



# **London Borough of Camden**

## **Virtual School for LAC**

**Pupil Premium Plus Policy**

**2018/9**

## **1. Context**

1.1 Introduced in April 2011, the Pupil Premium is additional funding made available by the Department for Education (DfE) to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers.

1.2 The key elements from the Conditions of Grant 2018/9 are as follows:

- DfE will allocate to local authorities a provisional amount of £2,300 per child looked after for at least one day, as recorded in the March 2017 children looked-after data return (SSDA903), and aged 4 to 15 at 31 August 2016.
- DfE will update and finalise this allocation in December 2018 based on the number of children looked after for at least one day during the year ending March 2018, as recorded in the March 2018 children looked-after data return (SSDA903), and aged 4 to 15 at 31 August 2017.
- The LAC premium must be managed by the designated virtual school head (VSH) in the local authority that looks after the child, and used without delay for the benefit of the looked-after child's educational needs as described in their personal education plan.
- The VSH should ensure there are arrangements in place to discuss how the child will benefit from pupil premium funding with the designated teacher or another member of staff in the child's education setting who best understands their needs. Processes for allocating funds to a child's education setting should be as simple as possible to avoid delay.
- Local authorities may not carry forward funding held centrally into the financial year 2018 to 2019. Centrally-held LAC premium that has not been spent, or allocated to the child's education setting, by 31 March 2019 will be recovered.

## **2. Principles Underpinning the Allocation of Pupil Premium Plus (PP+)**

2.1 LB Camden and the Head of the Virtual School for LAC in Camden are Corporate Parents, so the question 'would this be good enough for my child?' is central to allocating and evaluating the effectiveness of PP+.

2.2 The Head of the Virtual School for LAC in Camden is responsible for the use of PP+ in closing the learning gap and realising the potential for all children in LB Camden's care, wherever they live and is accountable for demonstrating the effectiveness of any provision funded through the PP+ in benefit of LAC's educational needs as described in their Personal Education Plan (PEP).

2.3 The PEPs themselves will continue to be closely monitored by schools, the Virtual School Team, Social Workers and Independent Review Officers.

2.4 None of the grant will be used to pay for Virtual School management or grant administration.

2.5 LB Camden is not permitted to carry forward funding held centrally into the Financial Year 2018-19; therefore, any grant that has not been spent by the end of each financial year will be recovered.

2.6 Although PP+ is calculated on a per capita basis, it does not have to be distributed on a per capita basis given that children and young people in care have differing levels of need at different stages of being in care.

2.7 All schools and educational provision attended by Camden LAC requiring access to PP+ funding are, therefore, welcome to make written requests for PP+ in relation to specific PEP targets using the prescribed PP+ Referral Form (see Appendix A).

2.8 Funding will be allocated according to need and should be used creatively and adaptably in order to support the attainment and progress of Camden LAC.

2.9 The funds can be pooled or used flexibly but it is important that the impact of the provision in relation to LAC's PEP targets is clearly established through a variety of qualitative and quantitative data.

2.8 Funding will be allocated according to need and should be used creatively and adaptably in order to support the attainment and progress of Camden LAC.

2.9 The funds can be pooled or used flexibly but it is important that the impact of the provision in relation to LAC's PEP targets is clearly established through a variety of qualitative and quantitative data.

2.10 Schools remain accountable for the educational attainment and progress of all disadvantaged pupils within their care.

### **3. Circumstances in which Pupil Premium Plus will not be agreed**

3.1 PP+ will not be used to double fund or replace funding which should have or has already been allocated to the school to support the child. Specifically, PP+ cannot be used to:

- Fund services that should be provided via a statement or EHC plan;
- Fund other statutory work e.g. statutory assessment or support from health.

3.2 In addition to this, PP+ will not be paid if:

- The interventions put in place do not require any funding;
- The school's own funding covers the cost of the interventions;
- The PEP targets do not meet requirements.

