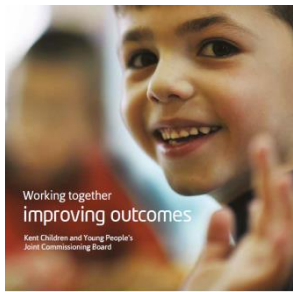


Item 3

Schools Funding Forum SEN Report

1 December 2017



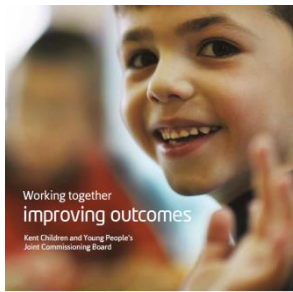
Forum points for consideration

SFF:

- Multiple pupils on one application
- Application by a Federation or Trust for a group.
- Inherent incentive to tip over the £6k threshold within an application
- Ensure top up is reflective of element 3 for special schools
- Introduce incentives for a whole school approach to SEN, rather than an individual pupil approach

Response

- DfE operational guidelines; threshold of £6k per pupil
- Revised application removes this
- No direct correlation because of economies of scale in special school, but comparison takes place in HNF moderation
- We will look at district funding if the budget is not fully committed



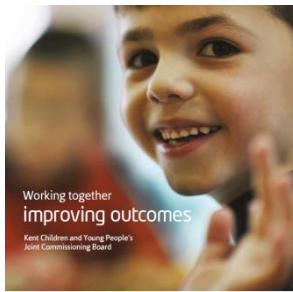
Forum points for consideration

SFF:

- Provide SEN funding guidance for Governors to identify best use
- Whole school training e.g. ASD
- Publish comparison of HN pupils as a % of a schools population
- High % of HN pupils should trigger LA visit SEN monitoring team
- Consideration transition funding

Response

- Agree – will do this
- LIFT Exec has agree to offer more whole school training
- This will be explored at AEN updates with SENCOs
- We are increasing the staffing in order to have capacity to do this
- We are finalising how we can do this transparently



Forum points for consideration

SFF:

- How many HNs funding applications are turned down?
- For new applications, how many are rejected?

Response

- If an application or reapplication doesn't meet the £6,000 threshold, a school will not be able to submit the claim.

(The new process from January will allow us to identify and record submissions that don't meet the £6k threshold)

- With the present system 25 – 30% of applications are deferred when initially submitted. This resulted in a reduction in the amounts agreed by the end of the 2016 -17 financial year and 8% (200) not being agreed.



Forum points for consideration

SFF:

- The number of re-applications that are rejected. These are application that have initially been agreed for a period but on re-application after the year period has concluded, are rejected because they no longer meet the £6,000 threshold.

Response

- From Dec 2016 to Sept 2017 - 25% of reapplications were not continued. This was because;
- 8% had moved to a specialist provision
- 17% for other reasons.

The data identifying these reasons isn't presently collected but we are aware that:-

- *some children have made progress and the school doesn't feel they need additional funding.*
- *The provision required to meet needs now doesn't exceed the £6k threshold.*
- *The child has moved to another school and an application hasn't been made.*
- Of the agreed reapplications, 66% have no change in cost or are reduced.