

A Parent/Carer Guide to High Needs Funding

- High Needs Funding (HNF) is money that schools can apply for to help them to support your child.
- All schools are provided with funding to meet the first £6,000 of SEN provision over the course of a year as part of their school budget.
- The LA is required to provide the school with top up funding for the costs in excess of £6,000. This is called High Needs Funding
- This is only available for children in mainstream schools and sixth form (including free schools and academies).
- Your child will have been identified as having a level of special education needs (SEN) that requires a high level of provision to be put in place.
- The school will work with you and your child, to identify the provision and interventions needed to enable your child to make progress.
- The school will make an application for HNF through the Kent Online System.
- For this application the school will ask you for your written consent.
- Once the application is received by the Local Authority it is considered by the specialist High Needs Funding Team.
- The top-up funding is usually agreed for one year but can be for up to a whole key stage.
- If a high level of provision is still required after this time, the school will need to reapply for funding.
- The system is different for FE Colleges and Post-16 alternative registered educational providers. (Please see separate guidance).