

Press release

Schools and colleges to receive £2.5 billion to upgrade buildings and boost school places

Major government investment to improve school and college buildings and support more school places from 2026.

From:

[Department for Education \(/government/organisations/department-for-education/\)](/government/organisations/department-for-education/), [Baroness Barran MBE \(/government/people/baroness-barran/\)](/government/people/baroness-barran/), [The Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP \(/government/people/nick-gibb/\)](/government/people/nick-gibb/), [The Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP \(/government/people/robert-halfon/\)](/government/people/robert-halfon/), and [The Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP \(/government/people/gillian-keegan/\)](/government/people/gillian-keegan/)

Published

28 March 2023



Millions of young people across the country are set to benefit from a significant £2.5 billion boost so they can learn in high quality buildings and facilities that are fit for the future.

Schools and colleges will receive investment to upgrade classrooms and refurbish buildings that will provide high quality learning environments – benefiting communities for years to come.

Since 2010, one million school places have been created, the largest increase in school capacity in at least two generations. Thanks to this new tranche of funding, thousands of additional primary and secondary school places will be created in good or outstanding schools for September 2026.

This comes on top of the [school rebuilding programme](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-rebuilding-programme) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-rebuilding-programme>) which will transform buildings at 500 schools across the country over the next decade – prioritising those in poor condition. The government has already invested over £13 billion in school capital funding to improve the condition of school buildings since 2015.

Minister for Skills, Apprenticeships and Higher Education Robert Halfon said:

“ This significant investment will transform school and college buildings across the country so that they are fit for the future and can provide the best education for students, no matter where they live.

“ We want every young person to have access to high-quality facilities and learning environments, to gain the skills they need to climb the ladder of

opportunity into further study and work, whilst supporting efforts to grow the economy.”

The funding announced today includes:

- a £1.8 billion investment for the 2023 to 2024 financial year to [improve the condition of the school estate](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-capital-funding) (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/school-capital-funding>) across England - this builds on over £13 billion to upgrade school buildings since 2015
- a further £487 million investment to support councils to provide [additional school places](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/basic-need-allocations) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/basic-need-allocations>) needed for September 2026
- 146 colleges benefiting from the final phase of the £1.5 billion [further education capital transformation programme](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/further-education-capital-transformation-fund) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/further-education-capital-transformation-fund>), to upgrade buildings and transform campuses

The FE capital transformation programme is just one part of a wider programme of government investment to transform post-16 education and training, ensuring that every student can gain the skills they need to progress and secure a good job.

This includes massive investment to support the [roll out of new T Levels](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-t-levels) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/introduction-of-t-levels>), boost capacity so there is a place for every 16 to 19-year-old and a £300 million investment to establish a network of Institutes of Technology.

DfE enquiries

Central newsdesk - for journalists 020 7783 8300

General enquiries - for members of the public 0370 000 2288

Published 28 March 2023

Explore the topic

[Further education buildings and land \(/education/further-education-building-and-premises\)](/education/further-education-building-and-premises)

[Funding for school buildings and land \(/education/funding-for-school-buildings-and-land\)](/education/funding-for-school-buildings-and-land)

[Funding for school places \(/education/funding-for-school-places\)](/education/funding-for-school-places)

OGI

All content is available under the Open Government Licence v3.0, except where otherwise stated

© Crown copyright