

Northamptonshire Virtual School

Pupil Premium Plus for Looked After Children

Arrangements: 2020-2021

The **Pupil Premium Plus (PP+)** is grant funding from the DfE to raise the achievement of looked after children and to close the gap with their peers.

For the financial year **2020-21** the Virtual School will receive £2,345 of PP+ funding for eligible pupils from Year R to 11 who are looked after by Northamptonshire Local Authority.

The current conditions of grant are set out in the below;

[Pupil Premium Conditions of Grant 2020/2021](#)

[Promoting the Achievement of Looked After and Previously Looked After Children \(2018\)](#)

*Please note that these arrangements are for children who are looked after to **Northamptonshire County Council**, wherever they are living. Other arrangements will apply to children looked after by other local authorities, even if they are attending Northamptonshire education settings.*

1. Eligibility

ESFA will allocate to local authorities in June 2020 a provisional amount of £2,345 per child looked after for at least one day, as recorded in the March 2019 children looked-after data return (SSDA903), and aged 4 to 15 at 31 August 2018.

We will update and finalise this allocation in December 2020 based on the number of children looked after for at least one day during the year ending March 2020, as recorded in the March 2020 children looked-after data return (SSDA903), and aged 4 to 15 at 31 August 2019. This update may have an impact on some schools' allocations as set out above.

(Pupil Premium Conditions of Grant 2020-2021)

2. The Role of the Virtual School Head

The Children and Families Act 2014 requires all Local Authorities to have a Virtual School Head (VSH) who has the responsibility of ensuring the local authority's duty to promote the education achievement of looked after children is discharged.

VSHs are responsible for managing pupil premium funding for the children they look after and for allocating it to schools and alternative provision settings.

VSHs, working with education settings, should implement PP+ arrangements for all looked-after children, in need of support for whom the authority is responsible, in accordance with the latest conditions of grant published by the department and any supplementary departmental advice it issues. VSHs have considerable flexibility in the use of PP+ funding in order to maximise its impact for individual looked-after children as well as the looked-after cohort.

(Promoting the Achievement of Looked After and Previously Looked After Children 2018)

3. Arrangements for the 2020-2021 financial year

As per the previous year, The Northamptonshire Virtual School will divide the total amount of £2,345 into three instalments;

- £775 in the summer term
- £785 in the autumn term
- £785 in the spring term

The termly instalment will be devolved automatically to education settings upon completion of a Personal Education Plan (PEP) in the previous term. The Virtual School will withhold PP+ funding from education settings whose plans are quality assured as 'inadequate' unless there are exceptional circumstances. The PEP document will need to provide a comprehensive plan of how the funding will be spent and must be linked to clear SMART targets.

If a child is new to care and a PEP is completed in the term they enter care, the PP+ monies for that term will be devolved to schools.

Qualifying in county schools will be paid by Northamptonshire County Council as part of the monthly school top-up transfers.

- Itemised information regarding the funding transmitted to in county schools is available using the 'school monthly top ups' data sheet (available on the School's Finance section of [Northamptonshire County Council's website](#)).
- Please select the appropriate spreadsheet for the financial year in question, copy your school/setting's 'Oracle Cost Centre code' from the 'Schools Datable' tab, paste this code into cell C14 of the 'LA School Funding Summary' tab, and click on the 'Click Here to Reveal' button.
- Pupil Premium Plus payments from the summer term 2020 onwards can be identified with the payment description "Northamptonshire Pupil Premium Plus ([Term][Year])"

Qualifying out of county schools will be paid by Northamptonshire County Council through BACs payments.

- Out of county Schools and settings who have not previously received payments from Northamptonshire County Council will be contacted with a request for their financial details. Schools and settings who have previously been paid by Northamptonshire, but

have changed their details, will also be required to complete and return an 'Out of County Schools Bank Details Form' to the Virtual School.

PP+ payments to schools and settings will be transmitted with the payment description "Northamptonshire Pupil Premium Plus ([Term][Year])"

As the Virtual School devolves the full amount of PP+ to education settings, it is not possible for education settings to apply for extra funding in addition to that already devolved.

4. Monitoring Impact

The Virtual School and the education setting, namely the designated teacher, are jointly responsible for ensuring that the PP+ is being spent appropriately and for the benefit of the cohort of looked-after children and their individual needs.

The impact of the PP+ will be measured within the termly PEP review through the evaluation of the SMART targets. PP+ should be used on evidence based interventions that support progress in the following areas;

- Academic achievement and progress
- Attendance and inclusion
- Social and emotional development
- Wider achievement
- Transition

5. Circumstances in which Pupil Premium Plus will not be provided

Pupil Premium Plus will not be used to replace funding which should already have been allocated to the school to support the child and specifically will not;

- fund services that must be provided by other statutory bodies e.g. Education, Health and Care

Pupil Premium Plus will not be provided to education settings when the termly PEP review is not completed.

6. Early Years Pupil Premium

The Early Years Pupil Premium (EYPP) gives providers additional funding to support disadvantaged three and four year old pupils.

The Virtual School Head is responsible for informing a provider that a child in care to Northamptonshire is attending their setting. The setting is responsible for applying for EYPP to the local authority in which the setting is based.

For further information please use;

7. Previously Looked After Children

In addition and through a separate process, schools will be allocated for each child adopted from care in England and Wales, subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order, £2,345 passed directly to the school. However, this grant is outside the remit of the Virtual School Head and will not be distributed by the Virtual School.

8. Support and Advice

The Virtual School are happy to discuss the arrangements and to support schools with training. Other support can be found at;

[Designated teacher for looked-after and previously looked-after children](#)

[Education Endowment Fund Toolkit](#)

For further information and training please visit our [website](#)

Charlotte Franks: Head of the Northamptonshire Virtual School