



Therapy, Nursing and Personal Care in Colleges

What is this document about?

Since the Children and Families Act (2014) was introduced, many more young people with complex needs have chosen to go to college and to study for longer.

To help their new learners, who have learning difficulties as well as extra health and care needs, colleges have been changing the support they have available. This document provides information about what support is available in the colleges that are used most frequently by our learners, including how it is arranged, and who pays for it.

Education, Health or Social Care Provision?

A young person might receive support from lots of different services and organisations to meet their needs. These needs may be related to education, health or social care. It is important for information about the support required for a young person be written in the correct section of their Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). This is because it affects which organisation is responsible for providing and paying for the support.

- If the support needed is written in **Section F (Education)**, then the Local Authority is responsible for providing and paying for it. This is normally through the SEN Service.
- If the support needed is written in **Section G (Health)**, then the health service is responsible for providing and paying for it. This will be through an organisation called the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).
- If the support needed is written in **Section H/H1 (Care)**, then the Local Authority is responsible for providing and paying for it. This is normally through the Social Care Service.

The table below shows the responsibilities.

Section of the EHCP	Which Service?	Responsible Body
F	Education	Local Authority – SEN
G	Health	Clinical Commissioning Group
H or H1	Care	Local Authority – Social Care

The SEN Service officer who writes a young person's Education, Health and Care Plan will use their knowledge and experience to help decide which section should describe the support required. They may consult with someone from the Clinical Commissioning Group, called the Designated Clinical Officer, to do this.

The Children and Families Act (2014) makes it clear that if support from health or social care helps a young person to learn, it is a type of special educational provision. This means it should be included in Section F (Education).

Speech and language therapy given to help a young person with communication is usually a part of education provision. However, if it is needed for dysphagia (swallowing problems) it is most often the responsibility of health services.

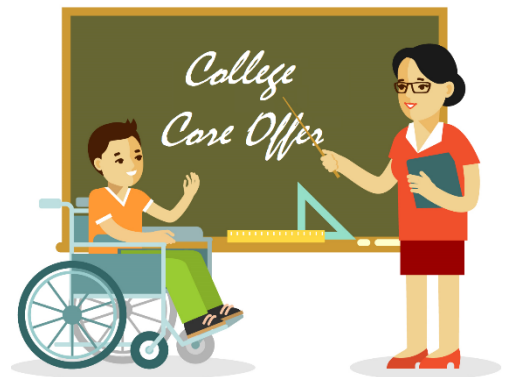
Sometimes, a young person will want a carer from outside the college to help with their personal needs. The carer might be paid for by a personal budget funded by Social Care.

All decisions about therapy, nursing and personal care should be made before a young person starts college. This means they need to be considered before the EHCP is finalised (normally 31st March for a September college start). Making decisions at this stage gives plenty of time for support to be organised, so it is ready for when a young person starts their course. However, no young person should miss out on education because decisions have been delayed.

The SEN Service will always talk to colleges to arrange placements. They will make sure that all relevant people and organisations are involved in making decisions about the support needed.

What is included in the core college offer?

The Local Authority provides funding to colleges for every learner resident in the borough who attends. Learners with an Education, Health and Care Plan receive both the standard core funding, and additional funding, called 'top-up funding', to meet the costs of special educational provision detailed in the plan.



How this funding is used to meet the needs of young people studying at college is called the core college offer. There are three different types of core offer which are described below:

- 1. The college does not have its own therapy, nursing and personal care service, but it will arrange for and provide this support for students with a need.** The cost of this support is included in the cost of the placement. This means that the top-up funding charged for the placement will include these costs.

For support specified in Sections G or H/H1 of the Education, Health and Care Plan, the SEN Service at the Local Authority will liaise with the Clinical Commissioning Group and Local Authority Social Care Team to arrange cost contributions. An SEN officer must raise this with the Designated Clinical Officer at the earliest opportunity.

- If costs are higher than £50,000 per year, these contributions will be arranged through the Joint Funding Panel.
- If costs are less than £50,000 per year, arrangements will be made through the SEN Panel and Clinical Commissioning Group.

The college is likely to be able to provide a breakdown of their costs to assist with this process.

- 2. The college already employs its own therapy, nursing and personal care service so this is available as part of the core offer.** The cost of all therapy, nursing and personal care support is included in the cost of the placement. This means that the top-up funding charged for the placement will include these costs.

For support specified in Sections G or H/H1 of the Education, Health and Care Plan, the SEN Service at the Local Authority will liaise with the Clinical Commissioning Group and Local Authority Social Care Team to arrange cost contributions. An SEN officer must raise this with the Designated Clinical Officer at the earliest opportunity.

- If costs are higher than £50,000 per year, these contributions will be arranged through the Joint Funding Panel.
- If costs are less than £50,000 per year, arrangements will be made through the SEN Panel and Clinical Commissioning Group.

The college is likely to be able to provide a breakdown of their costs to assist with this process.

Sometimes the college offer includes access to more therapy, nursing or personal care than is necessary for a particular young person. In this case, before a placement is agreed, the SEN officer will talk to the college to make sure that the level of top up funding matches the support that is actually required.

- 3. The college is unable to arrange or pay for any therapy, nursing or personal care support.** The responsibility for providing this support lies with the Local Authority's SEN Service. They must make sure that the necessary support is paid for and ready to be provided before the young person starts studying at the college. This should include opportunities for training college staff who need to deliver parts of any support package. There will be a meeting of different organisations to make sure that the arrangements are clear for each individual young person who requires access to ongoing therapy, nursing or personal care at such a college.

A list of the colleges and their current arrangements for providing therapy, nursing and personal care is provided below:

College	Therapy, nursing, personal care arrangements
Westminster Kingsway College	The college will arrange for therapies listed in the EHCP. The costs for this will be added to the top-up funding charged to the Local Authority for the placement.
Alexander Centre (part of Westminster Kingsway College)	The college buys in a package of support from the Camden and Islington Health Team. This package includes psychology, occupational therapy, community nursing, speech and language therapy, and physiotherapy as needed. The cost of this is likely to be shared between education, health and care.
City of Westminster College	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.

Kensington and Chelsea College	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.
Ealing, Hammersmith and West London College	The college has a full-time speech and language therapist on site. This mean they are able to support with any speech and language needs described in a young person's Education, Health and Care Plan. This is included in the cost of the top up funding charge. The college arranges for occupational therapy to be delivered by the Occupational Therapy Practice to meet the needs of a young person's Educational, Health and Care Plan. This cost is included in the top-up funding charge. The college is not able provide assessments for dysphagia (swallowing problems) or physiotherapy. Where necessary, the Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group will arrange and pay for this support. The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group also need to arrange and fund nursing support, as this is not provided in the core college offer.
Barnet and Southgate College	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.
West Thames College	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.
Feltham Skills Centre (part of West Thames College)	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.
South Thames College	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.
Merton Campus and Aurora Centre	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.
Richmond Upon Thames College	The college will arrange for support to be provided depending on the needs of a young person. The college pays for speech and language support to be provided by "CommunicateGr8". With training, college staff are able to carry out physiotherapy programmes and to manage epilepsy. The college has previously arranged for Behaviour and Music Therapist support in response to the needs of their learners.

Capel Manor	The Local Authority or Clinical Commissioning Group need to arrange or provide therapies, health and care support described in an Education, Health and Care Plan.
Orchard Hill College	The college can provide health support on site. The costs for this are usually broken down and are then included in the top up funding charged to the Local Authority. The funding may be provided jointly with health and/or social care.