



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON
AND CHELSEA

SCHOOL FUNDING

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

**WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND
DISABILITIES**

Date: November 2023

Introduction

Mainstream schools receive funding for pupils with special educational needs (SEN) in 3 parts:

Core funding for universal provision

Funding for targeted provision

Top-up funding for pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans

Core funding

Mainstream schools receive this funding for all pupils. It is a set amount according to the age of the pupil so can sometimes be known as the Age Weighted Pupil Unit or AWPU. It is the school's decision how they use this funding.

This funding will pay for:

- Employing teaching staff, including the SENCO, admin and support staff
- Utilities e.g. electricity and other running costs
- Books and resources
- General staff training
- Anything else required to run the school

Targeted funding

This is also known as the Notional SEN budget. In Kensington and Chelsea, it is made up of 7.5% of the core funding (above) plus all the funding schools receive for pupils with low prior attainment. This means pupils whose attainments were lower than an expected threshold attract additional funding which is part of the school's budget allocation.

This funding can be used to provide support that is seen as additional to or different from the provision that is available to all pupils. For example:

- Specific training such as whole school training on autism, or training teaching assistants to deliver specific programmes
- Support and advice from external practitioners such as speech and language therapy or behaviour support
- Specialist equipment such as a chair as recommended by an Occupational Therapist. If the equipment costs more than a locally agreed threshold, the local authority may be able to assist
- Staffing and resources such as small group interventions, literacy groups, social skills groups, individual programmes.

This funding should be used to support pupils with low and high level needs, but it is the school's decision how they use this funding.

If the school or college has a pupil with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) they must provide the first £6k each year of additional support for that pupil. This doesn't mean the support has to be provided on a one to one basis; small group support often brings about better outcomes. It is also important to note that schools do not receive a specific £6k budget for each pupil with an EHCP.

Top up funding

This is top up funding for pupils who have an EHCP and is allocated by the local authority where the pupil lives. This funding is based on the pupil's needs and the level of provision they require in order to achieve the outcomes set out in their EHCP.

This funding is allocated for specific pupils and follows them if they move to a new school or college.

Funding for resource bases which are part of a mainstream school

Resource bases may also be known as units in mainstream schools. Pupils are placed in resource bases by the local authority and they usually have an EHCP.

The mainstream school which hosts the resource base receives:

- Core funding as set out above
- £6,000 per year for each place at the Resource Base; the number of places is agreed with the local authority each year
- Top up funding for all the pupils who are placed in the Resource Base; this is from the local authority where the pupil lives.

Funding for maintained and state funded special schools

This means special schools which are maintained by the local authority or special free schools or academies. Pupils are placed in the special school by the local authority and they usually have an EHCP.

The special school receives:

- £10,000 per year for each place; the number of places is agreed with the local authority each year
- Top up funding for all the pupils who are placed in the special school. This is from the local authority where the pupil lives

Funding for independent and non-maintained special schools

Pupils are placed by the local authority and they will have an EHCP.

Non-maintained special schools receive:

- £10,000 per year for each place as agreed with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (a part of the national government).
- Top up funding or fees charged for all the pupils who are placed at the special school; this is from the local authority where the pupil lives.

Independent special schools charge fees which cover all the costs associated with running the school and making the specific provision for each individual child or young person placed there.