****



|  |
| --- |
| **Pupil Premium Grant for Norfolk’s looked after children –**  **Frequently Asked Questions**  **What happens if a child moves school within a school term?**  Any payments of £600 made as a result of completion and sign off of the termly PEP would not be recouped where a child moves within a school term. However, if the school has received additional funding as a result of an exceptional funding application the Virtual School reserves the right to recoup any monies not utilised. Each case will be dealt with separately.  The receiving school can submit an exceptional claim for funding, based on the targets set within the new PEP.  **What happens if a pupil new to care joins the school during the term?**  The statutory guidance states that the PEP should be initiated within 10 working days of a child or young person coming into care. Subsequent to the meeting taking place and the PEP documentation completed and signed off by the Virtual School team, the £600 will be allocated to the school to assist with the transition and any targets within the PEP.  **How should schools apply for pupils in Years 6 and 11 who are due to transition to secondary school or further education?**  It is good practice to hold a PEP meeting early in the final term before the pupil transitions. It is expected that the £600 allocated for the Summer Term would support any preparations for end of year events and transition to secondary or further education.  **If a student is put back a year to assist them with accessing learning their chronological age will be over 16/17 before they leave high school. Does this mean they won’t be entitled to pupil premium funding when they reach Year 11?**  You can use the funding for children that have been back-classed and are now outside of the normal age range for Pupil Premium funding.  **How do I apply for funding for any pupils on my school roll who are in the care of another local authority?**  Pupils educated in Norfolk but ‘Looked After’ by another authority will have their Pupil Premium paid by that authority. Each authority are likely to have a slightly different approach to allocation of funding and you should contact the Virtual School Head of the relevant authority for clarification on the process.  **Does the Virtual School oversee pupil premium funding for children adopted from care or who have left care?**  **No, this grant is outside the remit of this policy**. The pupil premium for 2018 to 2019 will include pupils recorded in the January 2018 school census and alternative provision census who were looked after immediately before being adopted, or who left local authority care on a special guardianship order or child arrangements order (previously known as a residence order). These are referred to as post-LAC and £2,300 funding **is paid directly to schools** where the adoptive parents have disclosed the legal status of the child and schools have completed this information on their January Census return.  **What is the process for pupils who previously qualified for Free School Meals Funding?**  Pupils who would qualify for FSM6 funding (Free School Meals eligibility within the last 6 years) and who have become LAC will **not** be funded through FSM6 funding, but through the looked after children allocation process.  **Does the Virtual School Head have to give £2,300 to schools or can they give a higher or lower amount?**  The conditions of grant state that the fund must be managed by the Virtual School Head. There is a strong expectation that Virtual School Heads will pass pupil premium funding onto a child’s education setting to be used to meet additional needs set out in the Personal Education Plan. It is for them to decide whether to provide £2,300 to a school for a looked after child or a higher or lower amount. Some of the most effective interventions cost very little and others are more than £2,300. Funding is allocated according to the identified need.  **Can money be spent on school trips?**  Funding applications will only be approved if it can be demonstrated that there is a clear link to raising attainment and closing the gap between looked after children and their peers. Pupil Premium for looked after children should not be used to cover interventions which should be funded elsewhere.  **Can the foster carer be given the pupil premium funding to spend?**  The Virtual School Head manages pupil premium funding to support the education of looked after children as set out in the Personal Education Plan. It should not be used for activity the local authority should normally be expected to fund as the corporate parent, such as support for foster carers. Foster carers however, have an essential role in supporting the education of the children for whom they care. Foster carers can therefore make a valuable contribution to decision making.  **Can the Virtual School Head pool funding for some of the authority’s looked after children?**    The Department for Education expects Virtual School Heads to manage the pupil premium to ensure that it promotes the educational achievement of all the children looked after by the authority. It may be appropriate to pool some pupil premium for activities to benefit the authority’s looked after children more holistically. For example, it might be appropriate to provide training for a group of designated teachers across the authority or a group of Teaching Alliance schools. Equally, a virtual school head might negotiate with a school regarding pooling pupil premium funding for looked after children with the school’s pupil premium to provide an enhanced and more intensive package of support for disadvantaged children generally. |

Any funding not passed down to schools by the end of the financial year will have to be returned to the Department. No money can be carried forward to the next financial year.

***You can contact us on:-***

**01603 307769** [**clare.farrant@norfolk.gov.uk**](mailto:clare.farrant@norfolk.gov.uk)

***You can also find out more at:-* ** [**www.virtual-school.org.uk**](http://www.virtual-school.org.uk)