

SB 61/2013

26 June 2013

## LOCAL AUTHORITY BUDGETED EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS: 2013-14

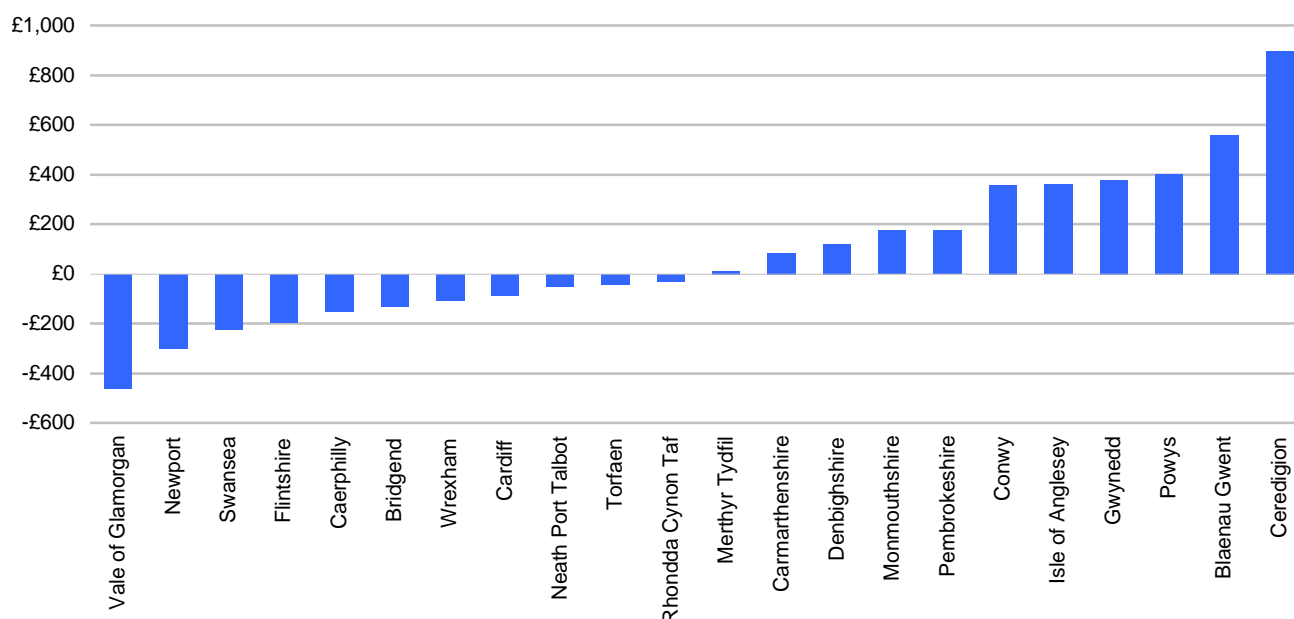
### Introduction

This statistical bulletin analyses the resources that local authorities have budgeted to make available for education services in 2013-14.

### Key points

- Gross schools expenditure is budgeted to be £2,518 million, an increase of 0.9% over the previous year (table 2).
- Gross schools expenditure per pupil is budgeted to be £5,592, a year-on-year increase of 1.3% or £72. This can be broken down into: £4,601 per pupil delegated to schools and £992 per pupil retained for centrally funded school services and varies by local authority (chart 1 and table 5).
- The funding delegated to schools is budgeted to be £2,072 million. The amount of funding that local authorities delegate directly to schools ranges between 78% and 85% of overall gross schools budgeted expenditure (table 3).
- 82% of the total gross schools budgeted expenditure is delegated directly to schools (table 3), an increase of 1.3 percentage points compared to the previous year.

**Chart 1: Gross schools budgeted expenditure per pupil: difference from the Wales average, 2013-14**



Additional information is available at: [www.statswales.wales.gov.uk](http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk)

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Net revenue expenditure is the amount of expenditure which is supported by council tax and general support from central government, plus (or minus) any appropriations from (or to) financial reserves.

Table 1 shows Merthyr Tydfil has the largest percentage increase in education net revenue expenditure at 6.5% whilst Neath Port Talbot has the largest decrease of 1.1%.

