arrangements
- Further guidance will be published in June on the process for claiming additional costs incurred
- Schools should continue to manage their budgets in the most effective way possible and redirect existing resources as necessary to support all pupils, but particularly vulnerable children and children of key workers
- Additional costs covered by the fund:
  - **Increased premises related costs** associated with keeping the school open in the holidays
  - **Support for FSM eligible pupils not attending schools**, where costs not covered by the national voucher scheme, e.g. costs prior to the introduction of the national voucher scheme, costs where the national scheme is inappropriate, such as no local participating supermarkets or schools providing meals directly
  - **Additional cleaning** – for confirmed/suspected COVID-19 cases (over and above existing cleaning arrangements)
- Unavoidable additional staffing costs (e.g. where time off in lieu of extra work in the holidays, use of the supply budget are not possible) should be discussed with the RSC (
- Schools' expected expenditure costs are not covered, e.g. exam fees, where the exams will not take place
- If schools identify other 'extraordinary' costs not covered in the list, contact [DFE.CoronavirusHelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DFE.CoronavirusHelpline@education.gov.uk)
- Funding limits for schools

<b>Mainstream schools</b>	
250 pupils or fewer	£25,000
251 to 500 pupils	£30,000
501 to 1000 pupils	£50,000
Over 1000 pupils	£75,000
<b>Special schools and alternative provision</b>	
All schools	£50,000

Where there are short term cash flow issues, maintained schools should seek advice from the LA and non-maintained from the ESFA