

Funding

There are several streams of capital funding available to schools and academies.

1. Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)

- Annual sum from the DfE allocated to every school / academy.
- Broadly based on number of pupils and type of school (primary / secondary).
- Paid directly to the school, usually during the summer term.
- Can be used for all capital projects > £2,000. Under this value, a project is by definition a revenue project.
- Examples of recent DFC projects include toilet refits, I-pads / laptops, outdoor play equipment and the creation of an intervention room.
- DFC can be saved for up to three years to allow larger projects to be undertaken.
- If you are a VA school, DFC is paid at 90% with the Governing Body required to pay the remaining 10% contribution. This contribution typically comes from parents association fund raising or the delegated budget.

2. School Condition Allocation (SCA)

- This funding is for capital projects beyond the reach of schools using only their DFC.
- Examples include hall extensions, new classrooms, enhanced reception security and playground extensions.
- For VA schools, this allocation is managed by the Diocese via an annual bidding process. Like with DFC, Governors must pay a 10% contribution.
- If you are in a MAT with > 5 academies and > 3,000 pupils then the MAT is awarded their own SCA to allocate.
- For VC's the Local Authority is liable for capital works to school premises. Please contact NCC for help with funding and organising works.

3. Condition Improvement Fund (CIF)

- An annual bidding process for single academies or those academies not part of a MAT large enough to be allocated SCA

4. Urgent Capital Support (UCS)

- Available for academies without access to SCA.
- For situations where the safety of pupils and staff are at risk, or where the closure of the whole, or a significant part of, the school is threatened.

5. S106 (developer funding)

- Significant local house building generates demand for school places in the area.
- NCC will notify you of any s106 available.
- These monies are to build new classrooms or extend existing classrooms.

6. Adhoc funds

- We keep abreast of adhoc capital funding and keep you informed.
- Examples include the 2020 Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) and the 2018 Healthy Pupil Capital Fund (HPCF).
- PSDS - to meet net zero carbon targets, the Government provided funding to help schools / academies decarbonise and become more energy efficient.
- HPCF - funded via the Soft Drinks Industry Levy. The Government provided capital funding to improve children's physical and mental health.
- The National Lottery is another potential source of funding e.g. Community Fund or Sport England.
- Grants4Schools is a company I've been signposted to although I'm currently not able to recommend this company as I've had no dealings with them but they seem to be one of the market leaders in terms of signposting schools to funding opportunities.