**Table 1: Budgeted net revenue expenditure on education (a)**

	<i>£ thousand</i>				
					2013-14
	2012-13	2013-14	Change in 2013-14 over 2012-13	Percentage change	Indicator based assessment (IBA) (b) (r)
Isle of Anglesey	47,645	49,407	1,762	3.7	52,482
Gwynedd	87,031	89,826	2,795	3.2	92,609
Conwy	78,971	82,286	3,314	4.2	80,525
Denbighshire	74,955	77,900	2,945	3.9	76,259
Flintshire	105,663	110,107	4,444	4.2	112,463
Wrexham	89,688	92,906	3,218	3.6	94,634
Powys	95,981	100,249	4,268	4.4	100,918
Ceredigion	52,067	54,583	2,515	4.8	54,510
Pembrokeshire	87,870	90,603	2,733	3.1	94,121
Carmarthenshire	132,394	137,448	5,054	3.8	139,540
Swansea	153,865	159,822	5,957	3.9	164,884
Neath Port Talbot	100,947	99,788	-1,159	-1.1	104,427
Bridgend	104,325	109,191	4,866	4.7	104,167
Vale of Glamorgan	93,049	96,725	3,676	4.0	96,392
Cardiff	230,939	237,998	7,059	3.1	228,444
Rhondda Cynon Taf	187,641	192,916	5,275	2.8	184,814
Merthyr Tydfil	43,651	46,492	2,842	6.5	44,254
Caerphilly	130,611	134,567	3,956	3.0	141,362
Blaenau Gwent	52,434	52,647	213	0.4	51,592
Torfaen	70,052	71,636	1,584	2.3	72,980
Monmouthshire	55,558	57,695	2,137	3.8	60,309
Newport	100,024	103,441	3,417	3.4	110,658
<b>Wales</b>	<b>2,175,363</b>	<b>2,248,234</b>	<b>72,872</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>2,262,345</b>

Source: RA/Section 52 education budget statements

(a) The figures are on a 'net' basis, i.e. excluding grant for post-16 provision in schools and other expenditure funded by specific government grants.

(b) The indicator based assessments (IBAs) are not intended as spending targets. Local authorities set their own spending priorities under the Welsh revenue support grant distribution system.

(r) Revised on 2 July 2013.

Table 2 shows Vale of Glamorgan has the largest increase of 2.3% in gross schools expenditure with Blaenau Gwent having the largest decrease at 1.6% due to the movement of all post-16 education to sixth form colleges.

**Table 2: Schools budgeted expenditure (a)**

	<i>£ thousand</i>			
	Gross schools budgeted expenditure (b)			
	2012-13	2013-14	Change in 2013-14 over 2012-13	Percentage change
Isle of Anglesey	54,076	55,039	963	1.8
Gwynedd	98,462	99,065	603	0.6
Conwy	92,105	92,782	677	0.7
Denbighshire	85,925	86,644	719	0.8
Flintshire	121,439	123,751	2,312	1.9
Wrexham	101,142	101,305	163	0.2
Powys	109,353	111,545	2,192	2.0
Ceredigion	60,617	60,900	284	0.5
Pembrokeshire	103,221	101,872	-1,349	-1.3
Carmarthenshire	149,621	152,944	3,323	2.2
Swansea	177,564	179,951	2,387	1.3
Neath Port Talbot	109,254	107,628	-1,626	-1.5
Bridgend	119,237	121,823	2,586	2.2
Vale of Glamorgan	106,572	109,067	2,495	2.3
Cardiff	268,942	270,134	1,193	0.4
Rhondda Cynon Taf	216,544	217,120	575	0.3
Merthyr Tydfil	49,377	49,318	-60	-0.1
Caerphilly	148,013	150,185	2,171	1.5
Blaenau Gwent	56,133	55,212	-921	-1.6
Torfaen	80,779	82,581	1,802	2.2
Monmouthshire	65,092	66,064	973	1.5
Newport	121,584	123,567	1,983	1.6
<b>Wales</b>	<b>2,495,052</b>	<b>2,518,496</b>	<b>23,445</b>	<b>0.9</b>

Source: RA/Section 52 education budget statements

(a) Covers all elements of LEA spending that relate to school provision, i.e. school budget plus the LEA budget, including central administration of the LEA, less spending on home to college transport and further education and training for young persons and adults. The figures include the cost of educating pupils with statements of special educational needs who are educated out of county.

(b) Figures are on a 'gross' basis, i.e. including funding from all sources.

