

Until the end of March 2025 the ASF will have 2 fair access limits:

- £2,500 per child per year for specialist assessment
- £5,000 per child per year for therapy

In Enfield, if additional therapy is required for children with an SGO, applications should be made via the Special Guardianship Team.

Tel: 020 8379 8490

Email: specialguardians@enfield.gov.uk

If the child is adopted, contact Adoption London North.

Tel: 020 7527 4777 (select Option 2)

Website: adoptlondon.org.uk/adopt-london-north-support/

What other points should schools consider?

- Attending training on the impact of trauma and loss. Enfield is currently rolling out free training via the ETIPPS programme.
- Providing consistent key relationships for children with attachment needs (e.g. 1:1 time scheduled into the child's day or week).
- Providing support for unstructured times – e.g. lunch club or calm space.
- Special arrangements for transition – e.g. additional visits, maps and photographs and opportunities to get to know key staff.
- Consider how to support children who find it difficult to manage their feelings (e.g. teaching emotional regulation skills, having calm boxes, nurture groups etc.) Pupil Premium Plus can be used for this.
- How the school shares sensitive information about the child's background and needs? e.g. systems; meetings; policies... if it is on a 'need to know' basis, how is this decided and clarified with everyone including parents?

Many schools find it useful to regularly ask parents, via a school newsletter, about providing documentation of their child's PLAC status, in order to claim Pupil Premium Plus.



Who can help?

Jane Manning is Enfield's PLAC Officer and can offer advice and guidance on educational issues.

Tel: 020 4526 7039

Email: jane.manning@enfield.gov.uk
(Working days: Monday to Wednesday)

Please contact Jane:

- if you have any concerns regarding a PLAC child – particularly if that child is at risk of permanent exclusion. We do need the consent of the parent/carer in order to be involved but can give general advice.
- if you have any queries about how best to support the education of PLAC.
- if you have questions about Pupil Premium Plus.
- if parents are considering home education.

Other useful contacts

PAC-UK London Education Advice Line

For adoptive parents, special guardians, school staff and social workers, to talk through any school or educational concerns regarding adopted or special guardianship children, and receive advice and support.

Tel: 020 7284 5879 (Thursdays in term time, 12pm-2pm)

CORAM

Website: www.coram.org.uk/what-we-do/education

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR PREVIOUSLY LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN IN ENFIELD

*Advice for Professionals,
including schools*



www.enfield.gov.uk



What support is available?

- PLAC children get priority admission to schools.
- Schools are entitled to Pupil Premium Plus (currently £2,410, increasing to £2,530 in 2023-24). 3 and 4 year-old children in Early Years provision are entitled to £342 p.a in EYPP.
- Enfield Virtual School will provide advice and guidance information to schools, parents and a range of professionals around improving the educational outcomes of children previously looked after.

Why do these children need support, and how do we access it?

The DfE takes the view that many care experienced children will have experienced grief and loss and may have had traumatic experiences in their early lives. Many of these children entered care due to abuse or neglect. Their needs do not change overnight, and they do not stop being vulnerable just because they are in a loving home. Their early life experiences will have a lasting effect emotionally, socially, and academically. The purpose of the Pupil Premium Plus is to raise educational attainment and close the gap between previously LAC students and their peers.

Who are Previously Looked After Children (PLAC)?

Children who have been in the care of a Local Authority in England or Wales, and left care with an Adoption, Special Guardianship Child Arrangement Order. This can also include children who from “have been adopted from state care” outside England or Wales. These internationally adopted children are entitled to support from Adoption London North, and get priority admission to schools but are not entitled to PP+.



FAQs

When does Pupil Premium Plus (PP+) funding start and finish?

Any child attending school from the start of Reception Year to the end of Year 11 is eligible to receive PP+. Children who are electively home educated, who attend an independent school/setting or are post-16 students are currently not eligible for the funding. Proof of status (adoption or SG order needs to be seen by school), and recorded onto school system in time for the October census.

What about Early Years Children?

3 and 4 year-olds who are accessing Early Years provision, are currently entitled to up to £342 p.a in Pupil Premium (60p per hour for up to 15 hours a week).

What can the Pupil Premium Plus be used for?

- Acceleration of academic achievement and progress.
- Helping with social and emotional needs.
- Helping the school with training to promote awareness of trauma and attachment needs.
- Support with transitioning to a new Key Stage or setting.
- Reducing suspensions and internal exclusions.
- Improving school attendance.

Should the Pupil Premium Plus be used for school trips and outings?

Normally it is expected that a parent will provide the financial support for additional curricular activities, however, in certain circumstances, a school may agree to part-funding trips if there is a sound argument. The allocation of PP+ to specific interventions should be evidence based and meet the individual needs of the child/young person. The Education Endowment Foundation provide schools with evidence of high impact strategies for disadvantaged learners.

Can the Pupil Premium Plus be pooled?

The PP+ is not a personal budget. Schools should look at the needs of the cohort of children and ensure the PP+ is spent in the best interests of those children, with involvement from parents and guardians.

What about Internationally adopted PLAC?

Since July 2021, children adopted from abroad are entitled to priority school admission and support from the Adoption Support Fund. They are not entitled to Pupil Premium Plus.

What is the Adoption Support Fund (ASF)?

The adoption support fund (ASF) provides funds to local authorities and regional adoption agencies (RAAs) to pay for essential therapeutic services for eligible adoptive and special guardianship order (SGO) families. The ASF is available for children and young people up to and including the age of 21, or 25 with an education, health and care plan, who:

- are living (placed) with a family in England while waiting for adoption
- were adopted from local authority care in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland and live in England
- were adopted from abroad and live in England with a recognised adoption status
- were in care immediately before a SGO was made
- left care under a special guardianship order which subsequently was changed to an adoption order, or vice versa
- are under a residency order or child arrangement order (CAO) and were previously looked after
- were previously looked after but where the adoption, special guardianship, residency or CAO placement has broken down, irrespective of any reconciliation plans.

