

ARRANGEMENTS FOR FUNDING HIGH NEEDS STUDENTS AGED 16-24

From 2013 local authorities will have an enhanced role and budgets in funding further education provision for high needs students aged 16-24 with home postcodes within their area. The post 16 funding will be added to the DSG High Needs Block.

Definition of students in scope

High Needs Students means young people aged 16-19 with high-level LDD and those aged 19-24 who are subject to an LDA. Under the provisions of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009, local authorities have a duty to secure the provision of education or training for students with LDD who are under 25 and subject to an LDA. The funding to secure the provision is supplied by the EFA on behalf of the Secretary of State.

Institutions in scope:

The reforms bring together all post 16 educational institutions with high needs students, and are summarised as follows:

Maintained School Sixth Forms (SSF)

Academies with Sixth Forms

Free Schools, Studio Schools and UTCs with Sixth Forms

Colleges of further education (FE)

Independent private providers (IPP)

Independent specialist providers (ISP)

Maintained special school sixth forms

Special academy sixth form

Independent non-maintained special school sixth form

Training providers

Funding

As with other high needs providers, post 16 providers will be funded for element 1 (approximately £4,300) element 2 (£6,000, as with pre 16) and element 3, a top up to meet the costs of the provision. Element 1 and 2, the 'place-led' component, will be allocated direct to the institution from the EFA, passported via the maintaining local authority in the case of maintained institutions. For element 3 the LA will need a funding agreement with each institution and standardised contracts are being developed through the LGA.

Havering's indicative budget for 200 students attending 30+ institutions is £2,643,388. The estimate for elements 1 and 2 at £4,300 and £6,000 respectively is £2,060,000 leaving £583,388 for element 3, an average of £2,917 per student. The 8 to 10 students currently in an ISP cost between £40,000 to £90,000 each. There has been no announcement to date on funding for growth in student numbers.