

## Roselands Infant School

Woodgate Road  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN22 8PD

Tel: 01323 726764

Fax: 01323 730883

E: [office@roselands.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@roselands.e-sussex.sch.uk)

W: [www.roselands-stafford.org](http://www.roselands-stafford.org)



Roselands & Stafford  
Federation

## Stafford Junior School

Ringwood Road  
Eastbourne  
East Sussex  
BN22 8UA

Tel: 01323 733434

Fax: 01323 430341

E: [staffordoffice@roselands-stafford.org](mailto:staffordoffice@roselands-stafford.org)

W: [www.roselands-stafford.org](http://www.roselands-stafford.org)

**Federation Headteacher:** Ms Mandy Stewart

**Head of School/Deputy Head:** Mr Mike Walton/Ms Carol Wallis

20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may have heard about the campaign that Headteachers in other counties, such as West Sussex have launched, in order to protest at the lack of school funding and the effect on our children and young people.

Headteachers and Governors in East Sussex have decided to do something similar and we would like to ask you to join in. **This letter, sent to parents of primary and secondary age children across East Sussex, is an appeal for help.** We need to let local and central Government know that school funding is in crisis. We are using all channels available to us but as parents we feel they might listen to you.

We are starting by lobbying our local MPs and trying to get them to ask the Government to help with the rising costs for schools. Individual schools will be doing this too, but we would like to ask you to write to your MP as parents to protest about the effects of funding cuts in schools.

The Government claims that funding for schools has remained the same, but they do not mention that all schools face rising costs due to inflation and other extra charges recently introduced by the Government. According to the National Audit Office, this will equate to £3 billion less between 2019 and 2020.

As a result, Headteachers across East Sussex are having to look very hard at the provision for pupils and are considering decisions that would result in:

- Larger class sizes and fewer teachers and senior staff
- School buildings falling into disrepair
- Cuts to pastoral services including teaching assistants and support staff in general
- Outdated computer equipment
- Fewer trips and activities that have previously been subsidised or offered free
- The need to charge for after school clubs

Below, we provide contact details for the MPs who cover East Sussex, and some tips on writing the letter. We want MPs to know that the Government's policy of cutting funding for schools by not supporting us with such increased costs is unpopular and that they should not support it if they want our votes. Therefore it is important that we all write individually, even if your letter is very short.

For more detailed information on the funding crisis and the impact it is having on schools nationally please see our Facebook page and [Twitter@FlatCashEd](https://twitter.com/FlatCashEd) where more detailed information is available.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with us. Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mandy Stewart  
Federation Headteacher

Mike Walton  
Head of School

Carol Wallis  
Deputy Head

## Tips for writing letter to MP as suggested by the Chair of the East Sussex Governor Representative Group

Ideas to start your letter:

“I am writing because I am unhappy about the lack of money in schools.”

“I wanted to say that I don’t think it is right that schools are getting less money” “I have heard that real term funding to schools is being cut.”

Ideas for the middle of your letter:

Mention the specific things you are unhappy about. You could include anything you have experienced or heard of, such as your child being taught in larger classes, or there not being enough staff to meet your child’s needs, or problems with school buildings, or increases in contributions requested by the school for educational visits and extra-curricular activities.

Eg “My child is experiencing stress and mental health issues, but his school cannot afford a counsellor for him. This is causing my family great unhappiness.”

Ideas to end your letter:

Tell your MP what you want from them. They will listen, because they want your vote! Eg “I would support for you if you spoke in public about the need for schools to have enough money.”

“I would like to see you asking questions about the lack of funding in schools.”

“I think good MPs should support their constituents by asking for more money for schools.”

### LOCAL MP/COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

**Councillor David Tutt**

**Home address:**

78 Ringwood Road

Eastbourne

BN22 8TB

**Phone:** 01323 643971

**Email:** [cllr.david.tutt@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.david.tutt@eastsussex.gov.uk)

**Caroline Ansell MP Eastbourne**

[caroline.ansell.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:caroline.ansell.mp@parliament.uk)

Telephone: 01323 409000

Post: The Office of Caroline Ansell MP, 42 Grove Road, Eastbourne BN21 4TY