



Department
for Education

Planned expenditure on schools, education and children's services by local authorities in England, 2015-16

About this release

This statistical release provides a summary of the planned expenditure by local authorities on schools, education and children and young people's services for the financial year April 2015 – March 2016

In this publication

The following tables are included:

- Budget tables (Excel .xls)

The accompanying quality and methodology information document, provides information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data.

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2. Individual Schools Budget
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Feedback

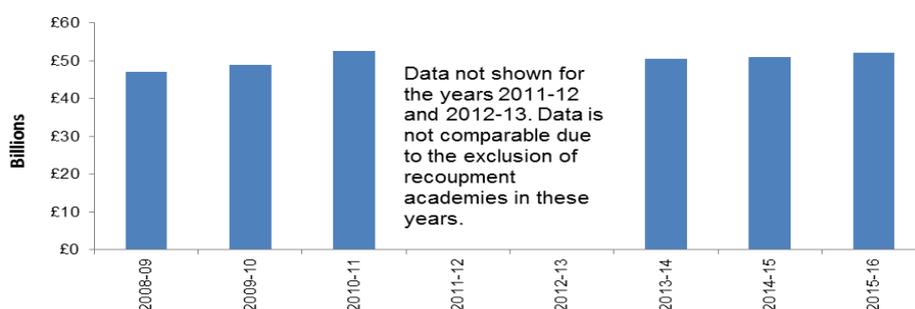
We are changing the way our releases look and welcome feedback on any aspect of this document at

marcia.merchant@education.gsi.gov.uk

The release mainly contains planned spend for local authority maintained schools. Some areas of spend are therefore affected by the number of schools that are now academies.

All figures in this release are presented in cash terms and have not been adjusted for inflation.

Local Authority Planned Spend on schools, education and children's services has increased since 2014-15



Local Authority planned spend on schools, education and children and young people's services for 2015-16 is £52.1 billion, an increase of £1.2 billion from the 2014-15 planned spend.

The majority of this is made up by the Total Schools Budget Planned Spend

As in previous years, the majority of local authorities planned spend is on the total schools budget. The planned spend on total schools budget is £41.0 billion.

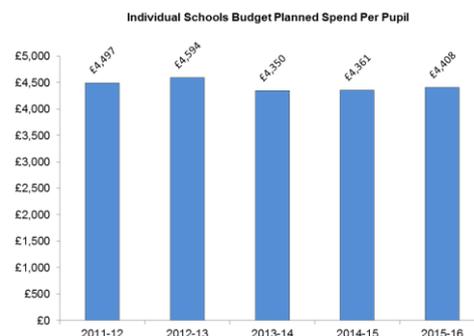
The planned spend on Children's and Young People's Services is £8.2 billion.

The planned spend on Other Education and Community is £2.9 billion.

Individual Schools Budget: Planned spend per pupil has increased since 2014-15

Education spending is largely driven by pupil numbers. It is therefore important to consider per pupil spending to give a better indication of whether spending is falling or increasing once changes to pupil numbers have been taken into account. This has become increasingly important as more academies have opened.

The planned spend per pupil is £4,408, up from £4,361 in 2014-15. There was a drop of £244 per pupil between 2012-13 and 2013-14 but since then this has continued to rise.



1. Local Authority Planned Spend on schools, education and children’s services (Table 1)

Year on year comparison of the local authority planned expenditure:
 England, 2014-15 and 2015-16

		2014-15	2015-16	Difference
Total Schools Budget	Gross	£39.6b	£41.0b	£1.4b increase
	Net	£39.5b	£40.8b	£1.3b increase
Total Other Education and Community Budget	Gross	£3.0b	£2.9b	£0.1b decrease
	Net	£2.2b	£2.1b	£0.1b decrease
Total Children’s and Young People’s Services including Youth Justice	Gross	£8.3b	£8.2b	£0.1b decrease
	Net	£7.6b	£7.5b	£0.1b decrease
Total Planned Expenditure	Gross	£50.9b	£52.1b	£1.2b increase
	Net	£49.3b	£50.5b	£1.2b increase

