

English Language Support Service
Turner Rd Centre
Turner Rd
Norwich
NR2 4HB

Dear Head Teacher,

Re: Support through the Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant 2003/04

This year there will be changes to delivery by the English Language Support Service. These changes are as directed by the DfES to fully meet the brief of the grant in seeking to raise the achievement of minority ethnic pupils and will ensure that support is delivered in the most effective way.

The changes will be in two stages to maintain continuity and to allow consultation with schools at the Schools' Forum meeting on June 30th.

For the summer term schools will receive support following assessment, for EAL pupils of statutory school age who are new to the school (from April 1st) and new to English. Indicative pupil allowances of £125 per pupil at KS1, £150 per pupil at KS2 and £175 at KS3/4 will be given. Support will only be given for one term.

Alongside this a fuller range of school support will be offered including monitoring the progress of other EAL learners and giving staff support, guidance and training.

As schools will be consulted in June on the methodology of funding distribution **no formal mechanism for devolved funding will operate**. However for schools wishing to deliver their own support the indicative allowances will be honoured following the consultation. Please let us know your choice following pupil assessment.

From September it is hoped to offer three packages of support ranging from the termly support of EAL beginners to intensive work in larger schools on raising the achievement of all minority ethnic pupils. A full proposal will be put to the Schools' Forum.

Please note that support for new arrival asylum seekers is separately funded and will be delivered by the Service through the Vulnerable Children's grant.

Please note also that funding for work with children under statutory school age has not been secured. Support will continue for the most vulnerable children and families for one term while negotiations proceed.

The Service will be appointing a Connexions worker who will provide additional guidance for high need minority ethnic pupils KS3/4 pupils.

The DfES is currently conducting a national consultation on the future of the Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant. This can be found on the Intranet and on the DfES website and schools are invited to submit responses by 28th May.

The Service moves to its new home at the Turner Rd Centre at the beginning of next term and will sit within the Norfolk Education Advisory Service. Our focus will continue to be on pupils but we will be better placed to improve our service to schools.

We will be unpacking and maintaining key pupil and school support for week one and will be in full operation from Tuesday 6th May. Our Inset programme will be sent out in early May.

We look forward to continuing our work with you,

Yours sincerely

Sarah Barney
Head of Service
English Language Support Service