3.3 Decisions about the use of the funding must be based on a justifiable rationale discussed during the PEP meeting and elucidated through the PEP itself.

### **4. Management and Accountability**

4.1 The Head of the Virtual School for LAC in Camden is accountable to LB Camden Council's Corporate Parenting Board for ensuring that PP+ is used in line with the Conditions of Grant 2018-19 by setting up a transparent allocation process and continuously monitoring the impact of the grant in terms of pupil attainment and progress. The Virtual Head is supported in this by a Deputy Virtual School Head, a team of Education Consultants and an Education Support Worker within the Virtual School.

4.2 The Virtual School Education Consultants are responsible for recommending agreement of the PEP and use of the PP+ to the Head and for the subsequent monitoring of the intervention plan and impact of the intervention.

4.3 The Virtual Head Teacher is responsible for signing off any proposed PP+ expenditure using the PP+ Referral Form and for school-based monitoring of intervention tracking and evaluation.

4.5 The LAC, Social Worker, Designated Teacher for LAC and Foster Carer have key roles in supporting and informing the discussions at the PEP meeting and for supporting LAC to achieve their targets.

## **5. Applying for PP+**

5.1 PP+ will only be made available to schools in order to meet the needs identified in a high-quality PEP through interventions specified on the prescribed PP+ Referral Form - please see Appendix A - and approved by the Head of the Virtual School for LAC in Camden.

5.2 Interventions should be designed to accelerate learning and have clear quantitative and / or qualitative targets for improvement, underpinned by well-targeted and identified support.

5.3 PP+ must be used to close the gap and for realising potential for children in the following areas:

- Academic achievement and progress;
- Wider achievement e.g. in an area in which the child is gifted and talented;
- Attendance;
- Educational Inclusion;
- Social Inclusion;
- Transition into the next key stage and/or a new learning provider.

5.4 Approved interventions should be recorded on the PEP and the impact discussed in the termly PEP meetings.

5.5 Schools should make use of the Education Endowment Foundation Toolkit, <https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/about-the-toolkits/> to assess the quality and effectiveness of interventions.

5.6 Where there is a need to clarify what funding a school is providing from its own resources, the school may need to provide evidence before PP+ can be allocated.

5.7 Please note that all PP+ funded interventions such as tuition will be ended at the conclusion of each term by the Virtual School in order to assess their impact. Hence, schools and educational providers or Social Workers will need to complete a new referral for provision at the beginning of each new school term if PP+ is required.

## 6. PP+ for LAC to other LAs

6.1 Each Local Authority has its own PP+ Policy, and therefore there may be significant variations in approach.

6.2 LB Camden Schools who have LAC from other Local Authorities on their roll may wish to contact the Head of the relevant Virtual School to request their PP+ Policy. The name and contact details of other Virtual School Heads can be requested from Camden Virtual School for LAC

### APPENDIX A

## Request for PP+ Funding Academic Year 2018/19

### SECTION A – DETAILS OF REQUEST

Pupil Name	
Name of Referrer	
Date of Referral	
Mosaic Person ID	
Legal Status	
Year Group (or age if over 18)	

Date of last Personal Education Plan (PEP)	
<b>Details of request</b>  If this request has been considered subject to a referral being made, please provide details	
How will this intervention help the pupil to meet their PEP target/s?  (If the student is over 18 years old, how will the provision support their education, training or employment)	
Attendance (%)	
Start Date	
End Date	
Who will be responsible for monitoring the impact of this intervention and providing feedback at the next PEP meeting?	

**SECTION B – PAYMENT DETAILS (not required for IT equipment requests)**

Payee (foster carer or school/college details)	
Cost Code and Nominal (for internal journal transfers only)	
Total Net Amount	
Total VAT Amount	

<b>TOTAL</b>	

Please complete in full and send to: [VirtualSchoolReferrals@camden.gov.uk](mailto:VirtualSchoolReferrals@camden.gov.uk)