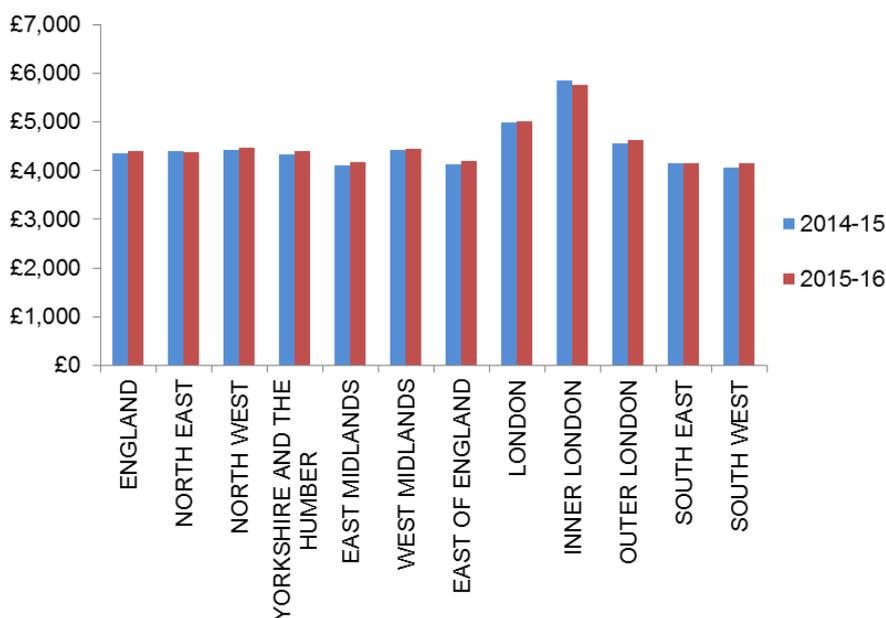
1. Gross figures are actual total estimated costs of the activities before allowance for any expected income, but after allowing for any “buyback” income from the local authority’s own schools to avoid double-counting. Both expenditure and income should be excluded where LA maintained schools are buying services.

2. Net figures are calculated automatically by subtracting any income from the gross figures.

3. All figures in this table are presented in cash terms and have not been adjusted for inflation.

2. Individual Schools Budget (Tables 1 and 4)

Individual Schools Budget per capita by region 2014-15 and 2015-16



Planned spend per pupil varies between regions, with the highest planned spend being £5,759 per pupil in Inner London, compared with £4,143 per pupil in the South West.

Since 2013-14 the Individual Schools Budget figures within the Total Schools Budget also include figures for recoupment academies which increases the coverage of this area of the schools budget. As almost all academies became recoupment academies in 2015-16 care must be taken to understand the context within which this data sits. Wherever possible, statistics are provided showing planned spending ‘per capita’ (by combining the financial return with pupil numbers and/or population estimates) to make comparisons over time more reliable.

3. Other Education and Community Budget (Tables 1, 2, 3 and 5)

This covers the central education functions performed by LAs e.g. Education Welfare Service, Education Psychologists, home to school transport, adult and community learning etc.

The increased numbers of schools which have converted to academy status means that planned expenditure for some areas of the other education and community budget has reduced.

In 2015-16 LAs' planned expenditure for this area has fallen from £3.0b to £2.9b, a drop of 3.1 per cent. The most noticeable areas with reduced planned gross spending are on asset management - education (a fall of £43.3m or 37.5 per cent), Statutory/Regulatory duties - education (a fall of £19.5m or 6.6 per cent) and school improvement (a fall of £16.7m or 7.6 per cent).

4. Children and Young People's Services including Youth Justice

(Tables 1, 2, 3 and 6)

This covers a range of services such as early years and Sure Start Children's Centres, children looked after and children and young people's safety, youth services and family support services.

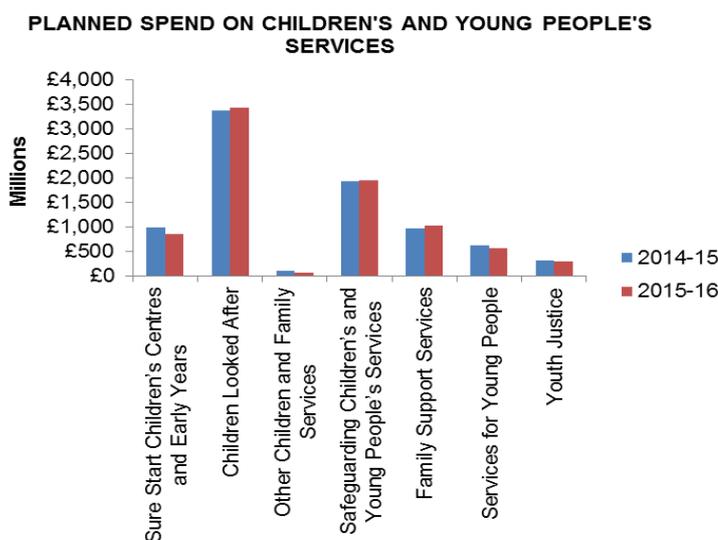
There has been a small decrease in the planned spending by LAs on the 'Children and Young People's Services' category. Planned expenditure in this area has decreased by £0.1b (gross) from £8.3b to £8.2b – a 1.0 per cent reduction between 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Year on year comparisons of the local authority planned expenditure on children and young people's services including youth justice:

