



Department  
for Education

Department for Education  
Sanctuary Buildings  
Great Smith Street  
London SW1P 3BT

Tel: 0370 000 2288

Email enquiry form: [www.gov.uk/contact-dfe](https://www.gov.uk/contact-dfe)

Date: 14 May 2025

To local authorities in England listed in Annex A

Dear colleagues

**Sec 31 Pupil Premium Plus (PP+) post-16 funding to local authorities Implementation Grant Determination Letter 2025-26 [No.31/7809]**

This determination is made between:

- 1. The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families, and**
- 2. The local authorities listed at Annex A.**

**Purpose of the grant**

Each local authority in England is required to appoint a Virtual School Head to promote the educational attainment of children in the care of their local authority. Virtual School Heads currently receive Pupil Premium Plus (PP+) funding of £2,630 per child in care, aged 4 to 15. This is used to provide both individual support that a child needs, as identified in their Personal Education Plan, and for the cohort as a whole. This funding ceases when the child reaches the age of 16, but Virtual School Head duties and the need for bespoke support continue for as long as the child is in care.

The purpose of this grant is to provide additional funding for looked-after children and care leavers at post-16 to local authorities in England. The extension will run from April 2025 to March 2026. The total funding available for this period is £13.84m.

This funding will provide support to local authorities in England for expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them to extend support to looked-after children and care leavers at post-16. This will build an evidence base of best practice which will inform any future support for this cohort of young people.

Local authorities can spend this grant to support costs associated with meeting this duty. In doing so, they should take account of the statutory guidance [Promoting the education of looked-after and previously looked-after children](#) published on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018, to help them implement this new duty.

Annex A attached includes the amount of funding awarded to each local authority for the 2025-26 financial year.

Signed by authority of the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Children and Families.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a large, loopy 'E'.

May El Komy  
Deputy Director, Children's Social Care

## **ROLLOUT OF PUPIL PREMIUM PLUS POST-16 FUNDING TO SELECT LOCAL AUTHORITIES IMPLEMENTATION GRANT DETERMINATION 2025/26: [No.31/7809]**

The Secretary of State for Education (“the Secretary of State”), in exercise of the powers conferred by section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003, makes the following determination:

### **Citation**

1) This determination may be cited as the ROLLOUT OF PUPIL PREMIUM PLUS POST-16 FUNDING TO SELECT LOCAL AUTHORITIES IMPLEMENTATION GRANT DETERMINATION (2025/26) [No.31/7809]

### **Purpose of the grant**

2) The purpose of the grant is to provide support to local authorities in England for expenditure lawfully incurred or to be incurred by them in respect of implementing the role of Virtual School Head for post-16 looked-after children and care leavers.

### **Determination**

3) The Secretary of State determines the authorities to which the grant is to be paid and the amount of grant to be paid. The authorities and the amounts are set out in Annex A.

### **Grant payments and expectations**

4) It is expected that the grant will be used in line with the statutory guidance and to continue to develop the evidence base for VSHs working effectively to support post-16 looked-after children and care leavers. LAs may be expected to engage with our research partner in evaluating outcomes for children and young people supported through the grant.

### **Payment arrangements**

5) The grant will be paid in 2 instalments, which will be paid in September 2025 and January 2026. All payments will be paid before the end of financial year 2025/26.

### **Treasury consent**

6) Before making this determination in relation to local authorities in England, the Secretary of State obtained the consent of the Treasury.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Education



May El Komy  
Deputy Director, Children’s Social Care  
Department for Education

## Annex A: 2025/26 Local Authority Allocations

Local authority	Allocation
Barking and Dagenham	76,987
Barnet	81,629
Barnsley	39,848
Bath and North East Somerset	39,074
Bedford	48,746
Bexley	51,067
Birmingham	308,335
Blackburn with Darwen	50,293
Blackpool	62,286
Bolton	69,250
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole	132,158
Bracknell Forest	32,884
Bradford	178,734
Brent	82,403
Brighton and Hove	76,213
Bristol, City of	138,886
Bromley	59,965
Buckinghamshire	100,973
Bury	48,359
Calderdale	49,519
Cambridgeshire	116,835
Camden	55,709
Central Bedfordshire	61,512
Cheshire East	92,075
Cheshire West and Chester	80,082
City of London	5,792
Cornwall	80,082
County Durham	121,864
Coventry	121,864
Croydon	124,959
Cumberland	68,476
Darlington	28,241
Derby	85,885
Derbyshire	159,777
Devon	136,178
Doncaster	92,075
Dorset	72,731
Dudley	125,120
Ealing	85,498
East Riding of Yorkshire	56,096
East Sussex	105,228
Enfield	73,892
Essex	245,275
Gateshead	55,709
Gloucestershire	144,689

Greenwich	84,724
Hackney	81,243
Halton	51,454
Hammersmith and Fulham	54,740
Hampshire	298,663
Haringey	78,148
Harrow	49,906
Hartlepool	32,110
Havering	58,030
Herefordshire, County of	54,549
Hertfordshire	219,742
Hillingdon	121,090
Hounslow	111,805
Isle of Wight	42,169
Isles of Scilly	0
Islington	88,980
Kensington and Chelsea	36,366
Kent	444,513
Kingston upon Hull, City of	101,747
Kingston upon Thames	32,497
Kirklees	90,914
Knowsley	44,877
Lambeth	101,747
Lancashire	250,691
Leeds	209,296
Leicester	85,498
Leicestershire	117,995
Lewisham	86,659
Lincolnshire	112,192
Liverpool	187,245
Luton	85,885
Manchester	276,046
Medway	59,578
Merton	32,497
Middlesbrough	66,155
Milton Keynes	64,220
Newcastle upon Tyne	75,826
Newham	97,104
Norfolk	203,106
North East Lincolnshire	55,709
North Lincolnshire	35,592
North Northamptonshire	74,279
North Somerset	39,461
North Tyneside	54,162
North Yorkshire	70,023
Northumberland	56,483
Nottingham	126,506
Nottinghamshire	184,924

Oldham	73,505
Oxfordshire	148,171
Peterborough	69,250
Plymouth	73,118
Portsmouth	66,155
Reading	46,811
Redbridge	66,542
Redcar and Cleveland	56,483
Richmond upon Thames	38,687
Rochdale	70,023
Rotherham	83,177
Rutland	7,351
Salford	78,534
Sandwell	85,885
Sefton	64,220
Sheffield	118,382
Shropshire	75,826
Slough	55,709
Solihull	76,213
Somerset	97,878
South Gloucestershire	69,636
South Tyneside	38,687
Southampton	80,469
Southend-on-Sea	53,388
Southwark	106,776
St. Helens	55,322
Staffordshire	193,048
Stockport	68,863
Stockton-on-Tees	77,761
Stoke-on-Trent	94,396
Suffolk	172,544
Sunderland	70,797
Surrey	205,428
Sutton	48,746
Swindon	60,352
Tameside	86,659
Telford and Wrekin	46,424
Thurrock	60,352
Torbay	48,484
Tower Hamlets	83,951
Trafford	52,614
Wakefield	71,571
Walsall	81,629
Waltham Forest	85,498
Wandsworth	54,935
Warrington	58,030
Warwickshire	147,784
West Berkshire	40,234

West Northamptonshire	123,411
West Sussex	168,675
Westminster	58,417
Westmorland & Furness	40,234
Wigan	90,527
Wiltshire	73,118
Windsor and Maidenhead	32,884
Wirral	100,586
Wokingham	32,497
Wolverhampton	73,505
Worcestershire	141,594
York	27,855