Table 3 shows delegated schools budgets increased by 2.5% compared with the previous year. Isle of Anglesey has the highest percentage increase at 5.2%. The Merthyr Tydfil has the highest delegation rate at 85.0% and Powys has the lowest at 77.8%.

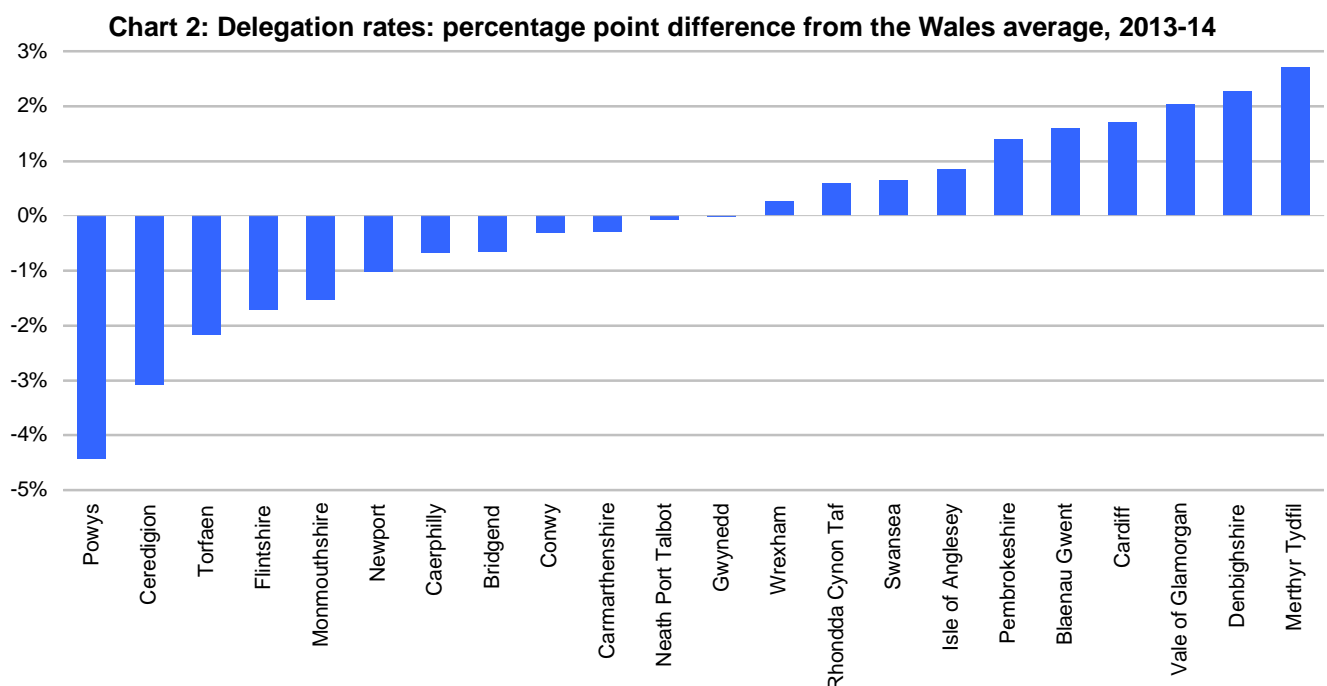
**Table 3: Delegated School Budget**

<i>£ thousand</i>					
	Delegated schools budget (a)				
	2012-13	2013-14	Change in	Percentage change	Delegation
			2013-14 over 2012-13		Rate (b) 2013-14
Isle of Anglesey	43,470	45,748	2,278	5.2	83.1%
Gwynedd	79,186	81,483	2,297	2.9	82.3%
Conwy	74,419	76,039	1,620	2.2	82.0%
Denbighshire	70,865	73,247	2,381	3.4	84.5%
Flintshire	97,483	99,693	2,210	2.3	80.6%
Wrexham	81,139	83,605	2,465	3.0	82.5%
Powys	85,123	86,823	1,700	2.0	77.8%
Ceredigion	46,725	48,231	1,506	3.2	79.2%
Pembrokeshire	83,873	85,228	1,355	1.6	83.7%
Carmarthenshire	124,109	125,360	1,251	1.0	82.0%
Swansea	146,527	149,234	2,707	1.8	82.9%
Neath Port Talbot	88,303	88,456	153	0.2	82.2%
Bridgend	95,822	99,435	3,613	3.8	81.6%
Vale of Glamorgan	89,750	91,956	2,206	2.5	84.3%
Cardiff	219,552	226,872	7,320	3.3	84.0%
Rhondda Cynon Taf	173,872	179,925	6,053	3.5	82.9%
Merthyr Tydfil	40,822	41,910	1,088	2.7	85.0%
Caerphilly	118,935	122,537	3,602	3.0	81.6%
Blaenau Gwent	45,390	46,308	918	2.0	83.9%
Torfaen	64,852	66,144	1,292	2.0	80.1%
Monmouthshire	52,961	53,348	386	0.7	80.8%
Newport	97,966	100,387	2,421	2.5	81.2%
<b>Wales</b>	<b>2,021,145</b>	<b>2,071,968</b>	<b>50,823</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>82.3%</b>

