

Ethnic Minority Achievement Service - Proposal to maintain a central EAL team

Through the national funding formula primary schools now receive £557.25 per EAL pupil. In 2018-19 it was agreed that £62.85 of that amount would be de-delegated to maintain the central team and for a contingency of £25,000 to target to schools with large in-year intakes of EAL pupils.

For 2019-20, is proposed that the de-delegated amount is reduced to £49 per EAL pupil which will mean that schools retain 91% of their funding. This will generate a budget of £100,000 towards the cost of the central EAL Team (the balance to be funded from traded income) and a contingency of £10,000 for schools that experience rapid demographic change.

Rationale for maintaining a central team with EAL expertise in Havering

- The Havering EAL team is one of the few remaining services in London and the South East that is able to provide regular, direct consultancy support to ensure schools meet the needs of their changing populations. We use local knowledge to provide tailored support to meet the precise needs of your school.
- The central team has a crucial role to play in managing school-to-school support networks and ensuring the sharing of best practice. Our established networks of EMA co-ordinators and EAL TAs could be at risk if these functions were not managed centrally.
- The demographic of Havering is continuing to change with increasing numbers of children transferring directly from abroad with little or no English. A recent DfE analysis of language proficiency data has shown that, in January 2017, Havering was ranked 11th in the country in terms of the percentage of EAL learners in the early-stages of acquiring EAL. Children with EAL are a potentially vulnerable group who may underachieve if their on-going needs are not recognised or addressed. In addition to providing advice on the needs of newly-arrived pupils, the EAL team can help schools address the needs of more advanced learners of EAL in order to address any barriers to their academic potential.
- De-delegation allows ease of access to the service in the case of schools that may have little experience of meeting the needs of early-stage EAL learners but that may suddenly experience demographic change; it also allows rapid access to support where needs might arise suddenly due to staff turnover and loss of expertise.
- In addition to the support outlined above, the EAL team is also able to provide consultancy advice and CPD focusing on SMSC and British Values provision
- De-delegation agreed before the start of a financial year gives the LA financial certainty that it can continue to fund the EAL team.

Training and consultancy advice for schools:

- Delivery of EAL health-check audits using historical and 'live' data to help identify and address achievement gaps and strengthen their provision
- Unlimited access to a range of central CPD with a focus on EAL, provision for minority ethnic learners and SMSC development/British Values
- Termly networking meetings for EAL co-ordinators and EAL TAs
- Strategic support for HTs and SLTs

- Operational support for Inclusions Managers, Class Teachers and TAs
- Prompt contingency support for schools, e.g. school visits to discuss admissions and induction arrangements for newly-arrived learners
- Support with the assessment and tracking of learners whose starting points are different from other learners, linking EAL-specific assessment to your school's own systems
- Support with distinguishing between the needs of children learning EAL and those with SEN and assistance with the gathering of evidence for EHCP applications
- Direct access to telephone and email support
- Tailor-made school-based CPD twilight sessions on request
- Free access to a comprehensive range of resources via the HES Portal and also via Havering's Fronter MLE site; and recommendations/advice on commercially available publications (e.g. dual language books and dictionaries)
- Advice and training in the use of key publications, e.g. those produced by the team and archived National Strategies materials
- Training in high-quality EAL interventions, including Talking Partners and Talking Maths (small fee applies for initial training but ongoing support is available at no additional charge)

Strategic work with LA-based services on behalf of all LA schools, and Academies buying back services, through liaison with:

- the Admissions team to facilitate the admission and induction of vulnerable learners;
- the Family Learning team to provide information on services which may be available to schools such as ESOL classes;
- other education teams (e.g. Learning Support) to facilitate transitions for vulnerable pupils;
- the LMS team to ensure assessment of EAL learners reflects best practice;
- EAL specialists in neighbouring local authorities to ensure effective collaboration and consistency of EAL provision.