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Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

I hope that the summer went well, and you got to spend some quality time as a family.

I am writing to you in my role as CEO of Passmores Cooperative Learning Community, the Trust that oversees the running of our schools, due to the emails I have received concerning the impact of the funding issues being faced by schools on the children. Firstly, it is important to emphasise that we will do everything in our power to make sure no child misses any educational opportunity. However, it is exceedingly difficult.

The facts of the situation are as follows:

The government has increased funding to all schools in attempt to return the level to that which we received in 2010. An analysis of this has shown that the increase would be 3% short of that amount - and, unfortunately, costs have risen since 2010 so we are going to have to make significant savings. [School funding 'will barely increase' over next three years due to inflation | Tes](#)

We have compared our income and costs this year, to the same time last year, and we are £487,000 worse off now than 12 months ago. This is due to increased energy costs, inflation and the unfunded pay awards given by the government. These are issues for us to deal with and we will. However, it will mean that we will need to look at where we can save money or increase our income.

Many of you have asked what does this funding shortfall mean for your child?

We are constantly reviewing all expenditure and have already decided the following:

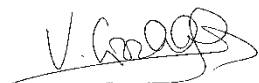
- We will not replace staff that leave unless it is crucial that we do e.g. would create an unsafe environment.
- Books and/or equipment will not be replaced or improved unless it's essential to do so.
- Following the positive impact of one-to-one devices during the pandemic we planned to increase the access to technology for our young people. This has been cancelled.
- The timing of turning on the school heating is being assessed.
- A review of the range of subjects we offer at key stage 4 as smaller classes and expensive resources are unaffordable.
- Having had to make redundancies twice since 2010 we have extraordinarily little leeway in staffing, but we will assess whether a further reduction is possible.

Obviously, we hope that our new Prime Minister responds to the need to increase funding of schools across the country as the young people have had a difficult few years and we should be investing more and not less in their futures. Our local MP, Robert Halfon, has spoken up in support of a funding increase and continues to work with us to raise the issue.

I will keep you updated on the situation whilst doing all I can to raise the importance of the proper funding of education for our young people. Rising energy costs and inflation are a challenge for all of us but I feel that investment in the future of our children should be a priority for any government.

We know that our community is not shy about sharing their feelings so please do all you can to raise the issues outlined above in the best interests of your children.

Yours sincerely



Vic Goddard
CEO – Passmores Co-operative Learning Community

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