Source: RA/Section 52 education budget statements

(a) Figures are on a 'gross' basis, i.e. including funding from all sources.

(b) The delegation rate is calculated by dividing the amounts delegated to schools by the gross schools budgeted expenditure. Delegation rates will vary based on the services provided centrally by local authorities.



Over the past decade the proportion of budget delegated to schools has varied at around 75-77%. This figure increased to 81% in 2012-13 and to 82% in 2013-14. This is in the context of a commitment by the Education and Skills Minister for Local Authorities to delegate 80% of all school funding directly to schools.

**Chart 3: Breakdown of gross school budgeted expenditure over time**

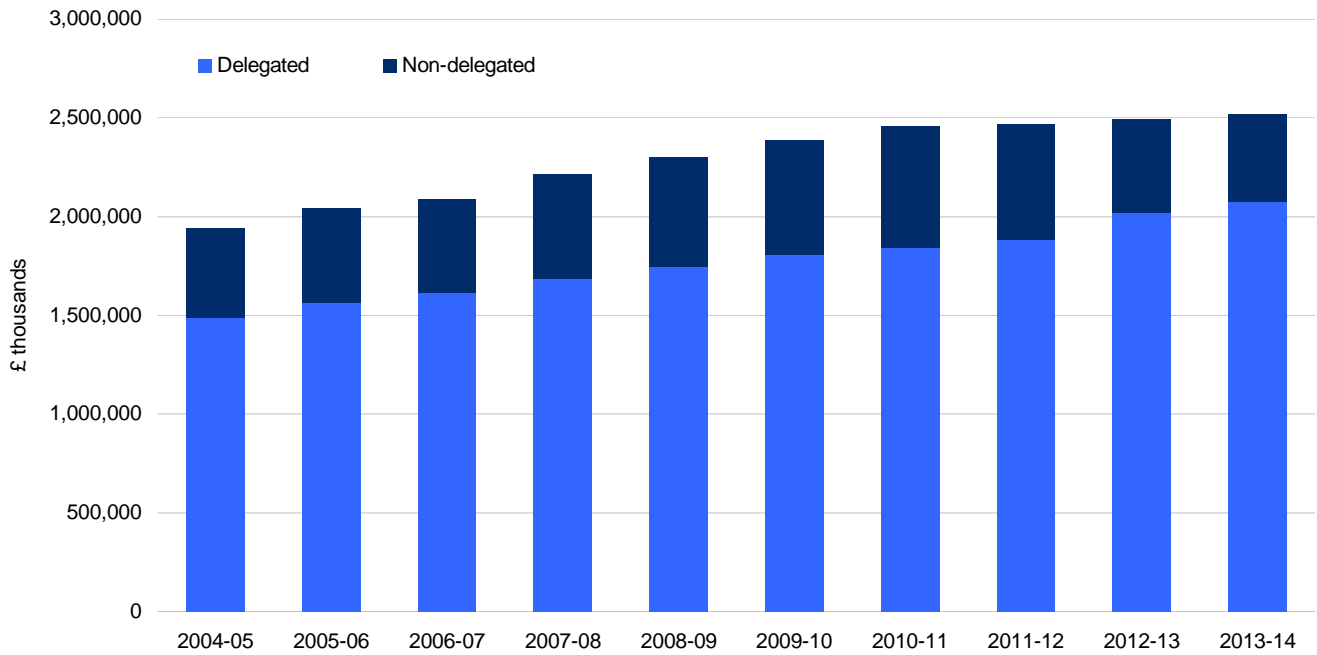


Table 4 shows budgeted expenditure per pupil on centrally funded schools services. The Vale of Glamorgan retains the least amount of funding centrally at £805 per pupil whilst Ceredigion retains the most at £1,350 per pupil.

