

Academies Pre-16 Funding: Options for the 2012-13 Academic Year

1. Do you agree with our analysis that the current system is not appropriate to fund an increasing number of academies in a fair and transparent way?

Yes - as the number of Academies increases, the funding system becomes less fair and transparent. The LACSEG is particularly opaque.

2. Do you agree with the principles for an alternative method of funding Academies in 2012-13?

Yes – agree with all principles

3. Are there other aims we should have for the Academy funding system in the absence of cross-system reform, such as a Fair Funding Formula? If yes, what are they?

The Academy funding system should not financially disadvantage other schools. Academies should not gain at the expense of maintained schools.

4. Do you agree with the broad analysis of how each option might work?

No comment

5. Which option do you think is the best way of funding Academies on 2012-13?

Because Academy funding is allocated for the academic year and school funding for the financial year, the DfE would either have to roll forward the 2011/12 funding amounts or implement a national formula for academies before implementing it for schools.

Whichever option is chosen, it should be fully costed and affordable.

6. Are there potential advantages and disadvantages in implementing each option that we have not considered? If yes, what are they?

No comment

7. Are there any changes you think we should consider to the way the Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG) is calculated for FY2012-13? If yes, what are they?

The way the LACSEG is calculated should be transparent.