

Appropriate uses of Pupil Premium Grant for children who are looked after (PPG+)

The Department for Education is very clear as to appropriate uses of PPG+. In their guidance for Virtual Schools, it states that

- PPG+ money must be used for the benefit of the pupil's educational needs as described in their PEP
- The LA must be able to demonstrate how the PPG+ funding is raising the achievement of children who are looked after.

The following guidance from Bury's Virtual School is intended to support Designated Teachers, Social Workers, Independent Reviewing Officers and other professionals to make appropriate decisions about the uses of PPG+ when planning provision for children who are looked after. It is of paramount importance that the Virtual School is able to monitor the efficacy of PPG+ spending through PEP documentation.

The process of making a claim to Bury's Virtual School

The process for claiming PPG+ for children looked after by Bury is as follows:

- Claims must be made termly by the Designated Teacher following on from each PEP review meeting
- The use of PPG+ funding must be agreed at the PEP meeting and recorded in the PEP document; there is a section next to each action where this can be indicated
- The request should be clearly linked to the pupil's PEP target/s and the action/s under each target
- Each action should outline how it will further the pupil's educational outcomes to ensure that funding is channelled effectively
- The impact of each spend must be reviewed at the following PEP meeting and this should be recorded on the PEP document
- Requests should be emailed to CYPICEducation@bury.gov.uk
- Requests for PPG+ cannot be authorised until the PEP document has been distributed so that the request can be checked against the PEP document
- Schools will be notified by the Virtual Headteacher of any request that has been declined; otherwise, funding will be transferred to schools within 5 days of the approval of the request.

Appropriate uses of PPG+

PPG+ must be used with the intention of improving pupil outcomes in terms of academic attainment and progress. It should be used to provide something that school would not ordinarily be providing.

Appropriate uses of PPG+ may include

- Evidence based intervention such as those listed in the Education Endowment Foundation Teaching and Learning Toolkit
<https://educationendowmentfoundation.org.uk/evidence-summaries/teaching-learning-toolkit>

- Other research based intervention focusing on areas of the curriculum such as interventions for phonics, reading or mathematics
 - NB: PPG+ can be claimed pro rata where children in care are part of a larger intervention group
- 1-1 tutoring in curricular areas where pupils are falling behind their peers or are not reaching age related expectations
- Activities which encourage children who are looked after to be more involved and interested in their education e.g.
 - Activities to re-engage children in learning, based on children's interests, where this is a PEP target
 - Resources to support interest in curricular areas
 - School clubs that teach skills e.g. music, sports, social skills
- IT equipment which is needed by pupils to access elements of the curriculum or to support study skills.

PPG+ will be considered on a case by case basis for

- Access to residential educational trips based on the curriculum and attended by the majority of children, where a pupil may not otherwise be able to participate
 - A condition of granting funding for trips is that there must also be suitable intervention in place where pupils are working below age related expectations
- Activities to meet pupils' personal development needs where this is a barrier to learning e.g. therapeutic activities, activities to develop friendships or to learn social skills
- Provision to meet children's SEN where schools can evidence that they have also contributed to these costs.

PPG+ cannot be used to fund

- Residential holidays or non-educational trips e.g. where there is no clear educational content
- Support for foster carers; **payments cannot be made directly to foster carers** e.g. for horse riding lessons or other recreational activities
- School uniform
- Transport
- Before or after school clubs or other childcare
- Basic equipment which should be supplied by school e.g. stationery, revision guides, text books.