

Kirklees Schools Forum
Friday 11th July 2014

Agenda Item 7: Update on High needs issues

In response to some questions raised by Schools' Forum:

What are the implications for schools of Personal Budgets?

Some children and young people with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) may be entitled to a Personal Budget. The aim of the Personal Budget is to enable the child or young person to participate, enjoy and achieve their learning outcomes. Decisions about how to meet the identified learning outcomes will be made together with the child/young person and their family and will include a consideration of the need for a Personal Budget. In making this decision, there would have to be evidence that the school was not able to provide what was needed to achieve these outcomes from their existing provision. The amount of money would be based on what is needed to fund the additional support required to achieve the identified outcomes. It would come from the top up element (from the High Needs Block) in the first instance but may also include part of the School Block.

What are the implications for schools of the need to fund the first £6000 of a child or young person's additional support?

Schools are required to provide for the special educational needs (SEN) of any pupil up to the cost of £6000. There is emerging evidence that some parents are asking for a breakdown of this spending in terms of their child's support and so schools will need to assess, plan, provide and review very carefully in order to be able to show this. This would be good practice anyway and would support the statutory process towards an EHCP. Schools should have identified the needs of all of their pupils (those on SEN Support and those with an EHCP) and from this should be able to identify the potential cost of meeting the needs of this group.

Should further information or clarification be needed, please contact:

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