



Department for Education

2025-0024100

**Catherine McKinnell MP
Minister for School Standards**

Dr Manuela Perteghella MP

By email: manuela.perteghella.mp@parliament.uk

Your ref: MP03953

25 July 2025

Dear Manuela,

Thank you for your correspondence of 30 June, addressed to the Secretary of State, on behalf of your constituents, regarding financial education. I am replying as the minister responsible for this policy area.

I agree that it is essential that pupils are well prepared to manage their money, make sound financial decisions and know where to seek further information. As you have noted in your correspondence, financial education forms a compulsory part of the national curriculum for mathematics at key stages 1 to 4, and citizenship at key stages 3 and 4. Together these cover personal budgeting, saving for the future, managing credit and debt, and calculating interest.

I would like to stress that high and rising school standards are at the heart of the opportunity mission. That is why the government has established an independent, expert-led curriculum and assessment review, covering ages 5 to 18, chaired by Professor Becky Francis CBE.

The review is looking into all subjects, including maths and citizenship, within its current phase of work, so no decisions about individual subjects have yet been made. The review is looking into the current programmes of study within its work to ensure a rich, broad, inclusive and innovative curriculum that readies young people for life and work. Any findings and recommendations for the maths and citizenship curriculum will be included in the final report, which will be published in autumn.

During their public consultation, the review group heard consistently from parents and children that they want more focus on the applied knowledge and skills that will equip them for later life and work, such as financial education. The review is considering whether there is sufficient coverage of these skills within subjects, and how content can remain relevant and support young people to thrive in a fast-changing world.

Once the final recommendations are published, the government will be in a position to consider changes in areas such as this.

Thank you for writing to the Secretary of State. I hope that this response is useful for your constituents.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial 'C'.

Catherine McKinnell MP
Minister for School Standards