

FAIR DEAL CAMPAIGN: HOW OUR SCHOOLS MISS OUT

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When it comes to cash for education, Lincolnshire pupils each get £271 less than the UK average.

Funding comes through the Dedicated Schools Grant and for 2008/09 county children got just £3,795 per head.

Only 21 authorities get less, including Norfolk. It too is largely rural but children there get £3,807.

There are other grants available to schools but the DSG, which comes from central Government, is ring-fenced and can only be spent on education - but the amount a child gets is different in every local education authority area, which confuses even those directly involved such as teachers and councilors.

Many head teachers and teaching staff think the Government operates with a misguided view of a shire county and believes our kids walk to school and have the benefit of the countryside to counteract deprivation.

But Lincolnshire, especially around the city of Lincoln, has pockets of poverty and need which seem to be ignored when it comes to education.

For more on the Fair Deal for Lincolnshire campaign, including detailed opinions from the county's headteachers, see Thursday's Lincolnshire Echo.