

Dear Prime Minister, Foreign Secretary and Minister for International Development,

We are youth ambassadors for Save the Children UK, member of the Send My Friend to School coalition. We are watching the decisions you are making. Your decision to reduce the UK's aid budget is not just a step back from the UK's responsibility to the international community, it is an active message that you will neglect children's education across the world.

You are responsible for representing us, yet your decisions do not. We are deeply concerned about the decisions you are making. Education is not a luxury -it's our right. It's a lifeline.

In 2013, 13.5% of the UK aid budget went to education, by 2023, that had [decreased to 3.5%](#). Earlier this year, it was announced that the government will reduce UK aid spending to 0.3% of GNI by 2027.

UNESCO recently stated that [272 million children](#) are currently out of school globally. Save the Children's estimates show that if the UK government goes ahead with its planned aid cuts in 2027, this could lead to a further [2.2 million children](#) out of school. This is equivalent to 25% of all students in schools in England.

We have all had the opportunity to be learning in school this year. We feel the value of education in shaping our lives and futures. School provides a place for us to learn, thrive, connect, and for many of us, it's a safe place. This should not be a privilege, but rather the reality of all children across the world. Instead, the reality is that your decisions will harm children even more – especially girls, children with disabilities and children living in crisis zones. This is why we stand against the aid cuts.

You are making a mistake. You are choosing to cut the very lifeline that so many children rely on. But you have the power to change that. You have the opportunity to reverse the cuts, to show you care about children's childhoods and allow children to fulfil their potential; it starts with an education.

Signatures

*Fatimah, Tasnuva, Zainab, Haxley, Rochelle, Dewi, Marzana,
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