

Time Limited Inclusion Grant Pilot Project – A leaflet for Parents and Carers

Cambridgeshire is embarking on a project to explore whether ‘high needs’ funding, made available without the need for an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) can meet the needs of children with SEND earlier, improve parent/carers and school confidence, and ultimately enable more children’s needs to be met effectively without an EHCP. The pilot focuses on children who may require short-term support or are likely to receive a low-level of high needs funding if they were to receive funding via an EHCP.

This project is different because a group of schools will decide how the money should be spent. We have met with a selected group of schools and identified 12 to go forward with the project. The Local Authority will provide a framework, developed with the schools, and will have non-voting LA representatives on the panel. All decisions will be moderated and there will be an expectation that impact will be measurable. The first panel will be held in the Spring 1 Term and half-termly after that. We will meet to review how this is working after 3 panel meetings.

What will this mean for you and your child.

- If your child’s school feels this could benefit your child, they will discuss this with you. School will need to provide evidence of the support they have been providing to your child as part of a graduated response to your child’s special educational needs.

- The benefit of TIG is that your child's school can get access to some funding (£1000, £2500 or £4000) for a set period (up to one year) to support your child within half a term of applying for the funding. This is shorter than the Education Health Care Needs Assessment Process, which takes twenty weeks.
- Only schools can make an application for TIG funding, and they will let you know the outcome of any request made for TIG Funding.
- Where TIG funding is agreed, the funding will be made available to schools quickly and from the date of the Panel decision.
- Where TIG funding is not agreed, your school will be provided feedback on why the grant was not agreed. With the permission of the panel a case can be reconsidered with more evidence.
- This is not a statutory means of funding for children with special educational needs and so parents do not have a right of appeal as they do with Education Health and Care Plans.
- If your child moves to a primary school within Cambridgeshire, the funding will transfer with them for the duration of the grant. If your child moves to a school outside Cambridgeshire, the funding will cease.
- If you live (and pay council tax) in a different authority to Cambridgeshire, your child will not be eligible for TIG.
- If your child moves to a Cambridgeshire secondary school funds will be transfer to the secondary school up to the end of the Autumn term.