

## **PUPIL PREMIUM – LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN (LAC)**

This note sets out how Kent County Council will deal with the allocation of the pupil premium for LACs in 2011-12. Arrangements have been set to minimise the additional bureaucracy that would otherwise be required.

### **Kent LACs in Kent schools**

Funding has already been allocated to schools and included in the 2011-12 budgets issued in March 2011, based on a provisional count of LACs in January. Payments are made monthly as part of the budget share. The formal count day for funding is now set at 31 March 2011 and any school that had higher qualifying numbers at that date will have its funding topped up. Funding will not be reduced if the March count is lower than the provisional January count.

There will be no changes to funding for joiner or leavers during the year.

The ongoing process will be based upon the VSK list issued on the 31<sup>st</sup> March for those children in care from September of the previous year or earlier, where a school base can be identified.

Identification of eligibility happens via the personal education planning [PEP] process as recommended by DfE guidance. The PEP form will show:

- If the child is eligible (the PEP is being reviewed as the child has been in care for six months).
- How the pupil premium will be used.

The PEP will also be the 'trigger' for future distribution of the pupil premium each year if the child remains eligible

### **Other Local Authority (OLA) LACs in Kent Schools**

Schools will need to contact the 'home' authority for these pupils as Kent has not been given the government grant to pay for them. Other authorities may have different rules about eligibility dates, and may make adjustments for joiners and leavers. It is expected that schools will already have a contact name for each other authority they are working with.

Schools will need to provide OLAs with their own bank details. KCC is not acting as an intermediary or handling these payments.

### **Kent LACs in (OLA) schools**

Kent's "Virtual School" Headteacher who is responsible for monitoring the provision for these pupils will make contact with the relevant OLA schools direct (the team will not work via the OLA unless specifically requested) The VSK team will confirm eligibility and obtain contact details for payment (passed to Ian Hamilton). Payments will be made on the basis of eligibility as at 31 March 2011, and a full year's grant

(£430) will be paid. There will be no adjustments for joiners or leavers during the year.

OLA schools need to provide Ian with their bank account details to enable payments to be made. Payments will be made in one payment run when all details have been collected, and by October at the latest..

Note:

KCC is actively lobbying DfE to seek changes for 2012-13 onwards to avoid these confusing and excessively bureaucratic arrangements for such small sums of money. We would like DfE to pay grant to KCC for all LACs in KCC schools so that our schools have just one point of contact and we can make a single payment for all LACs regardless of their home authority.

Contacts

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