

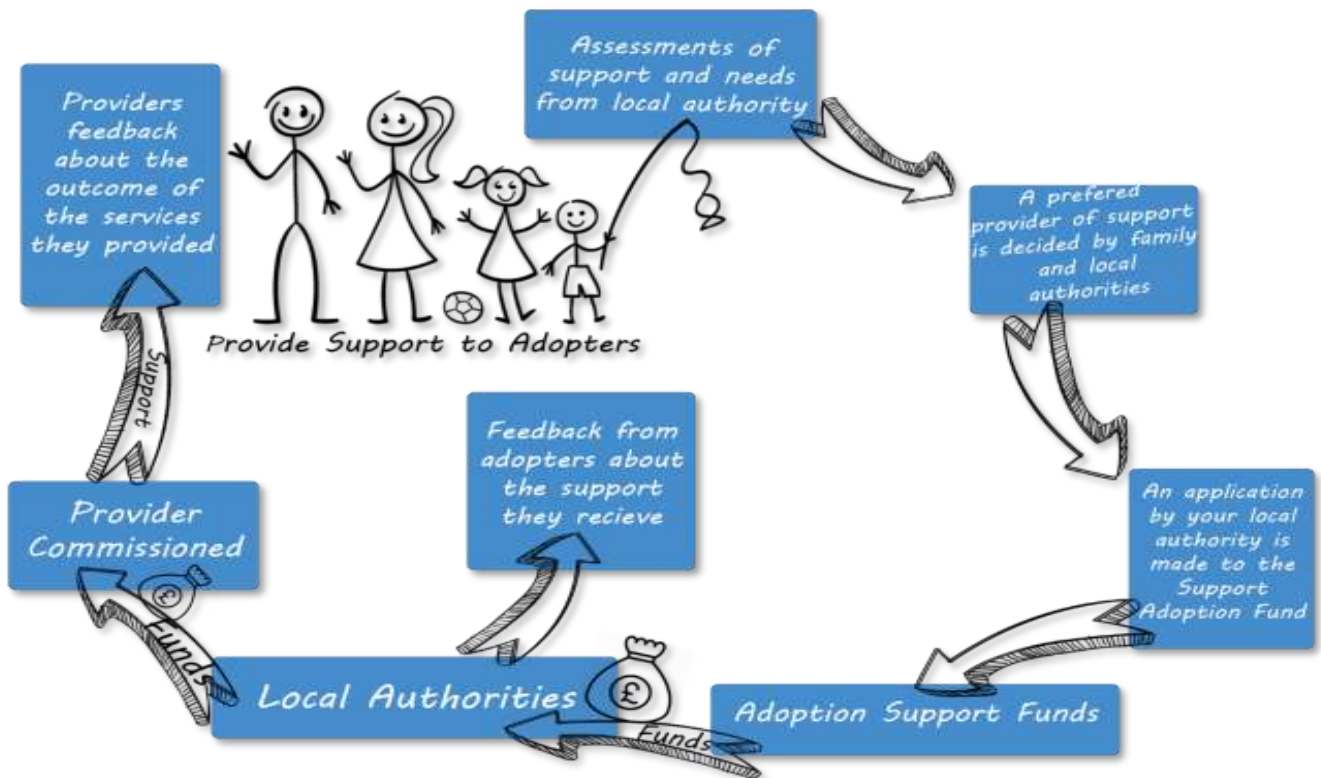
## About the Adoption Support Fund

The Adoption Support Fund (ASF) was introduced as many adoptive and special guardianship families can benefit from some kind of therapeutic support, which was often previously hard to access. The ASF enables families to access funding for a range of therapeutic services which may include; specialist assessments, therapeutic parenting courses and creative therapies. Each child has access to a Fair Access Limit of £5000 each year for therapy. There is also a separate additional Fair Access Limit of £2,500 for children who require a specialist assessment.

"The ASF gives me hope for my child's future. Being able to access effective therapy in a reasonable timescale can only be a positive experience for adoptive families." - **Adoptive Parent**

## Who is eligible for the Adoption Support Fund?

The ASF is available to all children adopted from care. This isn't just newly adopted children – it can also be used to fund therapeutic support for children from the point at which they are placed with their adoptive families rather than waiting until the adoption order is made. This fund has also been extended to intercountry adoptions and children being cared for under Special Guardianship arrangements who have been in care previously. The ASF funds support for adopted/SGO children living in England. It is available up to and including the age of 21 and can be extended up to 25 for young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan, where they have left care through adoption or special guardianship arrangements.



**How can Education and Schools be involved?**

Local Authorities (LA's) are responsible for carrying out assessments of support needs for adopters and special guardians. Schools can be involved in raising awareness and working closely with children, families and local providers to provide optimal support and shared understanding.

**Educational Support Accessed Through the Adoption Support Fund:**

Please See the Service Categorisation Guidance for Information Regarding 'in Scope' Services (Department for Education, Mott Macdonald 2016) [www.adoptionssupportfund.co.uk](http://www.adoptionssupportfund.co.uk)

**RAMP – Reducing Anxiety  
Management Plan**

The **RAMP** is a tool to help schools to support children who may be finding it more difficult to self-regulate, possibly struggling with peer relationships and who may be emotionally and behaviourally younger than their chronological ages, as a result of early experiences of trauma and abuse.

**Educational  
Psychotherapy**

**Educational Psychotherapy** is a specialised educational and therapeutic intervention which is recommended for children and young people with complex emotional barriers to learning and development.

**As an education provider you can also use Pupil Premium  
Plus to purchase special education services**

Pupil Premium Plus for looked after children acknowledges the impact of trauma and loss in children's lives and how schools have a key impact in supporting children who have had this difficult start to life. Pupil Premium Plus is currently £2300 per child per year. Early Years Pupil Premium is also available as additional funding within early years settings, this funding equates to £302.10 per year.

Pupil Premium Plus is available to pupils from reception to Year 11 who are in local authority care, have been adopted, left care under SGO or left care under Child Arrangements Order. This funding is extended to all children adopted from care.

**How is funding accessed?**

In order for schools to access this funding parents and guardians must have declared their child's adoptive, SGO or CAO status directly to the school. Parents and guardians must provide evidence for example, a copy of legal order etc.



For more information about what **Adoption Support Services** Psychology Associates offers, please visit the Adoption and Fostering section of our website;

[www.psychologyassociates.org.uk](http://www.psychologyassociates.org.uk) or contact a member of our Referral Team by calling 0300 303 5233 or emailing [enquiry@psychologyassociates.org.uk](mailto:enquiry@psychologyassociates.org.uk)