

Durham Virtual School
for
Looked After Children
and
Previously Looked After Children
Pupil Premium Plus Guidance to Schools
2018-19

Pupil Premium Plus Grant for Looked After and Previously Looked After Children

Pupil Premium Plus is grant funding from the DfE to support the progress and attainment of looked after and previously looked after children. Funding for looked after children is managed and monitored by the Local Authority, overseen by the Virtual School Head.

Eligibility and Allocation

For 2018-19 Durham Virtual School will receive £2300 for each child of statutory school age looked after by Durham County Council as recorded in the SSDA30 DfE return to the DfE March 2018. Durham Virtual School will retain £600 per child centrally and schools will receive £1700 in three instalments.

For 2018 -19 schools will receive £2300 direct to their budgets for each previously looked after child as recorded in the January census 2018

Previously looked after children are those of statutory school age who:

- **have been adopted from care in England or Wales.**
- **left care under a special guardianship order (SGO).**
- **left care under a child arrangements order (formerly known as a residence order)**
- **have been adopted from 'state care' outside England and Wales**

Department for Education Guidance:

The following Department for Education documents provide the statutory guidance for local authorities and schools to follow:

Pupil Premium Plus 2018-2019: Conditions of Grant

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-conditions-of-grant-2018-to-2019/pupil-premium-2018-to-2019-conditions-of-grant>)

Promoting the education of looked after children: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities 2018

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/promoting-the-education-of-looked-after-children>)

The designated teacher for looked after and previously looked after children 2018

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/designated-teacher-for-looked-after-children>)

Summary of statutory guidance:

Pupil Premium Plus (PP+) for looked after children is:

- Managed by the designated Virtual School Head
- Distributed to schools by the local authority
- Used for the benefit of the cohort
- Not a personal budget but can be used to support individual need
- Reported on annually to the Corporate Parenting Panel to evaluate the impact

Pupil Premium Plus for previously looked after children is:

- Managed by the school Headteacher and Designated Teacher
- Used for the benefit of the cohort
- Not a personal budget but can be used to support individual need
- Allocated directly to schools
- Reported on annually through the pupil premium report to evaluate impact

Statutory Responsibilities of the Local Authority:

The Children and Families Act 2014 and Children and Social Work 2017 place on local authorities a statutory duty to appoint a Virtual School Head who will:

- Ensure every looked after child has a Personal Education Plan
- Ensure effective arrangements are in place to allocate PP+ funding
- Work with educational settings to agree how PP+ funding will be used to meet the needs identified in the Personal Education Plan
- Evaluate how PP+ funding is raising achievement for looked after children
- Report the use and impact of PP+ for looked after children on an annual basis
- Provide information and advice to schools on the best use of PP+ for previously looked after children.

Statutory responsibilities of the school:

A school has the responsibility to:

- Appoint a Designated Teacher for Looked After Children who will:
 - Promote the educational achievement for each looked after child in the school
 - Actively support the Personal Education Plan process
 - Work with the Local Authority to:
 - Agree the use of Pupil Premium funding for each looked after child
 - Monitor and report on the impact of Pupil Premium for each individual looked after child and for cohorts of looked after children

The Personal Education Plan (PEP) and Pupil Premium:

The PEP is a statutory document which identifies how the educational needs of a looked after child are to be met. The PEP is updated annually and reviewed on a termly basis. The PEP must identify clear social, emotional and educational outcomes to support the child in reaching potential. Reviews should be thorough and analytical in identifying next steps.

Distribution of Pupil Premium Plus for Looked After Children

The total amount for 2018-19 is £2300.

Virtual School Heads have flexibility in the use of PP+ funding in order to maximise its impact for individual looked after children as well as the whole looked after cohort. This includes determining the level of top-sliced funding.

Virtual School Heads and schools manage their PP+ allocation for the benefit of their cohort of looked after or previously looked after children and according to children's needs. It is not a personal budget for individual children but an amount can be allocated to an individual to support their needs.

Pupil Premium Plus funding will be allocated to schools in a termly basis where:

- A high quality PEP with agreed outcomes to raise achievement in place
- An annual resource funding plan is completed
- There is demonstrable impact for looked after children

Pupil Premium Plus funding may be withheld if the school cannot demonstrate effective use to close the education gap for looked after children. Pupil Premium Plus should not be used to double fund or replace funding which should already have been allocated to the school to support the child via an EHCP or other statutory work.