**Table 4: Centrally funded schools budgets, 2013-14 (a)**

	Schools budget					LEA budget							Memo:	
	Special educational needs (b)	Inter authority recoupment	Staff	Other schools budget	Capital expenditure charged to revenue account	Special educational needs	School improvement	Access to education (excluding transport)	Home to school transport	Strategic management	Other LEA budget	Total centrally funded schools budget	Centrally funded schools budget (£ thousand)	
Isle of Anglesey	146	121	2	204	0	46	39	83	200	163	0	1,005	9,291	
Gwynedd	195	1	5	184	68	25	93	74	232	183	0	1,060	17,582	
Conwy	174	23	5	308	0	46	53	45	297	121	0	1,074	16,743	
Denbighshire	169	-99	21	128	0	36	102	167	248	111	0	883	13,397	
Flintshire	240	152	0	121	22	20	92	53	260	90	0	1,049	24,058	
Wrexham	115	62	69	305	0	17	47	47	201	95	0	958	17,700	
Powys	213	-19	12	331	17	20	101	59	481	112	0	1,329	24,722	
Ceredigion	237	-68	16	249	0	54	127	93	450	194	0	1,350	12,670	
Pembrokeshire	104	65	1	150	0	55	63	46	305	154	0	942	16,644	
Carmarthenshire	135	28	2	218	0	70	53	42	302	173	0	1,024	27,584	
Swansea	263	21	14	184	0	39	48	103	208	37	0	916	30,717	
Neath Port Talbot	76	29	3	257	0	103	67	104	267	72	9	987	19,171	
Bridgend	242	-48	13	201	50	67	44	86	226	123	0	1,004	22,388	
Vale of Glamorgan	177	-55	2	256	0	44	46	81	161	92	0	805	17,111	
Cardiff	116	59	4	167	0	17	60	223	116	120	0	881	43,262	
Rhondda Cynon Taf	136	63	5	134	0	38	10	163	266	136	1	953	37,194	
Merthyr Tydfil	172	32	7	32	0	61	53	61	195	226	2	842	7,408	
Caerphilly	221	62	27	168	0	56	55	36	201	175	0	1,001	27,648	
Blaenau Gwent	260	2	1	90	13	77	111	103	190	145	0	992	8,904	
Torfaen	74	38	5	337	0	42	103	134	157	216	0	1,104	16,437	
Monmouthshire	181	33	0	231	0	20	57	39	335	214	0	1,110	12,717	
Newport	129	133	1	266	0	16	62	165	152	70	0	992	23,180	
<b>Wales</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>446,528</b>	
Minimum	74	-99	0	32	0	16	10	36	116	37	0	805		
Maximum	263	152	69	337	68	103	127	223	481	226	9	1,350		

Source: RA/Section 52 education budget statements

(a) Schools expenditure covers all elements of local education authority spending that relate to school provision. Figures are on a 'gross' basis, i.e. including funding from all sources.

(b) Figures include the cost of educating pupils with statements of special educational needs who are educated out of county. Expenditure on pupil referral units is included, however the pupil numbers are not included in the calculation of 'spend per pupil' as they are not available from the section 52 return. Please see notes for definitions.

Table 5 shows the total gross schools budgeted expenditure per pupil. Ceredigion has the highest spend per pupil at £6,489 whilst the Vale of Glamorgan has the lowest at £5,129. Blaenau Gwent has the highest increase in spend per pupil over the previous year of 4.7% mainly due to a drop in secondary school pupil numbers because of the movement of all post-16 education to sixth form colleges. Neath Port Talbot has a decrease of 0.8%.

