Pupil Premium Plus (PPP) for Looked after Children
Luton Virtual School guidelines

The Children and Families Act 2014 made the role of the Virtual School Head (VSH) a statutory one and the DfE has decided that the PPP should be managed by the VSH in relation to its LA’s LAC.

Luton has decided to distribute £1800 to each school for each LAC on its role as of April 1st each year. The school will receive £600 for the summer term and £1200 for the autumn and spring terms combined. If a child moves school within this time we would expect the school to send on an amount (pro rata) to the next school. We will also provide an amount (pro-rata) after a new to care child has been in care for 6 months during the financial year 2014-15.

Luton’s Virtual School will be retaining £100 per child in order to fund stakeholder training (e.g. annual Designated Teacher conference and termly network meetings, foster carer and social worker training on raising achievement) and LAC awards evenings.

Schools may have other Local Authority children in their care and they will need to check with that authority as to how they are distributing the grant. Some authorities, for example, are holding back more than £100, some are only distributing the grant when they receive a Personal Education Plan (PEP), and some are only distributing it to the most vulnerable LAC.

The use of the PPP needs to be recorded in Luton’s Personal Education Plan’s (PEP) action form (section 6). The form records the targets and interventions and resources necessary to close the attainment gap particularly in English and maths. (If a school has developed its own form, which covers the same information as the PEP action form, this can be used instead). The Designated Teacher will need to be able to make decisions at the PEP meeting on interventions and the use of the grant.

In order to close the attainment gap between LAC and all other children the following principles, based on national guidance and good practice, need to be adhered to. The Virtual School will be monitoring PPP usage but will only challenge if the principles are not adhered to.

**Principles for use of PPP for LAC:**

- The PPP is not a personal budget but a grant to support the school close the attainment gap between its LAC and all other pupils, particularly in maths and English
- It is to be used for additional intervention, above what the school would normally be expected to provide
- The intervention needs to be based on what has been proven to make an impact (Sutton Trust, DfE, Ofsted have information on this)
• The grant should contribute towards the school’s work with their LAC; the school should not limit the amount spent on a child if they need more intervention than can be funded solely from PPP.

• How the child benefitting from the PPP must be reflected in the PEP action form. Designated Teachers need to be able to make decisions about the spending of the grant.

• Foster carers, social workers and Virtual School staff (as corporate parents) and the children themselves should have the opportunity to contribute.

• to the PEP action form discussion. However, as the direct educators, the school should make the final decision. Schools should make their spending decisions transparent; the school will be accountable to Ofsted and will need to publish use of PPP.

Rosalind Paul

Head of the Virtual School for LAC