

Year End Health Check Guidance 2025/26.



February 2026

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1. Final Checks

Balance Sheet Codes

Start by running a Trial Balance and check the codes listed below:

- CR01 - Creditors List Accruals
Ensure this code is currently zero and all of last year's creditors have been cleared, unless there is a genuine reason why this is not zero. This will change when you enter your 2025/2026 year-end creditors.
- DR01 – Debtors List Accruals
Ensure this code is currently zero and all of last year's debtors have been cleared, unless there is a genuine reason why this is not zero. This will change when you enter your 2025/2026 year-end debtors.
- DC01 – Debtor Control Account
- FC01 – School Budget Share Control
This code should be zero.
- FD01 – School Budget Share
This code should currently represent the balance that you brought forward from 2024/2025 as per your previous year-end confirmed balance. Check these figures match.
- PY codes – Payroll
Ensure you are up to date with posting your payroll. These codes should be zero after you post each month's payroll. If they are not, you will need to check back, something could either have been over or under reconciled.
- VAT codes
When each month is closed check the total balances on the VAT codes (VO01 – VI07 are equal to the VAT being claimed and any VAT awaiting reimbursement (which should only be the previous month, if any). Check it matches the codes on your submittals, and if not investigate as to why the VAT is wrong and use a VAT transfer journal to correct.

2. Income & Expenditure Codes

- Income codes
Ensure you have coded your income correctly.
 - I01 should match the cash advance schedule you receive monthly from the Schools Finance team, plus any of the following that apply – early years income, notional NNDR, amounts posted for de-delegated services.
 - I02 – I06, and CI01 should match the cash advance schedule you receive monthly from the Schools Finance team. Check by individual ledger codes on the Trial Balance.
- All income should be recorded on your system and banked.
- Ensure you have all your known commitments on your systems.
 - Cancel old purchase orders that will not be delivered.
 - Cancel any salary commitments for prior months.

- Capital - if you are going to be overspent on your capital headings you will need to carry out a direct revenue transfer i.e. transfer revenue to capital (Debit E30 and Credit CI04).
- Capital – if you have any amount spent on leases which are classed as capital you will need to carry out a direct revenue transfer i.e. transfer revenue to capital (Debit E30 and Credit CI04).
- Community Focused School Activities are not permitted to be overspent at the year-end. This will need to be addressed if this is the case (Check total of codes: B06+I16+I17-E31-E32)
- Ensure that expenditure codes do not have credit balances showing against them and income codes do not have debit balances showing against them. If they do and they are genuine please inform the Schools Finance Team.

3. Other Checks

- You may want to consider reducing the number of orders you issue in the lead up to year end.
- Contact suppliers from whom you are awaiting invoices.
- Make sure bank reconciliations are up to date.
- Check the unreconciled listing for old items and clear if necessary.
- Check any outstanding items from your Three Way Reconciliation (3WR) and action/clear. There should be no recurring items each month. (If you do not complete your own 3WR you will need to check if there are any items for you to action).
- Make sure you have enough cash in your bank account to honour any commitments you may have up to the year-end, and contact Schools Finance immediately if necessary.
- Make sure you are up to date with submitting the following documents to the Schools Finance team:
 - Trial Balances
 - Three Way Reconciliations
 - Bank Statements (if not with NatWest pooling scheme)
 - Unreconciled listings
 - Signed Vat Submittals
 - Bank Reconciliation (a signed hard copy will need to be retained by the school)

4. Administrative Checks

- The Scheme of Delegation should be reviewed annually to ensure it is up to date.
- Any workers not on payroll within the school have been checked against the online IR35 checker. Guidance can be found [here](#)
- Schools with voluntary funds must complete an audit within 6 months of the year-end which must be sent to Schools Finance once completed.

- Devolved Formula Capital must be spent within three years of receiving it.

2021/22 DFC	2022/23 DFC	2023/24 DFC	2024/25 DFC	2025/26 DFC
 <p>2021/22 DFC allocation must be fully spent or committed by 31 March 2024</p>				
	 <p>2022/23 DFC allocation must be fully spent or committed by 31 March 2025</p>			
		 <p>2023/24 DFC allocation must be fully spent or committed by 31 March 2026</p>		

5. Completion

This health check must be completed by Monday 9 March 2026 in preparation for closure of accounts. The health check form is available on the LMS website. Please ensure these checks have been completed and send a copy of the completed and signed healthcheck to Schools Finance by this date.