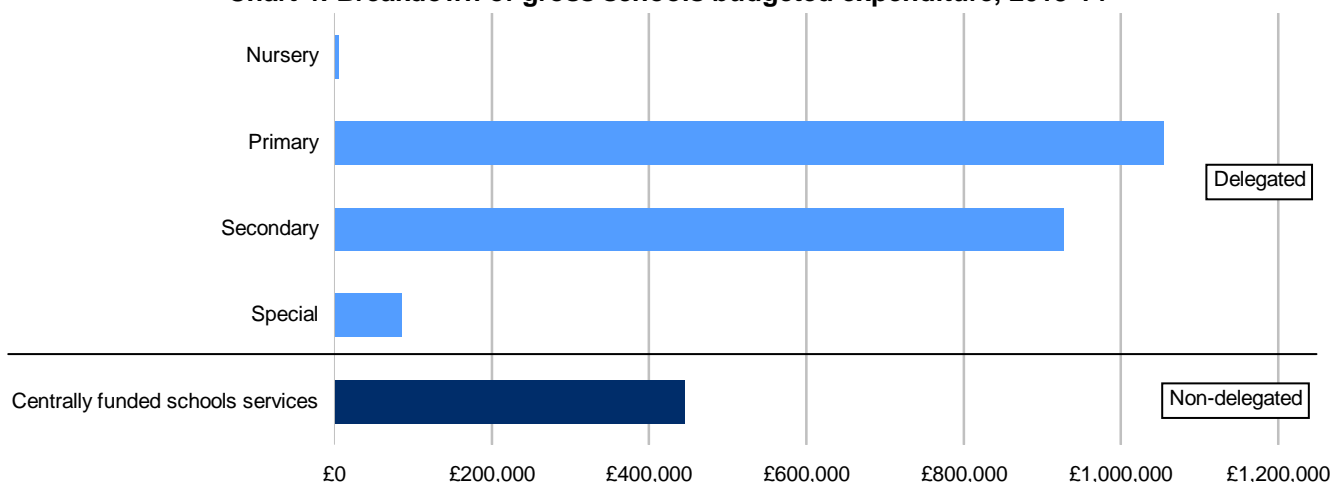
**Table 5: Total gross schools budgeted expenditure per pupil, 2013-14 (a)**

	Delegated schools budget					Gross schools budgeted expenditure (b)			
	Nursery	Primary	Secondary	Special	All sectors (b)	Centrally funded schools budget (b)	Gross schools budgeted expenditure (b)		Percentage change
							2012-13	2013-14	
Isle of Anglesey	0	4,777	4,939	17,027	4,947	1,005	5,854	5,952	1.7
Gwynedd	0	4,614	5,049	17,984	4,911	1,060	5,901	5,970	1.2
Conwy	0	4,603	4,824	20,260	4,877	1,074	5,907	5,951	0.7
Denbighshire	0	4,307	4,847	20,452	4,828	883	5,620	5,711	1.6
Flintshire	6,250	4,035	4,472	15,372	4,348	1,049	5,280	5,398	2.2
Wrexham	8,178	4,078	4,939	13,514	4,524	958	5,503	5,482	-0.4
Powys	0	4,292	4,616	18,833	4,666	1,329	5,858	5,994	2.3
Ceredigion	0	4,703	5,605	0 (c)	5,139	1,350	6,354	6,489	2.1
Pembrokeshire	0	4,606	4,805	21,453	4,826	942	5,796	5,768	-0.5
Carmarthenshire	4,492	4,257	4,931	25,150	4,653	1,024	5,543	5,676	2.4
Swansea	0	4,021	4,873	19,643	4,451	916	5,303	5,367	1.2
Neath Port Talbot	0	4,108	4,793	19,259	4,554	987	5,585	5,540	-0.8
Bridgend	12,259	3,894	4,565	21,877	4,459	1,004	5,338	5,463	2.3
Vale of Glamorgan	6,639	3,863	4,337	23,206	4,324	805	5,022	5,129	2.1
Cardiff	6,074	4,111	4,904	20,613	4,622	881	5,517	5,504	-0.2
Rhondda Cynon Taf	9,328	4,166	4,848	15,586	4,609	953	5,529	5,561	0.6
Merthyr Tydfil	5,522	4,325	4,920	16,411	4,763	842	5,425	5,605	3.3
Caerphilly	0	4,044	4,736	26,339	4,437	1,001	5,337	5,438	1.9
Blaenau Gwent	0	4,911	5,011	24,144	5,160	992	5,876	6,152	4.7
Torfaen	7,861	4,072	4,593	21,093	4,443	1,104	5,323	5,547	4.2
Monmouthshire	0	4,275	4,705	53,706	4,658	1,110	5,662	5,768	1.9
Newport	6,808	3,987	4,426	22,216	4,298	992	5,240	5,291	1.0
<b>Wales</b>	<b>6,745</b>	<b>4,195</b>	<b>4,780</b>	<b>19,843</b>	<b>4,601</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>5,520</b>	<b>5,592</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Minimum	0	3,863	4,337	0 (c)	4,298	805	5,022	5,129	-0.8
Maximum	12,259	4,911	5,605	53,706	5,160	1,350	6,354	6,489	4.7

