

Post 16 students with EHCP's - Analysis for 2019-2020 academic year

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the key expenditure relating to Post 16 students with EHCP's during the academic year 2019 – 2020.

The range of provision commissioned by the Local Area is reviewed constantly in order to ensure value for money, and good outcomes for the students.

Context

The total number of Post 16 students with EHCP's during the academic year 2019-20 was **378** (Jan 2020). The number of Plans ceased during this year was 67.

Total number of Post 16 students with EHCP's as of September 2020 stands at **476**.

24 of these are currently in the process of being ceased, and it is anticipated that there will be more during the course of the academic year.

The following table provides a breakdown of Post 16 EHCP's by year group:

	As at January 2020	As at Sept 2020
Year 12	138	117
Year 13	88	138
Year 14	60	89
Year 15	55	58
Year 16	24	50
Year 17	5	16
Year 18	5	2
Year 19	2	4
Year 20	1	2
TOTAL	378	476

Post 16 numbers continue to rise. An unforeseen additional pressure this year is due to students remaining in education longer than initially intended due to Covid-19.

Current position

The number of Post 16 placements once again continues to be a significant pressure on the High Needs budget.

The pandemic has also had an impact on the students, with some being unable to complete their course before July 2020, therefore there are a number of students who have returned for a further term in order to complete their vocational courses. This has incurred additional expenditure for the Autumn term 2020.

From the 2019-20 cohort of Year 11 students, who were due to transfer to Post 16 provision, all but 1 have transitioned to suitable provisions. This is an excellent start to the academic year, and a credit to all the staff within the SEN Team, schools and receiving providers, who have worked hard to achieve this.

All new placements are considered by the Post 16 Panel, and challenge provided where it is not felt that the proposed provision is suitable or value for money. This has resulted in costs being renegotiated from the outset of the placement, or an alternative provision suggested which will provide better outcomes for the

student concerned.

The Post 16 SEND Casework Team and SEND Monitoring Team closely monitor outcomes for students and seek regular reports from the providers regarding attendance and engagement. Where the student is not making the most of the opportunities available, conversations take place, and placements are ceased where appropriate.

During 2019 -2020 careful consideration has been given to providers used for Post 16 students, and quality of outcomes. The number of providers we are using has decreased, with an emphasis to strengthen the relationship between providers where outcomes for the students are good.

Some of the students who attended the newly established bespoke provisions during 2019-2020 have now moved onto 'mainstream courses'. This is an excellent outcome for these young people, who would previously have been part of our NEET cohort.

Pathway Plans for all 2019-2020 students with EHCP's are currently being received with outcomes included. An analysis will take place once all of these have been received. The Pathway Plan request is also being sent out to all providers for the new cohort of students for 2020-21.

The table below provides an overview for those providers where we have 5 or more students placed:

POST 16				
	Academic Year 2019-20		Academic Year 2020-21	
	No. of students	Total Cost (£) 2019-20	No. of students	Anticipated cost (£) 2020-21
Riviera Tuition	11	55,336	11	81,975
Eat That Frog	22	230,759	25	288,000
Eat that Frog (Bespoke)	10 (5 per term)	49,368	tbc	
ROC	13	141,904	21	256,265
South Devon College	112	263,000 (+ESFA funding of £10k per student)	tbc	tbc
South Devon College (Bespoke)	6	180,000 (+ESFA funding as above)	tbc	tbc
Mayfield Post 16	40-41	731,142	43	784,730
Combe Pafford	49-51	685,000	54	tbc

Recommendations

- Ensure students who have remained for an additional term, due to Covid-19, receive the input they require in order to achieve anticipated outcomes.
- The Post 16 SEND Casework Team will have a further SEND Casework Officer appointed shortly, and some dedicated Business Support time. This will allow the Post 16 Lead (Laureen Wardle) to focus more on strategic developments for Post 16 SEND.
- Following a detailed analysis of Pathway Plans a further report to be submitted to Schools Forum – date to be decided by Schools Forum.

- Post 16 Panel to receive analysis of provisions currently being used, and consider aspects which need further consideration to improve the impact this broad range of providers brings to Torbay students. This may require robust challenge and define clearer targets and expectations of the providers.

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