

Adoption support fund

Not all parents and guardians are aware that they are eligible to apply for up to £5,000 per annum for each of their children to meet their therapeutic needs and/or the therapeutic needs of their family. An additional £2,500 is available to carry out a needs assessment. The fund may provide valuable additional support to families and supplement or replace therapeutic interventions that you are paying for as a school.

Unlike Pupil Premium Plus, adoption support funding is also available to children and young people who have been adopted from outside England and Wales, including overseas, and extends up to the age of 21. If the child or young person concerned has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) they may access the fund until they are 25.

Schools can apply on families' behalf if they have consent from the family to do so. Examples of the forms are at the bottom of this page.

The charity first4adoption.org.uk has clear and comprehensive information about how adoption support funding works. Their available therapies section of their website offers helpful suggestions for and definitions of therapies that can be paid for with the ASF.

GOV.UK also has resources for adoption support funding, which you can view here.

# Applying for Adoption support funding

Usually, adoptive parents of children in your school apply directly to the local authority for this funding. However, you can also do this on their behalf with their consent.

Staff are still home-based so if you leave your name and number on their voicemail, someone will return your call within 24 hours.

If you would like to apply for Adoption Support funding, please contact Together for Adoption. Together for Adoption is a regional agency that integrates five local authorities - Halton, Cheshire West and Chester, St Helens, Warrington and Wigan.



Together for Adoption:

[Make an enquiry (togetherforadoption.co.uk)](https://www.togetherforadoption.co.uk/Enquiry.aspx)

Adoption Support Fund (ASF) and how it works

Each application takes around 21 working days to process. It can take longer if the ASF want additional information and reports to help them make a decision.

There is a Fair Access Limit, each adopted child per financial year (1st April – 31st March) is entitled to the following;

* Up to £2,500 for a Specialist Assessment focusing on the child’s attachment and trauma needs relating to adoption.
* Up to £5,000 for Therapeutic support to meet a child’s identified adoption needs.

The full list of what the ASF will and will not cover can be found here along with some other FAQs- https://www.adoptionuk.org/Pages/FAQs/Category/adoptionsupport-fund