

Town Hall, Darlington DL1 5QT
Tel: (01325) 380651 Fax: (01325) 388090
Web site: <http://www.darlington.gov.uk>

Date : 17th April 2008
Please ask for : Lisa Winship
Direct Line : 01325 388328
Your Reference :
Our Reference :
Document Name :

Dear

Controls on 2007/08 surplus balances

We are currently in the process of closing down 2007/08 financial year, a final balance will be calculated by 31st May, 2008. Government guidelines require the Authority to calculate the carry forward balance of each school as a percentage of the following year's budget share. Provisional figures suggest your 2007/08 surplus carry forward balance exceeds the national thresholds of 5% (secondary) and 8% (primary/special).

It is permissible to deduct from this balance any amounts which the governing body of the school has declared to be assigned for specific purposes, and which the Authority is satisfied are properly assigned. Amounts specified must not be retained beyond 31st March, 2009 without the consent of the Authority. This condition ensures schools can build up reserves towards particular projects but cannot defer implementation indefinitely.

If a school's balance still remains above this threshold after properly assigned projects have been deducted then the Authority must deduct an amount equal to the excess from the 2008/09 budget share. This funding will then form additional Dedicated Schools Grant for the Schools Forum to agree a distribution method for allocation to all schools.

Please complete the attached Properly Assigned Sums proforma to identify any sums which you think should not be included in your surplus balance as part of this statutory calculation. Please complete and return to myself by 30th April, 2008. Your assistance in this matter is much appreciated.

Should you require any further assistance on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Winship
Schools Finance Manager



Director : Murray Rose



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE