

Applying for Pupil Premium Plus for the academic year 2017-18

For the attention of designated teachers, social workers, independent reviewing officers and carers of Nottingham City looked after children.

Nottingham City Virtual School has historically provided schools, who have our looked after child(ren) on their roll, the opportunity to apply for the full Pupil Premium Plus allocation (£1,900 per year, paid termly), we have neither top sliced this funding or held back funds for the purchasing/commissioning of general provision/intervention to meet the needs of our children.

This academic year, 2017-18, schools can continue to apply for the full Pupil Premium Plus allocation of £1,900.

We are reviewing the way in which we require schools to apply for Pupil Premium Plus and the way in which applications for funding are scrutinised and approved. The purpose of this review is to ensure processes are clear, effective, consistent and efficient and that they will enable all of us, with a duty to promote the educational achievement of looked after children, to fulfil our duties effectively thereby improving the educational outcomes of our looked after children.

As part of our review we are considering a process for aligning PPP funding requests with the child's Personal Education Plan (PEP), this process is still being scoped and considered and we aim to have an agreed process where the two are combined for the 2018-19 academic year.

Applying for PPP 2017-18

Pending finalisation of a process which combines the completion of PEPs with requests for PPP, we have made the decision to disband the previous way in which schools were required to apply for PPP and have an interim arrangement for the 2017-18 year as follows:

- Schools will be required to apply for PPP through the completion of an online application, twice each year to cover specific education periods, instead of applying on the paper forms.
- The online application will be sent to all schools that have a Nottingham City looked after child on their roll at the beginning of each period, timeframes for applications are as follows:

Application Open	Application Close	Application decision	Funding receive date
6 th September 2017	15 th September 2017	22 nd September 2017	By 6 th October 2017
3 rd January 2018	12 th January 2018	19 th January 2017	By 2 nd February 2018

- Schools will be able to apply for PPP at the beginning of September 2017- for interventions/activities taking place between September 2017- December 2017 and at the beginning of January 2018- for interventions/activities taking place between January 2018- July 2018.
- Schools will be able to apply for up to £950 of PPP funding at each of the 2 periods (totalling the £1,900 allocation for the year).

Additional Funding Requests

In addition to, and as a result of, the above interim change in respect to applying for Pupil Premium Plus this academic year, we acknowledge the need to provide schools with the opportunity to apply for Pupil Premium Plus for our children outside of the above timescales, particularly as a result of the following circumstances:

- Some of our children move between schools within the academic year, consequently the new school may not have had an opportunity to apply for the PPP in the timeframes, where this is the case the new school will be able to make a funding request through a separate application- an Additional Funding Request.
- Some of our children have needs that require interventions/activities that exceed the £1,900 PPP allocation, where this is the case schools will be able to apply for additional funds over and above the PPP allocation through an Additional Funding Request .
- Some of our children require specific support and intervention to enable successful transition between schools, where this is the case schools will be able to apply for additional funds through an Additional Funding Request.

Making Additional Funding Requests:

To support the needs of our children in a timely way we will not be setting specific periods throughout the year in which to apply for Additional Funding requests; schools will be able to apply for additional funds to support the educational needs of our looked after children anytime between the start of the Academic Year (September 2017) and the end of that financial year (March 2018).

Approval of Additional Funding Requests will be subject to the appropriateness and relevance of the activity/intervention in meeting the child's educational needs and improving outcomes, as well as being subject to the funding available at the time of the application being made.

Monitoring the impact of interventions and activities funded:

As a Virtual School we have a responsibility for having arrangements in place to monitor and ensure PPP is being used for the educational benefit of the looked after child. At the point of making applications for funding, schools will therefore be required to report on the educational attainment of that child and the intended impact of the funding on the child's educational outcomes and experience. Schools will also be required to report the impact of any funding received. We will ensure there is a clear and simple way in which schools are to report the impact of the PPP funding.

If you require further information in relation to Pupil Premium Funding or the support available from the Nottingham City Virtual School, in meeting the educational needs of looked after children please do not hesitate to contact: Jasmin Howell, Service Manager for the Nottingham City Virtual School:

thevirtualschool@nottinghamcity.gov.uk