

For secondary schools

Consider all of the above, plus:

How does the school support the Year 6 to Year 7 transition?

For example, extra visits for vulnerable children; opportunities to see the school both empty and busy; maps and photographs; summer club to get used to the school and key staff?

How does the school provide structure and consistency?

For example, Year 7 in permanent base; lockers for children's belongings; advance warning of timetable changes; timetable on website so parents can prepare child at home.

How does the school share the information you give them about your child's background and needs?

For example, systems, meetings, policies... if 'need to know' basis, how is this decided and clarified with everyone including parents.

Useful contacts

Special Guardianship Duty Team Enfield

The Special Guardianship Team can provide a range of support to Special Guardians, including access to other services. The Special Guardianship Team welcome referrals at an early stage regarding any concerns (e.g. finances, mental health, education).

Tel: 020 8379 8490

Email: specialguardians@enfield.gov.uk

Kinship Compass

Kinship provides emotional, practical support and advice for any friend or family member raising a child full-time because their parents are unable to look after them – kinship carers – regardless of their legal order.

Website: kinship.org.uk/for-kinship-carers/contact-our-advice-service/



Adopt London North

Adoptive families in Enfield can access support from Adopt London North. They provide a variety of support, including access to the Adoption and Special Guardian Support Fund which helps to financially enable families access to a variety of therapeutic support.

Tel: 020 7527 4777 (select Option Two)

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

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)

Enfield Virtual School

Enfield Virtual School website has information and advice for Special Guardians and adoptive parents.



Who can help?

Jane Manning is Enfield's Children Previously in Care and Kinship Education 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 about how to support your child's education.
- if you have questions about Pupil Premium Plus.
- if your child has additional needs and you would like support in understanding and navigating the SEND processes.
- if you are considering home- educating your child.
- if you are worried your child may be at risk of permanent exclusion or has already received suspensions.

Every school has a Designated Teacher for CPiC and CiC, please speak to them about any concerns you may have about your child's education.

ENFIELD EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN PREVIOUSLY IN CARE

Advice for parents
and carers



www.enfield.gov.uk

What support is available?

- Children previously in care benefit from priority admission to schools. This means that even if the school is over-subscribed, they will still be awarded a place.
- Schools are entitled to claim Pupil Premium Plus (currently £2,690 p.a from September 2026 for Reception to Year 11–aged children, and up to £655 p.a for children aged 3 and 4 in Early Years provisions).
- Enfield Virtual School provide advice and guidance information to schools, parents or guardians and a range of professionals, around improving the educational outcomes of children who were previously looked after.

Why do children previously in care need support?

Many care-experienced children have experienced grief, separation and loss or may have had traumatic early life experiences. Many may have 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 and other support available to children previously in care is to raise educational attainment and close the gap between these students and their peers.

Internationally Adopted Children Previously in Care (IACPIC)

Since July 2021, children adopted from abroad are also entitled to priority school admission, and their adoptive parents can access support from Adoption London North. Schools can now claim Pupil Premium Plus for IACPIC children.



FAQs

Are all children previously in care entitled to Pupil Premium Plus?

Schools can only claim Pupil Premium Plus for children who have been in Local Authority Care prior to Adoption, Special Guardianship (SGO) and Child Arrangement Orders (CAO) being granted. Children who have a private family arrangement and children who return home to live with their parents or relatives (outside Adoption, Special Guardianship (SGO) and Child Arrangement (CAO) Orders) do not qualify for previously looked after Pupil Premium Plus.

Why do I have to show the school proof of the court order?

Schools will not know which children were previously looked after. When your child changes school you will need to inform the new school.

When does Pupil Premium Plus funding start and finish?

Early Years provisions are entitled to claim Early Years Pupil Premium Plus (EYPPP) currently £1.15 per hour, for a maximum of 15 hours a week, 570 hours per year) for 3 and 4 year-old CPiC.

Schools can claim Pupil Premium Plus for CPiC from the start of reception year to the end of Year 11. Children who are electively home educated, who attend an independent school/setting or are post-16 students are currently not usually eligible for the funding. However, some young people may be entitled to a bursary or vulnerable groups bursary for post-Year 11 education.

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

It is expected that a parent or guardian will provide the financial support for additional curricular activities, wherever possible. However, it is worth discussing with the school if this is difficult, as it may be possible with school agreement, to part fund some trips.

Must the school do what I suggest with the Pupil Premium Plus?

The Pupil Premium Plus is not a personal budget. Schools should look at the needs of children previously in care in their school as a group and ensure the Pupil Premium Plus is spent in the best interests of those children, with involvement from parents and guardians.

Can the Pupil Premium Plus funding be used for the child to join out of school clubs?

If you can identify how this will benefit the child's academic progress and attainment this might be possible, but would need to be discussed with school. It cannot be used to fund childcare.

Changing schools or starting school

When looking at schools please speak to the Designated Teacher for children in care and previously in care. It may be worth considering the following points:

- Have staff received training on attachment and the impact of early trauma and loss?
- How does the school provide consistent key relationships for children with attachment needs? (e.g. named members of staff as key workers for children, with quality 1:1 time scheduled into the child's day or week, with particular attention to the times when the child is most vulnerable?)
- Is there a safe base for your child to go to if they need to calm down or self-regulate?
- What support is in place for children who find unstructured times difficult? (e.g. Is there an indoor lunch club for more vulnerable children, where they can develop their social skills, or calm down and relax? Do the midday supervisors organise structured games on the playground? Are there systems for children who want to play with friends e.g. a buddy system or a friendship bench?
- How does the school support children who find it difficult to manage their feelings? (e.g. nurture group; calm boxes; a calming zone within the school; emotion regulation skills), teaching and coaching; anger management training; empathy from all staff; social skills groups.
- Is the Pupil Premium Plus used for social and emotional interventions as well as learning?
- How does the school manage curriculum hotspots, i.e. issues which might trigger your child (e.g. liaise with parents about baby photos and family trees; cards for mothers' and fathers' day; subjects such as evacuees in WW2 in English and History; NSPCC and Children in Needs assemblies...)?
- How will school communicate with you?