

Lancashire Virtual School for Children Looked After

Changes to - CLA Personal Educational Plans (PEPS) and CLA Pupil Premium Grant Conditions

Lancashire Virtual School for Children Looked After

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Lancashire Context

- Increasing numbers of children and young people coming into care
- Lancashire had 1565 CLA as at April 2014
- CLA continue to make poor progress in comparison to their peers not in care

LANCASHIRE CONTEXT : continued

- There are approximately **400** *primary* children in care
- There are approximately **600** *secondary* children in care
- The vast majority of Lancashire's CLA are cared for by foster carers - either Lancashire foster carers or Foster Care Agencies
- A minority of Lancashire CLA are cared for in Residential Children's Homes
- A small minority are cared for by parents

LANCASHIRE VIRTUAL SCHOOL

- Ensures that Children Looked After in Lancashire are not falling behind or underachieving within education.
- Ensures that Children Looked After have opportunities to participate in activities which will enhance and improve not only their educational attainments and progress, but will add to their emotional, social and behavioural wellbeing.
- Ensures that the progress of Children Looked After is monitored e.g by visiting schools and other services involved with the education of CLA

Virtual School and Personal Education Plans (PEPs) for CLA

The Virtual School has responsibility for monitoring and reporting on the timely **completion** and **quality** of PEPs –

- Ensure that all PEPs are completed within statutory time frames - every 6 months
- Ensure that all PEPs are high quality documents which identify the **educational targets, interventions and funding** every CLA requires to improve their educational progress
- Provide information, advice and guidance, when necessary, to ensure that every individual CLA receives the educational support he /she requires to make excellent educational progress.

PEPS - CHANGES

- From April 2014 – the Virtual School no longer uses the ‘*Lancashire ePEP system*’ to record CLA PEPs
- Children’s Social Care have implemented a new information system - *Liquid Logic, to be named Lancashire Children’s System (LCS)*
- This new system provides a new PEP format – integral to the system and which can be pre-populated with CLA information
- It is anticipated, that the new pre-populated PEP will be sent electronically to the school for completion at the PEP meeting.
- The new CSC PEP does not ask for **educational targets, interventions or funding**
- The Virtual School has therefore produced an **Educational Provision Map (EPM)** to identify educational targets, interventions and funding streams for every school-aged CLA
- The Education Provision Map will be used as part of the PEP
- The EPM will then be ‘attached’ to the new PEP on the LCS

Personal Education Plans for CLA

The main participants in contributing to the PEP/EPM and reviewing it at least every 6 months are:

- School's Designated Teacher
- Carer
- The Child Looked After
- The carer's social worker / child's social worker
- The Child's Independent Reviewing Officer

CHANGES to Pupil Premium Grant (PPG)

- Previously the CLA element of Pupil Premium Grant has been £900 per CLA and this amount paid direct to the school at which the CLA was on roll.
- As from April 2014 the amount provided by DfE to Local Authority will increase to £1900
- From April 2014, the DfE requires the Virtual School Head Teachers to have responsibility for the management and allocation of CLA PPG funding
- The DfE requires that the allocation of PPG funding must be based on the needs of the child, and that the Head of Virtual School must ensure that there is evidence to demonstrate that the school requires additional funding to meet those needs
- In Lancashire, this funding will be requested as part of the PEP process and allocated/approved by Lancashire's Virtual School for CLA in response to the information and evidence **provided through the Education Provision Map and the PEP**

Approval and Allocation of PPG in Lancashire

- The Virtual School Head Teacher will approve PPG through the school's completion of the CLA Education Provision Map (plus the new LCS PEP)
- The Virtual School Head Teacher will make PPG payments to schools in July and January (a limit of £900 every 6 months)
- Additional PPG Funding will be available for CLA requiring very high levels of educational support

Funding via Virtual School for CLA

- **Pupil Premium Grant**

up to £1800 based on educational targets, interventions and funding identified on Education Provision Map.

(Plus additional Funding for CLA requiring very high educational support- particularly when a CLA is moving schools ,)

- **Personal Education Plan Support Allowance (PEPSA)**

is available via PEPSA request from CLA's Social Worker or the Designated Teacher

- Up to £400 additional funding for any CLA who is significantly underachieving in school
- Up to £200 additional funding to help address any emotional, social and behavioural difficulties via activities outside school
- Based on educational targets, interventions and funding on Education Provision Map

Questions ?