

# ADOPTION AND SPECIAL GUARDIANSHIP SUPPORT FUND (ASGSF) INFORMATION SHEET FOR EDUCATION SETTINGS

## About the ASGSF

The ASGSF was introduced to help many adoptive and special guardianship families to benefit from some kind of therapeutic support, which was previously difficult to access. The ASGSF 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 ASGSF 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 ASGSF?

The ASGSF 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 ASGSF 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/Schools be involved?

Local Authorities (LAs) 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.

**Psychology Associates**  
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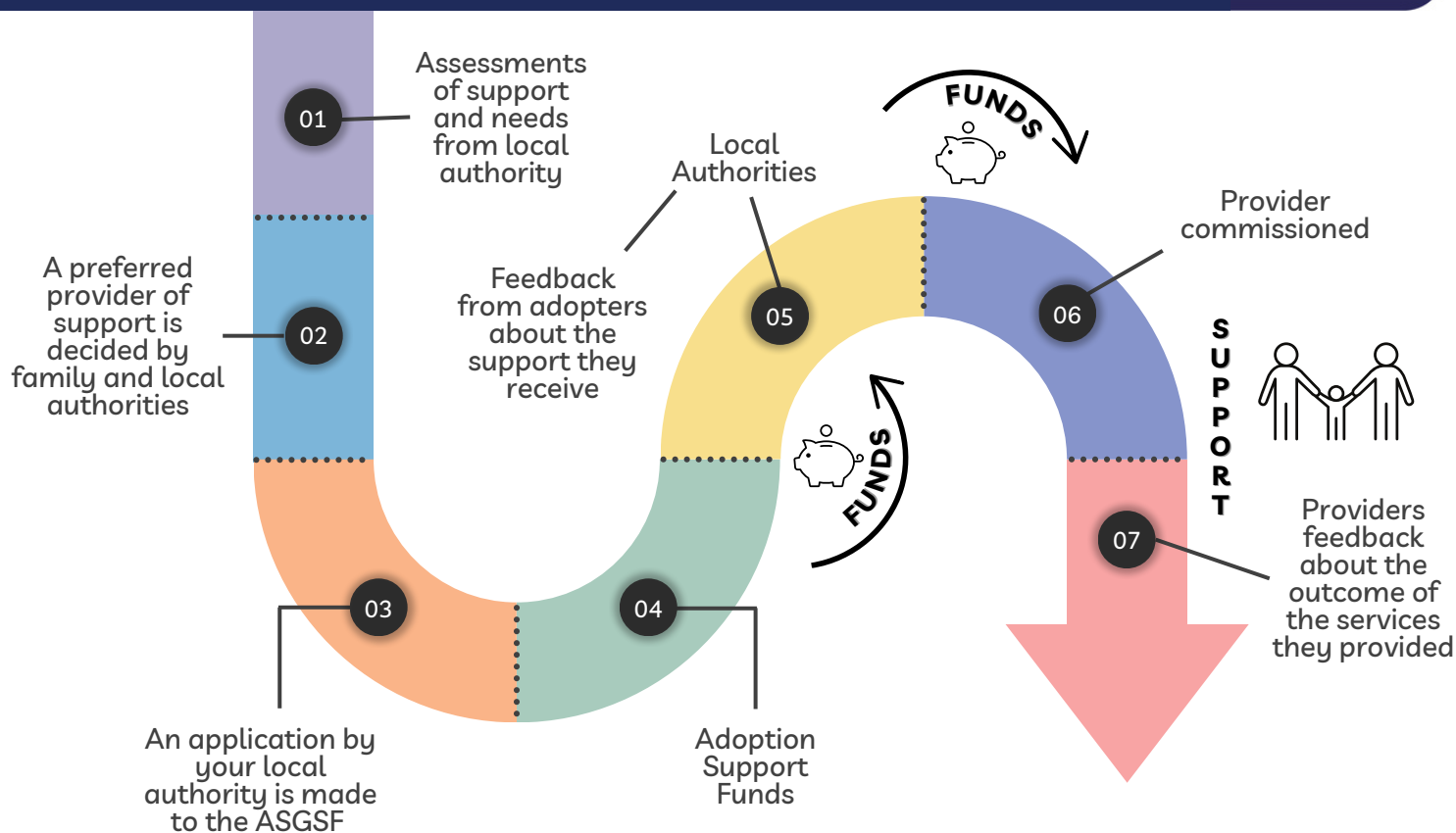
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Feedback from professionals, children and families is entirely positive. Families report that the agency is “professional, caring, efficient and effective.”

Ofsted, March 2023



## Educational Support Accessed Through the Adoption Support Fund:

### RAMP - Reducing Anxiety Management Plan:

This tool helps 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 age, as a result of early experiences of trauma and abuse.

**Educational Psychotherapy:** This 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.

For more information on our Adoption Support services, please visit our website or contact us:



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