HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Catherine McKinnell MP
Minister for School Standards
Department for Education
Sanctuary Buildings
20 Great Smith Street
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By email

Reference No. HW69162 11 August 2025

Dear Catherine

School finances are at breaking point

I met head teachers from my constituency before the schools broke up for the summer holidays. They told me they are worried sick about their school's finances.

One head teacher told me:

"All we want is the best for the children, but I spend my entire time worrying about finances and not about the children."

School budgets have often been tight, but the recent increase in Employer National Insurance is pushing schools to the brink. Head teachers told me that extra costs are forcing them to increase class sizes, cut subjects, drop A-level courses and make staff redundant – with music and sport often casualties too.

Can you let me know what plans the Government has to ease the financial burden on schools so that head teachers can focus more on the education and wellbeing of their students and less about balancing the books?

Yours sincerely



Helen Whately MP
Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent

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