

James Gillespie's  
High School  
Parent Council



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James Gillespie's High School  
120 Warrender Park Road  
Edinburgh  
EH9 1DD  
[JGHS Parent Council website](#)

20 February 2024

Deputation to the City of Edinburgh Council Meeting, Thursday 22 February 2024

**Re: Education budget**

The proposed £8.2m cuts to the City of Edinburgh Council education budgets discussed at the Education Children and Families Committee on 23 January 2024, were of great concern to the Parent Council at James Gillespie's High School.

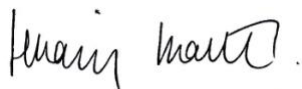
In particular the significant reduction in the Devolved School Management budget would have been particularly problematic for JGHS given the challenging nature of the multiple campus approach that we now have at the school, and the need to have appropriate staffing and resources in place to support the learning and teaching across the estate. In addition, the proposed removal of teacher support for P7/S1 transition period would have impacted many pupils who have benefited from assistance during this critical period in their school lives.

The JGHS Parent Council was pleased that the Education Children and Families Committee did not approve the proposed cuts, and instead recommended that the budget was referred back to the Full Council.

In the papers prepared for the Full Council meeting on 22 February 2024, we note that the Administration has now stated that the cuts proposed in January 2024 will not go ahead, and that alternative, non-education, funding sources have been identified for 2023/24.

James Gillespie's Parent Council asks the Council to note that (1) while we are pleased the proposed cuts were not approved last month, we question the basis upon which these were proposed in the first instance given the quick u-turn, and that (2) we have strong concerns about the lack of transparency surrounding the financing of any new proposals given we are facing future cuts to existing services. James Gillespie's Parent Council will continue to engage with future funding provision for education in Edinburgh, to ensure the brightest possible future for all our young people and their families.

All best wishes,



Hilary Snaithe  
Acting Chair, James Gillespie's High School Parent Council