March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

**School Funding Crisis**

As you will be aware, schools across the London Borough of Waltham Forest are facing huge financial challenges and the Government’s planned National Funding Formula is set to make things far worse for the borough’s schools and its pupils.

The Government has stated that the scheme will redistribute funding across the country’s schools in a more equitable way however it is clear that this will not be the case. Already, many MPs and Councillors across the country, representing all shades of political opinion, are supporting Head Teachers and Governing Bodies in complaining of the potential damage to children’s education and opportunities. The likely outcome will be larger class sizes; a reduction in the subjects available at secondary level; less teaching time; fewer opportunities for sport and cultural activities; more difficulty in recruiting staff.

Waltham Forest Council will be making its concerns known to the government and, across London, Councils are working to raise the importance of the issue with the Government, through their MPs and through the media.

The London Borough of Waltham Forest and other London Councils will be providing a response to the Government’s consultation on the National Funding Formula.

Primary and secondary Headteachers want parents have a voice in this campaign and to provide their support by responding to the consultation by 22 March 2017. Therefore, you may wish to access a parent-led website <http://www.fairfundingforallschools.org>, which includes guides to responding to the consultation on the National Funding Formula, model letters to MPs, journalists and other useful resources.

By adding your voice, you are agreeing to support our call to the government to re-think the NFF and to invest more funding in schools, in particular to provide an additional £335m per year (1% of the DfE’s schools budget) to ensure no school loses funding as a direct result of the implementation of the National Funding Formula.

Yours sincerely

Waltham Forest Primary and Secondary Head Teachers