England, 2014-15 and 2015-16

The chart shows that there is considerable variation in the planned expenditure between subcategories, with some areas seeing a rise and some a fall compared with 2014-15.

Sure Start children's centres and early years has the biggest decrease, from £985m in 2014-15 to £860m in 2015-16. Planned spend on looked after children has the biggest increase, from £3,370m in 2014-15 to £3,433m in 2015-16.



5. High Needs Place Funding (Table 7)

Planned expenditure on high needs places (in addition to the planned spend on high needs from budgets local authorities retain centrally) has also been affected by the number of schools converting to academy status, as well as by changes to the way that some local authorities have recorded their expenditure and other factors. This should be taken into account when making year-on-year comparisons.

Year on year comparisons of the local authority planned expenditure on high needs:

England, 2014-15 and 2015-16

		2014-15 (millions)	2015-16 (millions)	Change between 2014-15 and 2015-16 (millions)
High needs places:	Special school places	£870	£839	a decrease of £31
	Pupil referral unit places	£152	£161	an increase of £9
	Hospital education places	£34	£31	a decrease of £3

6. Early Years Education (Table 8)

Year on year comparisons of the local authority planned expenditure on early years education:

England, 2014-15 and 2015-16

		2014-15 (millions)	2015-16 (millions)	Change between 2014-15 and 2015-16 (millions)
Early years education:	Two year olds	£563	£520	a decrease of £43
	Three and four year olds	£1,981	£2,037	an increase of £56
	Central spend	£323	£239	a decrease of £84

Some elements of the planned spend on two, three and four year olds is also included in the planned central expenditure on children under five.

7. Accompanying tables

The following tables are available in Excel format on the department's statistics website which can be found [here](#).

National tables

- 1 Overview of planned expenditure by local authorities, 2014-15 to 2015-16
- 2 Schools budget by sector, 2015-16

Local authority and regional tables

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3 Planned expenditure by local authority, 2015-2016
Hyperlinked name | 6 Planned spend of net expenditure on children's and young people's services including youth justice by local authority, 2014-15 to 2015-16 |
| 4 Planned spend of net expenditure of individual schools budget by local authority, 2014-15 to 2015-16 | 7 Planned spend on high needs by local authority, 2015-16 |
| 5 Planned spend of net expenditure on other education and community budgets by local authority, 2014-15 to 2015-16 | 8 Planned spend on early years education by local authority, 2015-16 |

When reviewing the tables, please note that:

We preserve confidentiality

The Code of Practice for Official Statistics requires we take reasonable steps to ensure that our published or disseminated statistics protect confidentiality.

So we round numbers

Because of this rounding, totals in text and in tables may not always equal the sum of their component parts. Similarly, differences quoted in text may not always be the same as differences shown in tables. This is consistent with the [Departmental statistical policy](#).

And adopt symbols to help identify this

Symbols are used in the tables as follows:
 . not applicable
 .. not available

8. Further information is available

Previously published budget figures are available [here](#).

Section 251 Outturn statistics. Whereas this release focuses on planned expenditure, outturn statistics focus on actual expenditure by LAs (and their schools). The latest published data is available [here](#).

9. Official Statistics

The United Kingdom Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as Official Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods, and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as Official Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Department has a set of [statistical policies](#) in line with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

10. Technical Information

A quality and methodology information document accompanies this release. This provides further information on the data sources, their coverage and quality and explains the methodology used in producing the data, including how it is validated and processed.

11. Got a query? Like to give feedback?

If from the media	Press Office News Desk, Department for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT. 020 7783 8300
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for Education

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This document is also available from our website [here](#).