This bulletin is intended for colleges, schools and other providers. You can read other articles for academies in the full version of the e-bulletin on our website.

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The Department for Education has announced the school capital allocations for 2013-15.

We have allocated £1.6 billion basic need capital for 2013-15 using data supplied by local authorities at planning area level. Each local authority will receive a level of basic need funding in proportion to its needs compared with other authorities.

£1.2 billion has been made available in 2013-14 to maintain and improve the condition of school buildings across the country and a further £200 million of capital funding for 2013-14 will be given directly to schools, sixth form colleges and Academies as devolved formula capital (DFC).

This funding has been announced as a single year’s allocation as the Department is currently engaged in the collection of information on the condition of the school estate and it is our intention that this data will inform future allocations.

The Academies Capital Maintenance Fund for 2013-14 will be £392 million, £61 million has been allocated as sixth form college maintenance for the same period and the voluntary aided maintenance pot for 2013-14 is £154 million.

Demographic Growth Capital Fund 2013-15

We have launched the Demographic Growth Capital Fund (DGCF) for 2013-15.

The main change from previous years is that this round of DGCF applications will support projects over a two year period. The fund covers provision for young people aged 16-19 or up to 24 if they have learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

The purposes of the DGCF are the same as last year - to support the cost of additional places needed as a result of increases in population and/or participation.

We are asking local authorities to submit applications on the behalf of eligible institutions. Application information is available on our website. The deadline for the submission of applications is 30 April 2013.

Capital Funding for Independent Specialist Providers 2013-15

We are managing a new capital fund to support the cost of improving the condition of educational buildings and facilities of eligible Independent Specialist Providers (ISPs).

As this is a new fund, we are working with the Association of National Specialist Colleges (NATSPEC) to ensure that this funding achieves the best impact for learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. As soon as this preparation work is completed, we will inform ISPs when the application information is available on our website.
Sixth Form College Building Condition Improvement Fund 2013-14

The 2013-14 Sixth Form College Building Condition Improvement Fund budget will be £61m. We are now assessing applications and will announce allocations by the end of March 2013.

Academies and Sixth Form College Devolved Formula Capital Funding 2013-14

The 2013-14 Devolved Formula Capital funding rates for academies and sixth form colleges have now been confirmed. Institutions will be notified of their individual allocations in May 2013. Payments will be made in June 2013. Further information can be found on the Department for Education’s website.

Targeted Basic Need Programme

In his Autumn Statement on 5 December, the Chancellor announced that the Government will provide additional investment of £982 million for schools in England over the remainder of this parliament.

With this additional money, we are now launching the Targeted Basic Need Programme to fund the provision of new, high quality school places in the areas that need it most. The programme will offer additional support to those local authorities experiencing the greatest pressure on places and will help them to prepare for further rises in pupil numbers. The programme will deliver new academies and Free Schools, as well as enabling investment to expand existing good and outstanding schools. Further details are available on the Department for Education’s website.

The allocations, along with a technical note explaining how these have been calculated, are published on the Department for Education’s website.

Should you require any further information about the Department’s capital programmes please contact Enquiries.EFACAPITAL@education.gsi.gov.uk

Information: Requirement for local authorities to make a grant return to the EFA

The 2012-13 16-19 grant return is in two stages – firstly a limited return, not requiring the certification of specific amounts, due by 30 April.

The second stage is a full return (similar to the former YPLA return). This is now due by 31 October 2013. We will issue this latter return in July 2013. This approach is intended to avoid the previous requirement on local authorities to produce a full return to a tight timescale.

The EFA’s suggested guidance for local authorities on gaining assurance over funding paid in respect of maintained schools’ sixth forms is published on our website. The guidance, which local authorities may find useful when preparing the October return, is not mandatory. The approach is substantially unchanged from that published by the former YPLA in 2011-12.
Information: **Dance and Drama Award guide and Q&A**

We have made some changes to the administration of the Dance and Drama Awards scheme for new students starting a course in the 2013/14 academic year. Students still on a course that they started in 2011/12 or 2012/13 will continue under existing arrangements.

We have issued Dance and Drama Awards allocations for the 2013/14 academic year to participating schools. These allocations include funding for both new and continuing students.

For your information, we have also published two documents to support schools participating in the Dance and Drama Awards scheme to administer the funding to new students:

- Dance and Drama Awards: Guide for 2013/14 (New Students)
- 2013/14 Dance and Drama Awards Q&A for providers (New Students)

Both of these documents have now been published to the website.

For more information, you can contact learnersupport.efa@education.gsi.gov.uk

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Information: **Green Paper: Transforming Youth Custody**

The Green Paper, *Transforming Youth Custody: Putting education at the heart of detention*, was launched by the Ministry of Justice on Thursday 14 February.

The paper describes the Government’s plans for placing high quality education at the centre of youth custody and invites views and outline proposals from a wide range of stakeholders and providers.

The consultation runs until 30 April and consultation events will be held in Leeds, London and Cardiff. Full details can be accessed on the Ministry of Justice website.

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Information: **Procurement opportunity in Cambridge**

We will soon be starting an open procurement exercise for small and specific new 16-18 provision in Cambridge. Details can be found on the [Contracts Finder](#) website.
If you are interested in this opportunity, please read the ‘How to Apply’ section carefully to ensure that you can register in preparation for the formal procurement. We will provide further updates in subsequent e-bulletins.