Source: RA/Section 52 education budget statements

- (a) Figures are on a 'gross' basis, i.e. including funding from all sources.  
 (b) The £ per pupil figures shown here are an average across all sectors.  
 (c) There are no special schools within Ceredigion, although the LA has classes within mainstream education which cater for pupils with statements of special educational needs.

**Chart 4: Breakdown of gross schools budgeted expenditure, 2013-14**



## TECHNICAL NOTES ON BUDGETED EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS

### Data sources

Budget returns for education spending are required by section 52 of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998. Authorities' Section 52 returns and Revenue Account (RA) forms have been used to determine overall changes in local authority budgets, changes in education budgets and amounts delegated to schools.

The numbers of pupils used for the calculations are based on full-time equivalent pupil numbers in nursery, primary, secondary and special schools, as shown in S52 Part 1 returns, i.e. the pupil numbers on which Local Authorities (LAs) based their budgets.

### Policy Context

The gross schools budgeted expenditure is made up of the delegated schools budget, the schools budget and the LEA budget and includes funding from all sources. In 2012-13, the Minister for Education and Skills made a commitment for Local Authorities to delegate 80% of all school funding directly to schools. The Minister also made a commitment to increase net delegated school budgets every year by 1% above the block grant received from the UK Government.

### Definitions

#### Sources of funding

Local authority budgets for education services are funded mainly from shares of revenue support grant, council tax and redistributed non-domestic rates. In addition, funding is provided through specific grants provided by the Welsh Government, including grants for post-16 provision in schools. The grant for post-16 provision in schools forms part of core funding for schools and is part of a local authority's schools budget.

The provisions of the Education Act 2002 brought into force for financial year 2004-05 through the "LEA Budget, Schools Budget and Individual Schools Budget (Wales) Regulations 2003" require local authorities to allocate expenditure to 3 budgets. These are: **LEA budget** (covers central LA functions involved in Additional Learning Needs; school improvement; access to education; further education and training for young persons and adults and strategic management - as set out in Schedule 1 to the 2003 Regulations), **the schools budget** (covers expenditure directly aimed at supporting schools and comprises of expenditure on services for which the LA retains funding centrally, such as: Additional Learning Needs services, school meals and milk and the **Individual Schools Budget** or funding delegated to schools).

To focus comparisons, non-school expenditure such as further education and training for young persons and adults, youth service and home to college transport have been excluded throughout.

### Comparison with England

In January 2012 we published a [statistical article](#) explaining why the Wales data cannot be compared with England. This situation has not changed as due to the rollout of Academies in England we continue to be unable to produce school budget data on a consistent basis. We are in continued dialogue with the Department for Education in England regarding how this can be resolved in the future.

### Quality

Wales collect 100% of returns from all twenty-two unitary authorities. We publish a detailed [quality report](#) on Welsh Local Government Finance statistics. We also publish details on our [users](#). We would appreciate any [feedback](#) on the content and usefulness of the quality report.

### Rounding

In tables where figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit there may be an apparent discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total shown.



### Accessing the data

Much of the data behind the charts and tables shown in this release can be found on Statswales (a free-to-use internet service that allows visitors to view, manipulate, create and download tables from the most up to date and detailed official data in Wales). Please select “Local Government - Finance” at the navigation screen of the following site: [www.statswales.wales.gov.uk](http://www.statswales.wales.gov.uk)

→Local Government	→Finance	→Revenue	→Education
→Local Government	→Finance	→Revenue	→Budgets
→Local Government	→Finance	→Revenue	→Delegated Schools Budgets

Individual school level data is also available from [mylocalschool.wales.gov.uk](http://mylocalschool.wales.gov.uk)

### Further information

Statistics on education expenditure are also published in both [England](#) and [Scotland](#).

### Feedback

We actively encourage feedback of our statistics. If you have any comments or queries or require further information, then please contact us using the details below or fill out a [Feedback form](#).

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