

Stuart Carlton
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1st May 2018

Dear Colleague

Re: SEN Support Funding Pilot

Following consultation with the North Yorkshire Education Partnership, we have recently agreed a one year pilot from September 2018 to enable funding to be allocated proactively and responsively to children and young people in the following 3 categories. In all cases this applies to children and young people who DO NOT have an Education Health and Care Plan.

1. Moved-in students where the information received may not be in the form of a statutory EHCP so they will be placed in their local mainstream school. Needs may be very quickly identified and a speedy response is required from the LA to support the school whilst assessment takes place. We anticipate this will be of particular benefit to our military families. NB: This is only situation where an EHCAR may also be submitted if you identify potential long term high needs.
2. Transitional support. High needs are identified at transitions (likely to be phase transitions) where the student requires additional support over and above the notional SEN allocation in order to successfully make that transition. The anticipation is that with some short term additional support for the transition, needs can be met long term at SEN Support level. We would anticipate and encourage that these requests will be made jointly between the two settings and that the funding request would reflect the support required by either or both establishments.
3. High needs that are time limited – such as those resulting from emotional trauma or significant life events. Additional support over and above the notional SEN allocation is identified to support the child through that period and return them to the same level of access to education as previously. The anticipation is that with some short term additional support, needs can be met long term at SEN Support level.

If any of the 3 cases above apply and you wish to request this funding, please complete and return the Element 3 SEN Support Pilot request form (attached). You may request this funding from the Summer term 2018. If funding is granted, you will be required to complete a monitoring form which will be sent to you with notice of approval. This is essential for us to evaluate the costs, benefits and outcomes of this pilot.

Please note: this pilot is NOT for children and young people who you feel should have an EHCP or for whom you are also submitting an EHCAR (except for group 1 – moved-in students). In those cases, you should submit an EHCAR – **our intention is not to delay any EHCPs for those children who require one**. This is for those children and young people for whom you have identified SEN, where you have put in place 2 cycles of the graduated response (in most cases evidenced by submission of their My Support Plan) and for whom you expect a period of short term additional funding over and above the notional SEN budget will be sufficient for them to be successfully supported long term at SEN Support Level.

We note there is a pattern, particularly at transition from Early Years settings and transition from primary school, for a “spike” in EHCAR submissions. Feedback from SENCOs has been that this is often where a child has been well managed and successful at SEN support level but the additional demands of the transition and uncertainty about the future in a new setting heightens concerns and leads to a request for statutory assessment. We hope this responsive funding will give schools and settings the opportunity to address short term needs and bring early and successful resolution to those fears.

Submissions will be reviewed weekly by the Head of Inclusive Support Services and the Head of Special Educational Needs. You will receive a response within 10 working days of submission.

If you have any questions please contact the SEN Admin team sen@northyorks.gov.uk

Kind regards

Nikki Joyce
Head of SEN