The Local Authority will distribute this to schools as follows:

Allocation:	Amount:	Conditions:
Direct to schools	£1,700	Personal Education Plan (PEP) in place Agreed outcomes and impact Resource funding plan completed
Additional Grant	£600	To be held centrally for: Additional funding for identified children based on need and agreed with caseworker Funding to meet the needs of the cohort across the authority through additional support and intervention.

Centrally retained funding

Durham Virtual School will allocate additional support and funding according to need and following school discussions with the allocated caseworker. The following list is indicative of our offer but is not exhaustive:

- Senior EP time
- Counsellor time
- Speech and Language support
- OT support
- Curriculum and inclusion support
- Twilight academic support for years 6 and 11
- Year 11-12 support
- CPD for designated teachers and resources for secondary schools
- Training for governors, carers and social care teams
- Letterbox for primary aged children
- Additional capacity at The Bridge for KS3

School use of Pupil Premium Plus

Examples of effective use of PP+ could include:

- Staff training to become an attachment aware school
- Priority access to in-school services e.g. counsellor
- Therapeutic interventions
- Mentor to meet and greet, check preparedness for learning, provide a safe space, be an 'interested other'
- Activities to build confidence and self - esteem
- 1 to 1 tuition
- Enhanced transition
- Developing meta-cognition and self-regulation
- Access to appropriate curriculum including catch-up
- Raising aspirations through access to wider experiences and enrichment opportunities

Pupil premium Funding Arrangements – County Durham Looked After Children

Yr0 to Yr10:

Every looked after child will be allocated Pupil Premium Plus funding as follows:

Term 1: Autumn £600

Term 2: Spring £600

Term 3: Summer £500

Yr11:

Term 1: Autumn £600

Term 2: Spring £600

Term 3: Summer Allocated according to need or identified for Year 12

- Durham Virtual School will not routinely pay pupil premium plus funding to Independent non-maintained schools. The Virtual School Head, will, however, consider proposals on a needs basis.

In Year School transfers:

Pupil Premium funding is allocated for individual children. The funding follows the child. In the case of an in-year school transfer, the Virtual School Case Worker will facilitate agreement between schools regarding transfer of any unspent Pupil Premium.

Entering care mid-term:

For young people who enter care mid-term, we will release £500 of the PP+ allocation to schools immediately to plan to meet their needs.

Planning Pupil Premium Spend – School Resource Funding Plan:

As part of the Personal Education Planning process, the Designated Teacher will complete an annual plan and review it termly. This will detail how the funding is to be spent on the looked after cohort and on meeting individual needs for the whole year.

Individual support will continue to be identified on the PEP but not costed.

For further guidance, please make contact with the Virtual School.

Pupil Premium for children temporarily in-care/recently left care:

The Durham Virtual School will make available additional Pupil Premium funding for a child or young person who is the responsibility of Durham County Council and:

- Has entered care for a temporary period of care during the existing financial year
- Has left care during the present financial year and their continued needs are not met through existing Pupil Premium Plus support

In both of the cases above, the additional needs of the child must be evidenced in a SEN Support Plan or Education, Health and Care Plan and planned support must be different to any other funded strategies.

The general principles on appropriate use of Pupil Premium identified within this document will apply to adopted children. The Virtual School Head will provide advice, support and guidance to parents of children adopted from care and their schools to ensure that their identified needs are being met.

Purchasing of equipment:

Schools and education providers are to follow their internal procedures for purchasing equipment. Each school is to make a decision regarding ownership of any equipment purchased in particular the ownership of ICT equipment such as laptops and tablet computers and whether it belongs to the looked after child or school. Agreed ownership and any transfer arrangements are to be identified in the child's/young person's PEP prior to equipment being purchased. Any such equipment should only be purchased where there has been a need identified which can be met in this way.

Early Years

Durham Virtual School will work with early years providers, the EYFS team and social workers to ensure that looked after and previously looked after children have access to early years pupil premium funding.

Appendix A

Resource funding plan

Appendix B

Additional Information

Useful links on effective use of Pupil Premium Plus:

<http://squareoneattachment.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/PPP-guide.pdf>

<https://afaeducation.org/free-dt-resources/explore-our-resources/ppplus-and-support-from-virtual-schools/>

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ioe/departments-centres/centres/centre-for-inclusive-education/palac>

<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit>

Further Information:

Please contact:

**County Durham Virtual School
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