

Annex 2

Hertfordshire High Needs Block: 2015-16

Description of Elements Making Up The High Needs Budget:

1. Special Schools

- A total of 2164 commissioned places across 25 schools

	Schools	Commissioned
Learning difficulties (primary)	4	350
Learning difficulties (secondary)	4	565
Learning difficulties (all age)	1	120
Severe learning difficulties	6	519
Physical and neurological	2	117
Hearing impairment	2	144
SEBD (primary)	2	97
SEBD (secondary)	4	252
	25	2,164

- The budget includes place funding and top up funding for Hertfordshire students;
- Approximately 140 of the commissioned places funded by Hertfordshire are occupied by pupils from other local authorities; those local authorities pay the top up direct to the special school;
- Additional funding is allocated to four schools (one primary SEBD, two secondary SEBD and the all-age PNI school) for residential provision.

2. Roman Fields

- While the provision is for students with statements (35 places, plus 5 additional places resulting from the closure of other alternative provision and placements are made through provision panel as for special schools, it is technically registered as a pupil referral unit like the Education Support centres (see section 5 below).
- This provision is for students with significant social emotional and behavioural difficulties requiring alternative, personalised and flexible programmes where a placement in a mainstream or SEBD secondary school is not sustainable, including some returning students from out of county schools and some students may also have an autistic spectrum condition.

3. Independent and Non-maintained Special Schools

- Numbers vary from year to year and throughout the year. Currently there are approximately 100 pupils in 50 schools. The majority of these young people have challenging behaviour, which may be associated with autism and/or SLD;
- A number of out -county placements are joint funded with social care and/or health agencies. The budget figures represent education expenditure only.

4. Mainstream Units and Bases

- Mainstream units and bases offer specialist teaching and support in a mainstream environment, where pupils are on the roll of the school and have access to a base room in which they will spend varying amounts of time according to their needs, as well as their mainstream classes.

	Schools	Commissioned places
Primary speech and language bases	10	130
Secondary speech and language bases	2	42
Primary hearing impaired units	2	13
Visually impaired unit	1	7
Secondary SpLD bases	2	20
	17	212

In addition there is/are:

- Seven primary support bases for pupils with behaviour difficulties which currently offer a combination of places, where the pupil is on the roll of the host school, plus outreach where the pupil is supported to maintain the placement in his or her home school. Following the closure of the North Herts and Westfield primary support bases the budget is being reinvested in a new model of primary behaviour support commissioned by local schools through DSPL;
- A commissioned service from 10 primary SpLD bases to provide outreach support in individual schools, training courses and specialist resources;

- A Secondary unit for pupils with PNI, located in Bushey Meads Academy;
- Six secondary schools designated for physical impairment to offer fully adapted facilities and specialist educational /medical support to enable pupils to attend a mainstream school in their geographical area.

5. Education Support Centres and an Alternative Provider Academy

- Seven centres which offer flexible services and provision for pupils permanently excluded or at risk of permanent exclusion. Outreach and training is provided to support pupils with significant behaviour difficulties in their local schools.
- In three areas the budget has been devolved to local partnerships of secondary schools to commission alternative provision as part of the DfE exclusions pilot.

6. Hospital Education

- The Education Support Team for Medical Absence (ESTMA) helps pupils to continue with their education while in hospital or unable to attend school for significant periods of time for medical reasons
- Forest House Education Centre is a small provision delivering secondary educational support to young people, up to the age of 18, who are resident in Forest House Adolescent Unit, a Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provision Forest House is located in Radlett and managed by St Luke's special school.

7. Exceptional Needs Funding

- Approximately 800 pupils in primary schools and secondary schools currently receive individual allocations to support their exceptional needs;
- Up to 10% or a maximum of £50k of a DSPL area's ENF budget can be allocated to a whole school for a cluster of need;

- Schools with larger numbers of pupils with exceptional needs receive multiple cases funding;
- 90 individual pupils in private, voluntary and independent nursery settings are funded for their exceptional needs.

8. Early Years Provision

Five Early Years Specialist Development Centres provide flexible services and multi-disciplinary support to children with complex special educational needs and disabilities aged 0-3 and their families. Each centre supports approximately 20-30 families
Ludwick Enrichment Group in Welwyn Garden City provides 10 nursery places for pupils with significant speech and language difficulties

9. Nurture Provision

Funding that was previously allocated to a small number of individual schools for nurture groups has been redistributed to each DSPL area and local models of nurturing provision have been developed which aim to benefit more children.

10. Post-16 Colleges

Top up funding for approximately 390 high needs students in:

- The four Hertfordshire FE colleges (350 students);
- Over the border FE colleges in neighbouring Local Authorities (17 students);
- Independent specialist placements (19 students);
- Personalised support for vulnerable students in transition from special school to college.

11. Other provision for individual

pupils

This includes:

- Top up payments for individual Hertfordshire pupils attending mainstream and special schools outside of Hertfordshire;
- Information, advice and guidance for young people in independent/specialist SEN placements;
- Provision of high levels of individual therapy (eg ordered by a tribunal);
- Individual packages of support of alternative educational provision, including previous commitments;
- Exceptional interim tuition for small number of excluded pupils to meet 6 day provision requirement and for short term integration support.

12. Countywide initiatives

- A DSPL budget to support the 9 Area Groups' plans to enhance mainstream capacity to meet high level needs;
- A DSPL development budget for special schools funds a series of activities to support the re-commissioning of special schools;
- Joint speech and language therapy contract;
- Keeping Children Local Provision (KCLP) funds initiatives and support for individual pupils and their families to prevent local school placement breakdown.

13. Support and outreach services

Six special schools funded to deliver outreach and training to local primary mainstream schools.

The specialist teaching low incidence team, supporting children and young people with HI, VI and PNI.

The specialist communication disorder team, supporting children and young people with autism and with speech, language and communication difficulties.

Five specialist area early years teams working with parents, schools and early years settings to support young children with significant and complex special educational needs and disabilities.

Accredited SpLD training and specialist advice for secondary schools.

14. Equipment

Specialist ICT, communication equipment and training of teachers of the deaf.