



Schools Forum September 2026

Welcome to Issue 19, a pre-Forum Edition of the eNewsletter of the Lancashire Schools' Forum.

School Funding Arrangements Consultation 2027/28

The School Funding Formula and De-delegation Consultation 2027/28 was issued to schools on 18th September 2026. The deadline for responses is 11th October 2026. Initial proposals were presented to members in the summer term.

The consultation seeks view on:

- The continuation of the 0.50% Schools Block transfer to the HNB, which is anticipated to continue the HNB mitigation work which was agreed for the 2026/27 usage of the block transfer
- Views on the level of Minimum Funding Guarantee (MFG) that should be applied in Lancashire for 2027/28.
- Proposal for the service de-delegations in 2027/28, which are:
 - Staff costs – Public Duties/Suspensions – Proposals remain the same as 2026/27 with charges increasing by 2%.
 - Heritage Learning Service (Museum Service) - *Primary Schools Only* – Proposals remain the same 2026/27, and charges are held at the same level.

It is extremely important to the County Council and the Schools Forum to be able to reflect the views of Lancashire schools when making decisions about block transfers, MFG level, and de-delegation arrangements for 2027/28, as these decisions are binding on all primary and secondary schools.

Please let us know your views on the proposals for 2027/28 by completing the consultation questionnaire available [here](#), by **11th October 2026**.

Early Years Funding Arrangements Consultation 2027/28

The consultation also seeks views on the Early Years Funding Formula in regard to a 2.75% a central retention and contributions towards SEND in the sector.

Please let us know your views on the proposals for 2027/28 by completing the consultation questionnaire available [here](#), by **11th October 2026**.

All responses will be reviewed and analysed by the Local Authority. A summary of the feedback received will be presented to Lancashire Schools Forum on 15 October 2026 for consideration ahead of the implementation of the 2027/28 budget setting process.

LGR News

The Government has unexpectedly announced a pause and review of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Lancashire. While ministers have



acknowledged the significant work already undertaken and the disappointment this may cause, they have reaffirmed their commitment to both LGR and devolution during this Parliament. Work on the Lancashire LGR Programme will continue. Councils across Lancashire are continuing to work together and will adapt our plans as the review progresses, ensuring we are prepared for whatever decision is made.

National News

Teachers Employer Pension Contributions

In July 2026, DfE announced that from April 2027, employer contribution rates for the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) will decrease from 28.6% to 17.6%. This change will not reduce the value of the defined benefit teachers' pension for current or retired teachers.

Funding for schools will therefore be reduced to reflect the decreased cost at national level and thus be cost neutral for public sector employers as a whole. More information can be found [here](#).

Schools Forum Updates

Schools Forum Dates

- Lancashire Schools Forum 15th October 2026
- Lancashire Schools Forum 14th January 2027
- Lancashire Schools Forum 23rd March 2027
- Lancashire Schools Forum 06th July 2027

Schools Forum Minutes

The draft minutes from the Forum meeting held on 3rd July 2026 will be available on the [Schools Forum](#) website.

Schools Forum Membership 2026

The latest membership list can be found on the [website](#).

As part of the annual review process, the following vacancies are available. If you are interested in becoming a forum member, please complete the appropriate link below.

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| • Primary Gov [3] | • Academy Secondary Gov [2] |
| • Secondary Gov | • Academy Primary Gov |
| • Academy - Alt Prov Head | • Academy - Special Gov |
| • Academy - Alt Prov Gov | |

Please contact the schools forum clerk if you would like any further information.

Questions?

Remember, if you have any questions about the Schools Forum, please contact the Schools Forum Clerk, Millie Parkinson via schoolsforum@lancashire.gov.uk. Or visit the [Lancashire County Council School Forum](#) website for more information.

