

Background

Dobcroft Schools are suffering from a “perfect storm” in terms of funding:

- All schools across England are facing budget cuts in real terms.
- Due to an outdated funding formula, Sheffield receives a below average level of education funding.
- As a suburban school with low levels of disadvantage, Dobcroft receives less funding per child than most other schools in Sheffield.

Over the last 4-5 years, the schools have managed this pressure via cost reductions. They have involved increasingly difficult choices. 2017-18 saw both governing bodies choosing between which option would affect children’s education least.

Dobcroft Infant School requires a new roof, at a cost of £90,000. However, the annual Capital Expenditure budget for the school is just £7,320.

Dobcroft Junior School requires mobile classroom repairs at a cost of £60,000, but the annual Capital Expenditure budget of £8,000 is already allocated.

Governors have prepared 2018-19 budgets, and the **pressures are greater than ever**. If the schools are to provide the quality of education we all strive for, **increasing income rather than cost reduction** is the only way of achieving this.

The National Fair Funding Formula proposed by the Government is a red herring for our schools. Income growth is expected to lag behind cost increases for the foreseeable future in education.

Data

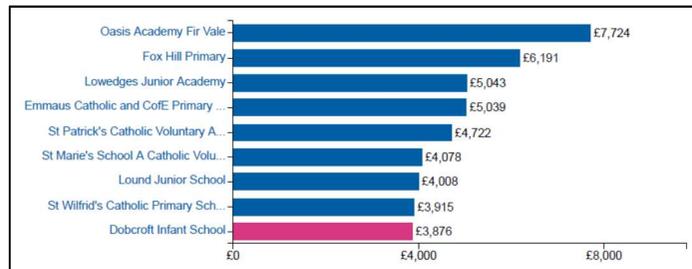
Average Spend per School by Region (Per Pupil 2014-2015)



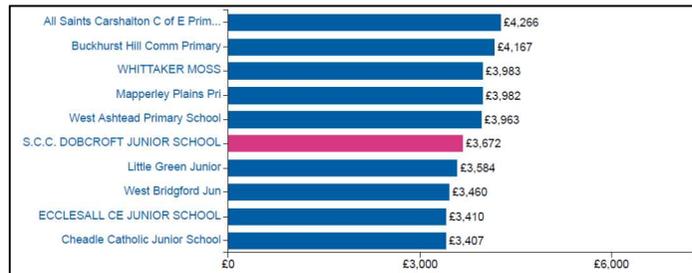
Source:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/>

Distribution of Funding to Local Infant Schools (Grant Funding Per Pupil 2015-2016)



Distribution of Funding to Local Junior Schools (Grant Funding Per Pupil 2015-2016)



Source:

<https://schools-financial-benchmarking.service.gov.uk>

Standing Order Form

To the Manager (Name and Address of Bank):

I/we hereby authorise and request you to debit my/our account (Account Name):

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Account Details:

Sort Code:	
Account No:	

Payments:

Amount:	£
Frequency:	Monthly
Start Date:	

Charity Number 1142672:

Sort Code: 54 41 47

Account Number: 02 03 23 25

Quoting Reference:

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(Signature):

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Gift Aid Declaration

(Boost your donation by 25p for every £1 you donate)

I wish to Gift Aid this donation (tick box)

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title:	
First Name:	
Surname:	
Address:	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Date:	

What You Can Do

1. Donate your money

Use the form at the back of this leaflet to set up a monthly standing order. Gift Aid will add 25p to each £1 you donate.

2. Donate your skills

You can enhance the children's wellbeing and education by donating your time and skills:

- Building maintenance and repair.
- Gardening and grounds maintenance.
- Classroom support, such as listening to reading or preparing arts and crafts.

3. Donate your time

If each parent gave 1 hour per year to support the "Friends of Dobcroft Schools" (FODS) events we could do **so much more** to both raise income and provide great 'whole school experiences'.

4. Participate in School Events

Join in with all school and FODS events to help build a strong and vibrant school community. I am willing to help out with:

A gardening and BBQ Afternoon

"Deep Cleaning" at the end of term

Help at **ONE** FODS event per year

Got a skillset (e.g painter/decorator) that could really help us? Please tell us here:

Your e-mail address:

How Your Money Is Spent

The Friends of Dobcroft Schools (FODS) is a Charity (Number 1142672), the charter sets out that money can only be spent to directly enhance the education and welfare of children at Dobcroft Infant and Junior Schools. Expenditure is split equally between Infant and Junior Schools. The heads of both schools and the chair of FODS are trustees of the charity.

Typical expenditure includes:

- New playground equipment
- IT equipment & Refurbishing classrooms
- Special Events and Visits

How Much Could You Give?

All regular donations to FODS are completely voluntary and confidential.

Our target is to consistently raise an additional £1 per pupil per day (£20 per child per month), but any regular donation will have a huge impact.

£5 per pupil per month could:

- Repair playground equipment
- Enable essential buildings and grounds maintenance

£10 per pupil per month could, in addition:

- Provide new IT equipment and training for children
- Address the budget deficits of both schools
- Restore Teaching Assistants in classrooms to previous levels, having a direct impact on pupil performance.

£20 per pupil per month could, in addition:

- Return real term funding to "pre-austerity" levels
- Provide improved building facilities
- Increase the one-on-one teacher time for all children



Dobcroft Schools Funding Crisis

Dobcroft Infant and Junior schools are facing an unprecedented shortfall in funding. Despite employing all staff on the lowest reasonable rates, maintaining the maximum permissible staff to student ratios, and slashing all expenditure on maintenance and equipment, the infant school briefly went into the red in 2017. This is the first time in history that the school has gone into the red.

School funding from central government is now below the level required to fulfil the basic educational and welfare needs of our children.

This leaflet sets out the ways in which you can support Dobcroft Schools, to ensure that your children receive the education and school experience we all desire.

This leaflet is endorsed by:

Christina Besford
Chair, Friends of Dobcroft Schools

Cathy Rowland
Head Teacher, Dobcroft Infant School

Nicola Sexton
Head Teacher, Dobcroft Junior School